



# Rocking Horse Academy

# WELCOMES you to CHARGERS 2

**WELCOME TO CHARGERS 2.** We would like to welcome you to the Chargers 2 class. The children in Chargers 2 ages range from two and a half to three years old. We promote independence, responsibility and positive reinforcement while allowing children to self-discover and become aware of their environment. The children are given numerous responsibilities including taking care of toys, books, cleaning up after themselves, and participating in daily activities. We are working to get children ready to continue their journey through growth and developmental milestones by offering numerous challenges in the areas of cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, and social skills in a loving and caring environment.

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## COMMUNICATION

chargers2@rockinghorseacademy.com

## COMMUNICATION PALTFORM

As technology advances, so does the software available for Childcare Centers to communicate with families. Rocking Horse Academy subscribes to Procare. We use a tablet in our classrooms to help us stay in touch with our families. It is essential that every family has an email address to receive notices and information from our teachers. Procare also has a convenient APP for your mobile phone devices. Below is a list of features offered on Procare.

FAMILIES	TEACHERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receive photos videos, notes by email</li><li>• Download or share photos and videos of your children</li><li>• Receive emergency alerts by text message</li><li>• View your children's portfolio using our mobile application</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share photos, videos, notes to families throughout the day</li><li>• Record meals, activities, naps, and more to daily reports</li><li>• Post lesson plans</li><li>• Record classroom visitations</li><li>• Mark children sick or on vacation</li><li>• View medical and birthday reminders</li><li>• View child allergy and emergency information</li><li>• View guardian and medical information</li></ul>

The Procure system is our way of ensuring safety and providing communication for all our staff and families. Families may also send a note to the teacher letting us know anything that might help us to understand your child better or be more observant about. If your child is cutting a tooth or didn't sleep well last night might give us insight to your child's moods or behaviors that day.

It is important that teachers and families are both on the same page when it comes to communication involving your child. We encourage families to call during naptime (12:30-2:30) if they want to see how their child's day is going or have some one-on-one time with the teacher. It can get a little busy during morning drop-off, so calling during naptime can be more convenient.

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## GOALS

The most important goal in Chargers 2 is potty training. We want to work towards getting rid of diapers and pull-ups completely. We will encourage the children to communicate their desire to go potty and allow for several opportunities throughout the day.

Another goal is to encourage the children to use their words in order to communicate with their teachers and classmates.

We also want children to interact with each other effectively and socially. Sharing, taking turns, playing in small groups, and following the classroom routines.

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## SUPPLIES

- Water bottle filled with water only and labeled with the child's name
- Blanket and fitted crib sheet
- Sun block (please apply sun block at home before you drop off, teachers will re-apply it in the afternoon)
- Diapers or Pull-ups (with Velcro tabs) and box of wipes
- Extra change of clothes (especially for those children who are just beginning to potty train, we will need several changes)
- Any medication brought should be signed in and left at the front desk, not in the classroom
- Toys are not allowed from home unless there is a special request from the teacher for our show and share on Fridays.

**PLEASE LABEL ALL PERSONAL ITEMS SO THEY DO NOT GET LOST OR MIXED UP WITH ANOTHER CHILD'S BELONGINGS.**

## RULES

- ✧ We will respect each other, our belongings, and the teachers.
  - ✧ We will follow directions.
  - ✧ We will share with our friends.
  - ✧ We will use our inside voices.
  - ✧ We will use our manners.
  - ✧ We will use our walking feet in the classroom.
  - ✧ We will not hurt our friends.
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## RECESS

Our recess times will be from 9:45-10:30 a.m. and 3:15-3:45 p.m. Children should wear comfortable tennis shoes. Please avoid sending your child in flip-flops, crocs, or any open toed footwear; these are unsafe and not very comfortable when mulch is constantly getting in them. Children have access to their water bottles outside in order to prevent dehydration. If the temperatures outside are too hot or too cold, we will decrease our recess time to a maximum of 15 minutes.

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## CUBBIES

There are 2 sets of cubbies in the Chargers 2 class. The cubbies next to the door are used for personal items such as blankets, extra clothes and the cubbies located inside the bathroom are used for storing diapers, wipes, and extra clothes for those that are potty training. (This makes it quicker to change their clothes in case of an accident) We ask that families keep cubbies clean, take any dirty clothes or old snacks home.

