Lake Orion Area Preschool and Child Care Directory 2022
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What to Look for with a Child Care Provider
The Orion Township Public Library is pleased to present the 21st Annual Orion Township Area Preschool and Child Care Directory.

The information in this directory was supplied by the individual agencies. This list does not contain every preschool and child care facility in the area and inclusion in this directory does not imply endorsement or recommendation.

For further information contact the Orion Township Public Library Youth Services Department.

Orion Township Public Library
825 Joslyn Road
Lake Orion, MI 48362
Phone: 248-693-3002
Fax: 248-693-3009
www.orionlibrary.org
www.locin.org
A School for the Mind & Body  
936 S. Baldwin Rd., Ste. 101a  
Clarkston, MI  48348

Contact person: Nanci Canine  
Phone: 248-814-7100  
E-mail: ncanine@sfmb.net  
Website: www.schoolforthemindandbody.com  
Type of Program: Early Childhood Learning Center  
Hours of Operation: 7 am- 6 pm, M-F  
Months of Operation: All Year  
Adult/child ratio: 1:4  
Ages accepted: 6 ½ weeks – 12 years old

Special features:  
Specialized curriculum--Character Education with an emphasis on Nutrition & Exercise.

Philosophy/Mission statement:  
A School for the Mind and Body recognizes that children are the future of the world. Therefore, it has become our goal to provide the highest quality of preschool education that’s possible. With the combination of our character education concepts integrated in our teaching units of thinking, learning, nutrition and exercise, SFMB facilitates personal growth for the total child. At SFMB we do not say “come and attend” - - but rather “come, experience, and learn.”

SFMB believes parents everywhere are looking for an educational environment that will encourage the same life skills and values that are taught in the home. That is the primary purpose of SFMB - to make the educational experience an extension of a quality home.
Acorn KinderHouse
5300 Maybee Rd
Clarkston, MI 48346

Contact person:  Abigail Lee-Wright
Phone: 248-310-1059
E-mail: acornkinderhouse@gmail.com
Website: acornkinderhouse.com
Type of Program:  Preschool, Young Threes, Young Fives, Parent and Child classes
Hours of Operation: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm - dependent on program.
Before/aftercare possible.
Months of Operation:  September to Mid-June, plus summer camps
Teacher/child ratio:  1 adult for every 5 children (Lead Teacher and Assistants)
Ages accepted: 2.7 years to 6 years

Special features:  We are a non-profit Waldorf Early Childhood program. We are Play based - 50% or more of our day is spent outside - Nature based - Toys and materials are all natural - Class sizes are intentionally small to allow for the development of a relationship between the teacher and each child. - Grounds include our enchanted woods, vegetable garden, snow hill, and natural playground - Children participate in the weekly/daily activities of helping care for the school chickens, making bread, wet on wet water color painting, bees wax modeling, finger knitting, gardening, candle dipping etc. - Circle time is intentionally created to develop language, diction, fine and gross motor skills. - Children participate in meaningful activities and not busy work. - Children are not rushed through the day but move in a predictable rhythm of expansive activities and quiet reverent moments. - Following the seasons of the year, we develop children's observational skills and appreciation for nature. - Imagination development - Stories and puppet plays are chosen to develop a rich vocabulary and familiarity with cultural folk tales and world literature.

