

Essential Early Education

Essential Early Education (EEE) is early childhood special education services provided to children with disabilities ages 3 up to 6 years old by their local school district in Vermont. These services are mandated by federal and state law. If the child is found eligible, he or she may receive services from their local school district in a preschool setting or a home visit.

EEE services are individualized to meet each child's educational needs. If your child is over the age of 3, and you believe that he or she may have a disability, you may refer your child for an evaluation by submitting a written request to the director of special education at:

Nick DeVita
Director of Student Support Services
Grand Isle Supervisory Union
PO Box 54
224 US Route 2
Grand Isle, VT 05478
(802) 372-6921 x 2006

The Grand Isle Supervisory Union Essential Early Education Programs serve children with diverse needs in an integrated preschool setting. Our programs provide an early childhood experience that promotes social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development.

We believe in maintaining a family centered focus throughout all areas of the program. We facilitate support and information sharing with and among families and encourage each family's role as the primary decision makers regarding their needs. Every child is viewed as an individual with unique strengths, needs, and learning styles.

Vermont Early Learning Standards

The Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS) were developed to help parents, teachers and others share reasonable expectations for what preschoolers are capable of knowing and doing. VELS provides consistent, appropriate information about what many children are capable of as they enter kindergarten. Used by Head Start, public schools, child care programs and others, VELS focuses on eight (8) areas of development and learning:

Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language, Literacy and Communication
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies
Creative Expression
Physical Development and Health

Teaching Strategy Gold Curriculum and Assessments

The Grand Isle Union Early Education Program implemented Teaching Strategies GOLD this school year. This program is endorsed by the Vermont Department of Education. It is based on the developmental continuum that helps teachers determine where each child is developmentally, track each child's progress, and plan appropriate learning experiences. Our curriculum is based on the Vermont Early Learning Standards (VELS) and the Teaching Strategy Gold program is used for assessment of ten (10) areas of development and learning that help teachers ensure that they are focusing on what's most important, each and every day:

Social–Emotional
Physical
Language
Cognitive
Literacy
Mathematics
Science and Technology
Social Studies
The Arts
English-Language Acquisition

These are the links to the schools serving our preschoolers in the Grand Isle District. Their school calendars and school communication can be found on each schools website: [Alburgh](#), [Learning Adventure](#), [North Hero](#), and [Champlain Island Parent Child Center - South Hero](#)

Parent Resources:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdfdoc/pgm_earlyed/pubs/educ_early_childhood_directory.pdf

Essential Links

- [BFIS Help Desk](#)
- [Bright Futures Information System](#)
- [Child Development Division \(CDD\)](#)
- [Grace Program](#)
- [Northwestern Counseling & Support Services](#)
- [Step Ahead Recognition System \(STARS\)](#)
- [Vermont Automated Library System \(VALS\)](#)
- [Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children \(VAEYC\)](#)
- [VT Child Care Providers Association](#)
- [VT Department of Education](#)