



"We love children. It shows in how we greet each child by name, every day. We celebrate the milestones in their lives and give them a safe place to thrive. We take the time to know our parents and understand their children's lives at school and at home. Our teachers are simply the best and we strive to fill their every need in the classroom. We do this so that your child will have the best possible start to a lifelong journey of learning and discovery."

Your child is beginning a lifelong journey of learning and discovery.

At Daniel Island Academy, we offer the finest curriculum, an innovative facility, and caring teachers who are dedicated to helping your child discover the joy in learning. Daniel Island Academy is accredited by the *National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)*, which is the mark of quality in early childhood education. NAEYC sets the most rigorous national standards on education, health and safety.

Our Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum® is a research based curriculum with two distinct disciplines, one for infants/toddlers and one for pre-school children. Through www.creativecurriculum.net, you will be able to view your child's lesson plans, gain teacher input, and offer your feedback from at home observations. Our full-time curriculum specialist provides support to our teachers and oversees your child's progress. *The Creative Curriculum®* supports an individualistic path of learning and development.

Our Facility

Located on Daniel Island in the heart of the Charleston Metro area, Daniel Island Academy is a 17,500 square foot, state-of-the-art facility with 17 classrooms, a multi-purpose room, and two outdoor playgrounds. The front entrance courtyard is fenced and serves as our outdoor classroom with gardens, water play features, and outdoor musical instruments.

Daniel Island Academy is an *allergy-safe* environment for your child. All lunches and snacks are provided to avoid the presence of commonly known ingredients and foods that may cause allergic reactions. Furthermore, our teachers are trained to administer first aid and assist with an allergic reaction. The facility is meticulously cleaned with environmentally sensitive products to reduce the presence of known allergy triggers.



Daniel Island Academy is the only pre-school implementing the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Existing Buildings: Operation and Maintenance with the United States Green Building Council. For more information, visit www.USGBC.org.

Our Programs

Daniel Island Academy offers an unparalleled learning and nurturing environment for some 280 children ages 1-5 years. Our early childhood education and care programs are available between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We offer full day and half day options, Mother's Morning Out and Enrichment Programs. Program details and rates are available on our website at

www.danielislandacademy.com.



Classrooms – Learning activities are a key ingredient in any early childhood setting. Without them, children miss out on opportunities to develop skills and gain knowledge during their earliest years. Our classrooms are designed and equipped for age appropriate play, based upon research supported by the high standards of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Furthermore, we evaluate our classroom programs, materials and equipment by the ITERS (Infant Toddler Rating Scale) and ECERS (Early Child Environment Rating Scale) standards. ECERS is designed for use in preschool, kindergarten, and child care classrooms serving children 2 1/2 through 5 years of age; ITERS for use in center-based child care programs for infants and toddlers up to 30 months of age. The ITERS and ECERS program was developed by the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Teachers and Staff – Our lead teachers and assistants surpass the State of South Carolina qualification standards. Our pay structure is one of the best in our area, plus we offer an incentive program based upon performance. In addition, our teachers receive a full benefit package offering medical, dental and retirement. We attract the best and the brightest and reward those who excel on behalf of your child.

Teacher to Child Ratios – Daniel Island Academy complies with teacher to child ratios established by NAEYC. Our school is one of only a few in the Charleston region to adopt these national standards of excellence, which are superior to those mandated by the State of South Carolina. See chart below.



PROGRAM	DIA	STATE REQ
Full Day Programs (6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)		
Pre-Toddler (12-24 months)	1:5	1:6
Toddler-Young (24-30 months)	1:6	1:10
Toddler-Old (30-36 months)	1:7	1:10
Full-Day Three's (36-48 months)	1:9	1:13
Full-Day Four's (48-60 months)	1:10	1:18
Pre-K (students turning 5 between Sept 1-Dec.31)	1:9	1:18
Half Day Programs (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)		
Half-Day Two's (Tuesday and Thursday)	1:6	1:10
Half-Day Three's (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)	1:7	1:13
Half-Day Four's (Monday – Friday)	1:10	1:18
Mother's Morning Out (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)		
One's & Two's	1:5	1:6

Enrichment Programs

Daniel Island Academy offers supplemental Enrichment Programs to enhance your child's learning experience and provide greater flexibility in planning your child's schedule. Recent programs have included science, visual arts, music, dance and tumbling.