Philosophy/Mission statement:  Acorn KinderHouse is committed to providing each child with an opportunity to learn through joyful, hands-on exploration, to grow to their fullest potential and gain confidence as an individual. We will provide a safe and loving space that allows each child the natural development of independence and curiosity as they discover the world around them. Teachers, staff and parents, guided by the educational philosophy of Rudolf Steiner, work to create a community where childhood is honored, the joy of learning is encouraged, and a foundation is laid for a purposeful, meaningful, and productive adulthood. Philosophy Acorn KinderHouse is A Waldorf Early Childhood Program utilizing a curriculum based upon the education philosophy of Rudolf Steiner we create a classroom where children's developmental needs are met by providing a nurturing, protective environment. Teachers view the whole child and acknowledge the child's physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual needs. Because we know that young children thrive on consistent rhythm and lots of repetition to master new skills, we establish a daily, weekly and yearly rhythm that offers predictability and gives the children a sense of security and safety. In addition, as the children experience rhythm day after day, they can begin to understand the logical sequence in the daily events. The teachers understand that in the first seven years of life, young children want to be a part of everything grownups do. The children joyfully imitate our daily work; sweeping, gardening, washing, cooking, and beautifying our environment. In our Waldorf curriculum the children are involved in activities where the teacher is a model of meaningful movements and purposeful use of language. In this atmosphere of beauty and rhythm, the teacher works to cultivate the healthy development of the child's will. At the Acorn KinderHouse we strive to be Eco-responsive and natural, while functioning within the licensing guidelines and procedures of the State of Michigan and Oakland County. This includes composting, environmentally sustaining products, low waste, organic food choices and limiting one-time use products and supplies.
Alpine Academy  
3100 West Gunn Rd. 
Oakland, MI 48363

Contact person: Caroline Ford  
Phone: 248-814-1111  
E-mail: cford@myalpineacademy.com  
Website: myalpineacademy.com  
Type of Program: Toddlers to young fives/up to second grade in the summer

Hours of Operation: 7:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Months of Operation: Year-Round  
Teacher/child ratio: 2 year olds are Mommy & Me  
                     1:8 or 1:10 for Ages 3 to 5th grade

Ages accepted: 2 years to 4th grade

Special features:  
Spanish every morning, very small groups, very experienced teachers, open almost all the time, many guest speakers, sledding hill, tricycle and bike track.

Philosophy/Mission statement:  
We offer the perfect balance of work and play, and we love kids!
Crown of Life Lutheran Preschool
2975 Dutton Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Contact person: Allison Piasecki
Phone: 248-652-7720
E-mail: apiasecki@crownoflifechurch.org
Website: crownoflifechurch.org
Type of Program: Preschool – 3s, 4s, and young 5s
Hours of Operation: M/W/F 9-2 for 4s
M/W/F 8:30-12:30 for young 5s.
TU/TH 9-11:45 for 3s
Months of Operation: September - May
Adult/child ratio: 3s - 1:7, 4s 1:9, and 5s 1:12
Ages accepted: 2.5-6 years

Special Features:
We are a Christian based preschool sharing the love and Grace of Jesus Christ in all aspects of the classroom. We are also a play based program.
Divine Grace Lutheran Preschool
3000 S. Lapeer Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48359

Contact person: Barbara Musinski, Director
Phone: 248-391-2811 ext. 208
E-mail: bmusinski@divinegrace.net
Website: www.divinegrace.net
Type of Program: 3 & 4 year old preschool / Young Fives/ Extended care
Hours of Operation: 7:30 am – 5 pm
Months of Operation: September-May
Adult/child ratio: 1:9
Ages accepted: 3 by September 1st – 5 year-old

Special features: Faith – based education  Caring staff  Flexible days
Extended care  Full size gym  Daily Jesus time
2 Outside playgrounds
Young Fives is in same classroom as Kindergarten

Philosophy/Mission statement:
Divine Grace Lutheran Preschool exists to provide a high-quality, Christ-centered early childhood education, based on the inerrant Word of God. We provide a nurturing and caring environment where children are treated with love and respect. Sharing the message of Jesus’ love and forgiveness is an important part of our program.
Eagle Creek Academy  
3739 Kern Rd  
Oakland Township, MI 48363

Contact person: Kim Kasal, Principal  
Phone: 248-475-9999  
E-mail: chammond@eaglecreekacademy.com  
Website: www.eaglecreekacademy.com  
Type of Program: Toddler – 5th grade  
Hours of Operation: 7:00 am – 6 pm  
Months of Operation: Year Round  
Adult/child ratio: 1:4 for infants and toddlers / 1:8 or 1:10 for ages 2.5 and up  
Ages accepted: 2 years old to 5th grade

Special features:  
Spanish every morning, hot lunch, very small class sizes, very experienced teachers, tailored lessons, guest speakers, field trips, library, and gym.

