

INFANT FEEDING

Infants will be fed on their own individual schedules and according to the CACFP meal pattern guidelines. If an infant is unable to hold a bottle independently, staff will hold and talk to the infant during the feeding. Infants will be offered appropriate finger food when they are ready as determined by the parent. Once a child reaches 12 months of age, they must be on the centers main menu as required by the Department of Public Instruction and the CACFP.

Children under the age of 12 months old have the option of using the center provided formula and infant foods or providing their own. The center offers Kirkland Procare with iron formula, Gerber rice and oatmeal cereals, and Gerber Stage 2 pureed fruits and vegetables. Please use only non-glass/non-breakable bottles when bringing in breastmilk or premade formula.

The staff will use proper hand washing procedures before handling any bottles or food. Parents are asked to bring in as many bottles as the child would need to get through the entire day, labeled with the child's name. All bottles containing premade formula or breastmilk must also have a date. We will ensure each infant and toddler is correctly fed the food, breast milk, or formula labeled with the child's name. Leftover milk and formula will be discarded within 2 hours after each feeding and bottles rinsed after use. They will then be

placed with the child's personal belongings to go home each day for the parents to take home and clean.

Baby food containers shall be unopened and labeled. No other foods shall be placed in baby food containers. Baby foods shall not be served directly from the container. Leftovers will be properly covered, stored and dated. If not used the next day, they will be discarded.

Mothers who are breastfeeding are always welcome to breast-feed their infants on site. If the parents bring in breast milk, it must be labeled with the child's name and date. OCC will properly store the breast milk in the freezer or refrigerator, whichever the parent prefers and warm it, as needed, in hot water. Recommended procedures for warming infant food and formula will be posted in the bottle preparation area. The temperature of food and formula will be pre-tested.

When a child turns 12 months of age and formula is discontinued, the center will provide Grade A, Vitamin D Whole Milk. In alignment with our CACFP requirements, children will be given an additional 1-month transition time to allow for this, bringing them to 13 months old.