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## SNACKS AND LUNCH

Early morning Breakfast from home will be removed by 7:30 a.m. Please do not bring any food from home after 7:15 a.m. Please keep morning food and lunches healthful/nutritious, for example: cereal bars, dry cereal, sandwiches, veggies, and fruit are o.k. Fruit juices, sweets (candy) will not be served and sent back home. Our kitchen serves a nutritious lunch every day. Menus are posted in our lobby and are available at our website. You will be charged by the day when your child eats a school lunch. We encourage and verbally remind all children to use their utensils and not their hands during meal times. We ask that you please work with them at home as well. Lunch is served from 11:00-11:30 a.m.

**If your child has a dietary restriction or food allergy, you must provide written verification from a physician or a registered or licensed dietician.** RHA will not provide nutrition for dietary restrictions or allergies, instead, you will need to provide alternate nutritious food options for snacks and lunch daily. We will post a sign in our classroom noting your child's food allergy/dietary restriction and include a picture of your child.

## **NAP**

Naptime will begin after lunch from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Children will go potty and wash up before they lie down to nap on their cot. Please supply a fitted crib sheet and blanket. If a pillow is provided, we would prefer a travel-sized pillow, not a standard-sized pillow. All bedding will be sent home every Friday to get laundered and should be brought back every Monday. Naptime is the perfect time to call if you need to conference with the teacher or check to see how your child has been doing. A child is not required to take a nap, but he/she will have “quiet time” on his/her cot in order to avoid waking up others.

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## **ILLNESS POLICY**

We do courtesy calls when we observe that a child physically does not look well or is not acting like his/her normal self. A child will be sent home if they have an auxiliary (underarm) temperature of 100 degrees or higher, *a parent/guardian or another authorized person must pick up their child within 90 minutes of notification.* A child cannot return to school until they are *24 hours fever free (without medication) or with a doctor's note.* Please refer to your RHA Family handbook for more guidelines for a child being sent home.

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## **BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

There are times when we may have to share with you some behaviors or concerns that we observe in the classroom. We will address behaviors such as hitting, pushing, and biting when they occur through Procure. Meltdowns, temper tantrums and not following directions may also be addressed verbally with families at pickup times. We use a color system to indicate behaviors throughout the day: green if he/she followed all the rules, yellow if he/she was given several verbal warnings and had to sit in time alone, red if he/she continued demonstrating aggressive behavior after being warned. We want to work with you and work on a solution to help your child feel happy and secure in the classroom.

# BENCHMARKS

## Social Interactions

- Children learn to share and take turns
- Children begin to play more together
- Children thrive for consistency, guidance, and routine
- Children at this age like their personal space
- Children demonstrate a need for independence vs. battling frustration

## Language/ Pre-writing

- Children speech becomes understandable and tries to hold “conversations”
- Children learn to trace multi-directional lines
- Children imitate “writing”
- Children begin to recognize more letters in the alphabet
- Children enjoy scribbling, painting, finger painting and play dough
- Children love finger plays, repetition in books, rhyming and flash cards

## Math/Manipulatives

- Children will learn to manipulate puzzles
- Children will learn to construct towers using multiple objects
- Children will learn to string beads
- Children will count to 10
- Children will identify and name basic shapes and colors
- Children will learn to match and sort like objects
- Children will learn differences (bigger, smaller, fast, slow)

## Science/ Sensory

- Children will develop a concept of time
- Children learn to manipulate scissors
- Children will be able to identify all parts of their body
- Children will observe and identify different types of weather
- Children will learn grouping and memory skills

## **Gross Motor Skills**

- Children will learn to throw balls overhand
- Children will learn to hop, run, jump and dance
- Children will learn to walk backwards and sideways
- Children will learn to peddle tricycles
- Children will become proficient at climbing
- Children will learn to catch (eye-hand coordination)

## **Life Skills/ Social Studies**

- Children will try to master the potty-training schedule
- Children learn to wash their hands and brush teeth
- Children assist with dressing (buttons, zippers, snaps, socks, and shoes)
- Children help clean up after themselves
- Children can drink from a cup without a lid