Philosophy/Mission statement:  
Perfect balance of work and play.
Everest Academy
5935 Clarkston Road
Clarkston, MI 48348

Contact person: Kelly Loush
Phone: 248-241-9012
E-mail: kloush@everestacademy.org
Website: www.EverestCatholic.org
Type of Program: Preschool 3 and Preschool 4
(we also have students here through 12th grade)
Hours of Operation: 8am - 3:35pm (we offer aftercare till 6pm)
Months of Operation: August – June
Adult/child ratio: 1:10
Ages accepted: Students have to be potty-trained and 3 years (preschool 3) and 4 years (preschool 4)

Special features:
Flexible schedule, 3 or 5 days a week, mornings or full day.

Philosophy/Mission statement:
Our early years programming, from ages 1-6, helps your child transition away from home life and develop a real love for learning. Our talented teachers serve as guides to their exploration and discovery as they become curious young learners. Children begin their academic experience in this supportive, nurturing environment. Curiosity and wonder are cultivated as students make new friends and explore through hands-on learning at their own pace. Our best-practice curriculum prepares them for kindergarten as it builds social-emotional awareness skills including active listening, expressing feelings, and interacting with others. Come visit and see what Everest has to offer your child.
The Goddard School
935 E. Silverbell Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360

Contact person: Emily Hines
Phone: 248-364-4401
E-mail: dlakeorionmi@goddardschools.com
Website: https://www.goddardschool.com/schools/mi/lake-orion/lake-orion
Type of Program: NAEYC Accredited Preschool
Hours of Operation: 7:00am – 6:00pm
Months of Operation: Year Round
Adult/child ratio: Infant/Toddler 1:4, Preschool 1:10, Pre-K 1:12
Ages accepted: 6 weeks - 6 years (School Age Summer Camp)

Special features:
Welcome! We’re committed to your child’s health, safety and education, which is why we provide children with safe and healthy learning environments at our NAEYC accredited School. Our teachers blend the highest standards in early childhood education and development with nurturing care. We enhance our play-based curriculum with a range of enrichment programs (STEAM, Yoga, Spanish, ASL, Manners and more!) designed to fit your child’s interests.

Philosophy/Mission statement:
The teachers of The Goddard School Lake Orion, promise to provide a safe, nurturing, learning, environment for every child. We pride ourselves in meeting the developmental needs of each child by providing; ongoing consistent communication with our families, intentional learning experiences and a child-centered approach to teaching. Our classroom communities will encourage your child to develop a lifelong love of learning.
Good Shepherd Lutheran Preschool
1950 S. Baldwin Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360

Contact person: Tracey Rathsburg
Phone: 248.391.1170 or 248.391.7244
E-mail: preschool@gsls.org
Website: GoodShepherdLakeOrion.net/school/
Type of Program: Preschool for ages 3, 4, and young 5’s
Hours of Operation: 9:00am – 12:00pm or 9am-3pm
Months of Operation: Normal School Year
Adult/child ratio: 2 adults per 15 students
Ages accepted: 3, 4, 5 year olds

Philosophy/Mission Statement:
Good Shepherd is a safe, happy, fun-filled Christian environment that fosters creativity and development for 3-year old, 4-year old, and 5-year old children.
Heartfelt Impressions Learning Centers
1796 S. Lapeer Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360

Contact person: Alissa Russell  
Phone: 248-814-1010  
E-mail: arussell@hfilc.com  
Website: www.heartfeltimpressions.net  
Type of Program: Childcare, Preschool, GSRP, School Age Before and After Care  
Summer Camps

Hours of Operation: 6:30 am – 6:00 pm
Months of Operation: Year-round
Adult/child ratio: 1:4 Infants and Toddler, Young Preschool 1:8, Preschool 1:10,  
Pre-K 1:12, School age 1:18
Ages accepted: Birth to 12 years