Enrichment Programs complement a student's classroom schedule, whether in addition to a Full Day program, or as an extension of a Half Day or Mother's Morning Out program. Students enrolled in Half Day and Mother's Morning Out programs are also invited to join *Lunch Buddies*, an optional daily session offering a nutritious lunch and playtime with students of various ages. Full Time students receive lunch as part of their enrollment program.



Summer of Discovery

Our *Summer of Discovery* is a fun-filled, school wide curriculum during June and July that offers a relaxed summertime "discovery" of interactive themes. *Summer of Discovery* is included in the Full Day 12 month enrollment program and is optional for Half Day and Mother's Morning Out students.

Nutrition

A cornerstone to our program at Daniel Island Academy is providing proper nutrition for building healthy minds and bodies. Lunches and snacks are provided to ensure that we serve a nutritious and *allergy-safe* menu for all children.



Our full-time chef uses *organic milk*, fresh or frozen vegetables, and whole grain products. We strive to accommodate special requests for preferred menus due to religious practices or health requirements. Mealtime is also an education since we teach "family-style" dining that encourages cooperation and sharing at the table.

PADIA - Parents Association of Daniel Island Academy

PADIA was formed to improve our children's development by assisting the school staff and teachers in these efforts. Throughout the year, PADIA organizes a number of social events, which have included a Fall Family Festival, Spring Luau, and special events in the classroom. PADIA also organizes philanthropic efforts on behalf of the school to engage the children and their families in community outreach.

Daniel Island Academy was built with the ideals of early childhood development of Dr. George William Brumley, Jr., a renowned pediatrician, medical researcher, and philanthropist, who was the former co-director of the Division of Perinatal Medicine at Duke University Medical Center (DUMC) and the Pediatric Department Chair of Emory University School of Medicine.

To schedule a private tour, please call 843.971.5961

Ten Answers To Know

Is your program or school accredited?

Daniel Island Academy (DIA) is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), which is the highest standard attainable.

What curriculum does your school offer?

DIA teaches Creative Curriculum®, which is a researched based educational and developmental curriculum for infants/toddlers and pre-school age children.

How do you assess my child's progress?

DIA uses two different assessments: The Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum for Ages 3-5 and The Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum for Infants, Toddlers, and 2's. These tools are used by teachers to assess children's progress and guide them in their curriculum planning.

How safe is your facility?

DIA's secure lobby has door-control access operated by front desk staff, so that only approved caretakers may reach your child in the classroom. Additionally, security cameras are used in the facility.

What are your teacher to child ratios in the classroom?

DIA complies with high standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), which are superior to those mandated by the State of South Carolina.

How are teachers and staff who work with my child screened?

DIA's staff must pass a state and federal background check and submit to random drug testing.

What are your nutrition standards?

DIA provides all meals and snacks which meet high standards for nutrition, including the exclusive use of organic milk.

How do you provide for children with allergies?

DIA is an allergy-safe facility in which teachers are trained in working with children with allergies.

What special programs do you offer?

DIA offers a number of supplemental Enrichment Programs, including dance, science, music, visual arts and tumbling; plus Mother's Morning Out and Lunch Buddies programs.

Do you offer social opportunities for families?

DIA has a very active parents association that holds events throughout the year. Past events have included a Luau for parents, a Fall Family Festival, and special events in each classroom.



As a part of the City of Charleston, Daniel Island is located in the center of the region between Mt. Pleasant and North Charleston. Daniel Island is easily accessible from Highway 526 and within a short drive of Historic Charleston and the East Cooper area, including Mt. Pleasant, Sullivan's Island and the Isle of Palms.



A Lifelong Journey Begins Today

Please visit our web site at
www.danielislandacademy.com

p: 843.971.5961 • f: 843.375.2111



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the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).



300 Seven Farms Drive
Daniel Island, South Carolina

Early Childhood Development Center
Serving Ages 1-5

www.danielislandacademy.com