

Early Years

The SIS Early Years is for children with a variety of backgrounds. Some of the current children in Early Years may be from the Danish community while others are from several different countries. Some speak English fluently while others join us without any English ability when they start. We aim to support the learning of all our students regardless of their starting abilities.

Academically, children in Early Years receive a foundation in basic literacy and numeracy skills. Socially, children in Early Years learn how to play, learn and have fun with children who are “not just like them”. Wonderful friendships regularly develop from such an educational environment!

The use of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum supports the aims of our Four Guiding Principles:

1. Every child is a unique child, who is constantly learning and can be resilient, capable, confident and self-assured.
2. Children learn to be strong and independent through positive relationships;
3. Children learn and develop well in enabling environments, in which their experiences respond to their individual needs and there is a strong partnership between practitioners and parents and/or carers;
4. Children develop and learn in different ways and at different rates. The framework covers the education and care of all children in early year’s provision.

To implement these principles in practice, we focus on seven areas of learning and development:

1. Communication and language development involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.
2. Physical development involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.
3. Personal, social and emotional development involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.
4. Literacy development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.
5. Mathematics involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.
6. Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

7. Expressive arts and design involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role-play, and design and technology.

The Daily Routine

The daily routine for the Early Years at SIS in Børnehaven Engelshøj is as follows:

06:30 – 08:15	Part of the Danish Kindergarten
08:15 – 08:45	Circle time and settling down activities
08:45 – 09:20	Structured learning activities
09:20 – 09:50	Snack and free play
09:50 – 11:20	Structured learning activities
11:35 – 12:20	Lunch
12:20 – 13:00	Structured learning activities
13:00 – end	Free play – from here the children are together with the rest of the kindergarten

Cooperation with Parents

We aim to support the learning of all children in Early Years. One way we do this is by being in close communication with parents to learn as much as possible about both their child's abilities and their challenges. Our structured teacher-led activities help staff catch on early if a child is showing difficulty in an area of his or her learning. This helps us with on-going evaluation of each child in all areas of their development with results shared in writing twice a year via our report cards. If a child shows difficulties in one or more areas of development then we will monitor this in close communication with parents. If either the teacher or the parents (or both) assess that there is a need for external guidance then we will refer the child to a municipal speech therapist, child psychologist, a physiotherapist or other relevant specialist. However, the SIS Early Years is unable to provide fixed one-on-one support for children requiring this.

Cooperation with Børnehaven Engelshøj.

In an effort to create, a good international kindergarten SIS and Sønderborg Kommune has decided to work together. We will be able to deliver a diverse program, good facilities and long days. The children will be part of a Danish kindergarten with the right international program. The children will have their own room and own international program for 5 hours a day. Before and after the program they will participate in the regular program of the kindergarten. The program will start from **8th. August 2016** at **Engelshøjgade 1, 6400 Sønderborg.**



Sdr. Landevej 28, DK-6400 Sønderborg
Tel: +45 74 43 01 10
www.sischool.dk
secretary@sischool.dk

Practical Information.

Being part of a municipal kindergarten, we have to inform about certain. The application date is very short for the first people to start. The department of Børnehaven Engelshøj only has room for 10 children, here in the beginning. The School will give a head start to our own parents. We will deliver the start date for the application day. It is important to be quick to get seat. More information will follow.

We at SIS are looking forward to increasing the possibilities for the international community in Sønderborg.