Philosophy/Mission Statement:
Heartfelt Impressions Learning Centers offers a developmentally appropriate, research-based curriculum. We strive to enhance social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth in young children through our play-based curriculum. Our program fosters curiosity, creativity and self-esteem by taking into account children’s individual abilities and interests.
Lake Orion Community Schools Early Childhood Programs
1155 Joslyn Road
Lake Orion, MI 48360

Contact person: Kimberly McLean
Phone: 248-693-5439
E-mail: Kimberly.mclean@lok12.org
Website: https://www.lakeorionschools.org/early-childhood-program-and-education
Type of Program: Pre-Kindergarten/Child Care
Hours of Operation: 6:30 am – 6:00 pm
Months of Operation: September – June and Summer months additional
Adult/child ratio: State License regulation
Ages accepted: 18 months – 5 years

Special features:
Tuition and free programs available

Philosophy/Mission statement:
The Mission of Lake Orion Community Schools Early Childhood Program is to provide an exemplary education for all learners recognizing that children are unique individuals who have various levels of development as well as a wide spectrum of potential and needs.
LakePoint Preschool  
1550 Drahner  
Oxford, MI 48371

Contact person: Stevie Murphy  
Phone: 248-805-1125  
E-mail: smurphy@lakepointcc.org  
Website: Lakepointcc.org  
Type of Program: Preschool  
Hours of Operation: 8am - 12pm  
Months of Operation: September - June  
Adult/child ratio: 10:1  
Ages accepted: 3 – 5 years

Special features:  
Christian program

Philosophy/Mission statement:  
Our mission is to educate the next generation, not only preparing them for school but also for life. We strongly believe that there is no way to get through the hardships of life without the support of our savior, Jesus Christ. We want to incorporate his truths into our teachings in hopes that our children will be better equipped both inside the classroom and out.
Oxford Early Learning Center
105 Pontiac St.
Oxford, MI 48371

Contact person: Ann Robb, Director
Phone: 248-969-5047
E-mail: ann.robb@oxfordschools.org
Website: https://oelc.oxfordschools.org/
Type of Program: Preschool, Child Care, GSRP
Hours of Operation: 6:00 am – 6:00 pm; depending on the program
Months of Operation: August – June (school year)
                      June – August (summer camp)
Adult/child ratio: According to LARA licensing; 1:4 (infants-TOD2);
                  1:10 (3/4 Multi-Age Preschool);
                  1:12 (4 year old Preschool);
                  1:8 GSRP; 1:18 School Age
Ages accepted: 6 weeks – 12 years of age

Special features:
Half-Day and Full-Day Preschool Programs; Full-Day Infant-Toddler Care; Before and After School Care for School-Aged Students. Great Start Readiness Program is housed in several locations around the school district; CPR/First Aid Certified Staff; High Scope Curriculum and COR Assessment Tool

Philosophy/Mission statement:
As part of the Oxford Community School district we strive to provide an education that challenges all students to achieve their maximum potential by using the High Scope Curriculum and all its supporting resources. Under the sponsorship of Oxford Community Schools, OELC is an authorized participant in the International Baccalaureate Program. In conjunction with the family, the Oxford Early Learning Center commits itself to providing enriching experiences for each child in a nurturing atmosphere.
St. John Lutheran School
1011 W. University Dr.
Rochester, MI 48307

Contact person: Beth Dameron, Director of School Admissions
Phone: 248-402-8012
E-mail: school@stjohnrochester.org
Website: www.stjohnrochester.org/school
Type of Program: Preschool 3’s, Pre-K 4’s, and Young 5’s
Hours of Operation: 8:45 AM - 3:25 PM; Morning half day dismissal 11:25 AM;
Afternoon Half Day Arrival 12:45 PM
Months of Operation: September - June
Adult/child ratio: 15/2 for 3's sessions; 18/2 for 4's and Young 5's sessions
Ages accepted: 3’s, 4’s and Young 5’s

Special features:
Daily Hot Lunch Available; Pre-Care Room (before and after care); Half and Full Day Session Options

Philosophy/Mission statement:
It is our prayer that we can assist families in this important step in their child's life. Our Mission Statement is One in Jesus...Reaching Many! Jesus is the focus of our program and it is through MI that we learn, work together and reach out to others.
St. Joseph Catholic School  
703 N. Lapeer Road  
Lake Orion, MI 48362

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact person:</th>
<th>Kelly Dutton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>248-860-0840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbito6@sjslo.org">rbito6@sjslo.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.school.stjoelo.org">www.school.stjoelo.org</a></td>
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<td>August - June</td>
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<td>Adult/child ratio:</td>
<td>11:1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ages accepted:</td>
<td>3, 4, 5</td>
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Philosophy/Mission statement:
God calls us by name. Through an ever-deepening relationship with Christ, our mission is to become who He made us to be by growing in character, loving our neighbor, and excelling in academics.
Sunny Day Preschool
140 E. Flint St. (downtown Lake Orion)
Lake Orion, MI 48362

Contact person: Cindy Winther, Director
Phone: 248-628-7627 or 248-303-8822
E-mail: sunnydaypreschool@gmail.com
Website: sunnydaypreschool.net
Type of Program: Preschool Program
Hours of Operation: Mon-Wed-Thurs 9am-3pm
Tues-Fri 9-12
Months of Operation: September – May
Adult/child ratio: 1:8
Ages accepted: 3 years to 6 years

Special features: At Sunny Day Preschool children blossom and grow in a warm, loving and creative environment. We offer a culturally diverse program as well as activities to expand each child's view of the world around them. We provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum as well as creative art experiences. We teach Spanish, sign language, how to say thank you in fifteen different languages as well as mindfulness and yoga to all our classes. We focus on good nutrition and healthy eating for strong bodies and minds. Our four year old classes bake each week and also write and draw in journals. Our staff have college degrees in education and attend annual trainings to further their knowledge. All of our staff are certified in CPR and First Aid. Our classes are small with an excellent teacher/child ratio. We follow NAEYC guidelines for providing a high quality program.

Philosophy/Mission Statement:
Sunny Day Preschool offers a unique, creative preschool program with a personalized touch. We offer a curriculum that keeps a balance between the four growth areas: social, emotional, intellectual and physical for optimum development. We provide an environment rich in literacy and creativity. We offer real-life, purposeful learning opportunities daily. Most importantly, our teachers are warm and loving and make each child feel special and unique and excited to come to school each day!
Total Education Solutions
1742 Crooks Road
Troy, MI 48084

Contact person: Jenn Devine
Phone: 248-544-0360
E-mail: jdevine@tesidea.com
Website: https://www.tesidea.com/our-locations/troy-mi/
Type of Program: Kindergarten Readiness
Hours of Operation: M-F 8 am-7 pm, SAT 9 am-12 pm
Months of Operation: Year Round
Adult/child ratio: 3:12
Ages accepted: 4-6 year olds

Special features:
The Kindergarten Readiness Program takes place in an inclusive environment and is designed specifically for children who have special needs or learning difficulties.

We use the Get Set for School curriculum, including Learning Without Tears and Handwriting Without Tears.

Philosophy/Mission statement:
To empower individuals of all abilities by fostering opportunities for success through customized, innovative solutions.
CHILD CARE INFORMATION RESOURCES

Oakland County Child Care Council
7088 Highland Road
Waterford, MI 48327

Phone: 248-333-9545
Website: www.oaklandchildcare.org
Facility type: Child Care Council
Hours of Operation: Tuesday-Thursday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
                      Monday, Friday and Evening Hours by Appointment
Months of Operation: Year-round

About us: Quality child care can make a big difference in the future of our children, our county, our state and our country. A good place to begin your search for answers to your child care questions is a trusted local resource. The Oakland County Child Care Council provides resources and referral information for families.

We conduct skill-building workshops for parents, hold low-cost professional development classes for child care providers and work with businesses to find child care solutions for their employees. We are advocates on child care issues for the community. We are dedicated to promoting the well-being of Oakland County's children.

The Oakland County Child Care Council has been advocating and promoting quality child care since 1973. The Council is funded by public and private sources. It is a membership agency that is governed by a board of directors and managed by a professional staff.

Philosophy/Mission statement: Coordinating and developing quality child care and related resources for families and caregivers.
Great Start Collaborative Oakland
2111 Pontiac Lake Rd.
Waterford, MI 48328-2736

Phone: 855-456-5437
E-Mail: https://www.greatstartoakland.org/contact
Website: www.greatstartoakland.org

About Us: Every Great Start Collaborative in Michigan, including here in Oakland County, work toward the same early childhood outcomes:

- Children are born healthy.
- Children are healthy, thriving, and developmentally on track from birth through third grade.
- Children are developmentally ready to succeed in school at time of school entry.
- Children are prepared to succeed in fourth grade and beyond by reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

Vision statement: Every Oakland County child is born healthy, developmentally on track, ready to succeed in school and reading proficiently by third grade.

State of Michigan: Department of Health & Human Services
333 S. Grand Ave
P.O. Box 30195
Lansing, MI 48909

Telephone: 517-241-3740 – General Information
866-540-0008 – Child Support
TTY: 711
Worksheet with question to consider as you choose a childcare provider.

Is This the Right Place for my Child?

**WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A CHILD CARE PROVIDER:**
If you need child care, you want the very best setting for your child. When choosing child care, you should visit more than one program and if possible, take your child with you when you visit.

The following list will give you some hints to help you make a good choice.

**Interview Caregivers**
Call first and ask...

- Is there an opening for my child?
- What hours and days are you open?
- Where are you located?
- How much do you charge?
- When is payment due?
- Do you charge for holidays, absences due to vacations or illness, or late pickups?
- How many children do you care for?
- How much child care experience and education do you have?
- How many adults care for the children?
- What ages do you serve?
- Must a child be toileted trained?

**In a home setting...**

- Are there others living in the home?
- Who and what age are they?
- Who, besides the provider, may be caring for my child?
• Will my child be taken out of the home while in your care?
• Are there pets or smoking in the home?

Visit and look for…

• Positive interactions between caregiver and children
• Children getting lots of attention
• Children who are happy and comfortable with their caregiver.
• Clean, safe and healthy indoor and outdoor spaces.
• Safety features such as gates on stairs, caps on electrical outlets, and a locked cabinet for medicine, poisons and cleaning products.
• A variety of toys and learning materials, such as books, puzzles, blocks, and climbing equipment that your child will find interesting.

Ask the provider…

• Can I visit at any time?
• How do you handle discipline?
• What do you do if my child is sick?
• How do you handle an emergency?
• Do you have a back-up caregiver?
• Where do children take naps?
• Do caregivers have up-to-date CPR AND First Aid Training?
• Do caregivers have training in child care?
• May I see a copy of your license?
• Are they accredited?
• May I have a list of parents (current and former) who have used your care facility?
Books and Beyond!

Orion Township Public Library Youth Services Department offers programs for all ages including:

- Family Place Library workshops
- Story times for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and families
- Lego Club, Book Bingo, Doggone Readers, AWE Computers, Ipad Bar and other fun programs for school age children
- Summer reading program for all ages
- Battle of the Books for fifth graders
- STEAM programs for all ages

Access 24/7 Resources:

- Databases for homework and information gathering
- Place online holds and renewal material
- Register for programs online
- Downloadable ebooks and audio books
- Hoopla database with access to television, movies, music, and books
- Mango language learning database – learn a new language right from home
The Friends of the Orion Township Public Library are an important group of people who are advocates of the library. Friends enhance and support the library’s services to the community.

Say YES To your library—
Join the Friends and Do A World of Good.

http://orionlibrary.org/friends/