



Solid Start

EARLY LEARNING



Rooted in Kindness

Our Story

A Strong Start, A Seamless Path

Solid Start Early Learning was created as an extension of Solid Rock Community School, our established K–12 program built on a foundation of compassion, connection, and meaningful learning.

As children grow and move beyond preschool and VPK, they have the opportunity to transition seamlessly into our K–12 program—continuing in an environment that already feels familiar, supportive, and aligned with the values introduced in their earliest years.

This continuity provides children with:

- A strong sense of comfort and belonging
- Consistency in expectations, relationships, and environment
- A deeper ability to build on social, emotional, and academic growth over time

By beginning their journey at Solid Start, children are not just starting preschool—they are becoming part of a connected learning community that supports their growth every step of the way.

Why Start in Preschool?

We believe the early years are where everything begins.

By introducing children to a learning environment rooted in kindness, connection, and real-life experiences at a young age, we are able to:

- Support healthy social and emotional development from the start
- Foster empathy, confidence, and independence early on
- Build a strong foundation for future learning

These early experiences shape how children see themselves, how they connect with others, and how they approach learning—creating a lasting foundation that supports them both in school and in life.

Transitioning Into Preschool

We understand that starting preschool is a big transition for both children and families. Our team works thoughtfully to help children feel comfortable, safe, and supported as they adjust to a new environment, new routines, and new relationships.

We recognize that every child adjusts differently, and we partner with families to help create a positive and supportive transition experience.

A Unique Learning Environment

Because Solid Start Early Learning is part of a larger K–12 community, children have access to experiences that go beyond a traditional preschool setting.

Students benefit from a connected environment where they are introduced to a broader school community, expanded learning spaces, and real-world opportunities such as interacting with animals at our on-site rescue sanctuary, engaging in outdoor exploration, and participating in seed-to-table gardening experiences. Through these meaningful, hands-on activities, children begin to understand how to care for their environment and the value of responsibility and connection.

Solid Rock Community School is the only school in the United States with its own on-site animal rescue sanctuary. This provides children with meaningful opportunities to develop compassion and empathy through real-life experiences, learn respect for animals and the environment, and build connections that extend beyond the traditional classroom.

At Solid Start Early Learning, these experiences are introduced in an age-appropriate way—helping children begin to understand kindness, responsibility, and connection from the very beginning.

As children grow, they have the opportunity to transition seamlessly into our K–12 program, continuing in an environment that already feels familiar, supportive, and aligned with the values introduced in their earliest years. This continuity helps build confidence, strengthens relationships, and creates a lasting sense of belonging.

Our Approach

At Solid Start Early Learning, our preschool program is thoughtfully designed to support the whole child—academically, socially, and emotionally—through meaningful, real-life experiences.

We believe early childhood is a time to build the foundation for how children learn, connect, and grow—not just in the classroom, but in their everyday interactions with the world around them.

Children learn best when they are:

- Connected to nature and their environment
- Engaged in hands-on, meaningful learning experiences
- Supported in developing kindness, empathy, and emotional awareness
- Given opportunities to explore, create, and grow at their own pace

Our program blends structured learning with play, movement, and outdoor experiences to create a balanced, nurturing environment where children feel safe, confident, and excited to learn.

We intentionally design each day to include opportunities for:

- Social interaction and relationship-building
- Independent exploration and creativity

- Guided learning and skill development
- Real-life experiences that build confidence and responsibility

At Solid Start Early Learning, learning is not limited to traditional instruction. It happens through connection, experience, and purposeful engagement—helping children develop not only foundational skills, but also a strong sense of self and belonging.

The Solid Start Experience

At Solid Start Early Learning, the environment is intentionally designed to support how children learn, feel, and interact each day.

Our classrooms are calm, engaging, and thoughtfully structured to encourage exploration, independence, and connection.

Children have access to:

- Hands-on learning materials that promote discovery and creativity
- Dramatic play areas designed around real-life experiences, such as cooking, shopping, and caring for their environment
- Spaces that support both active movement and quiet, focused activities
- Opportunities to engage with nature, animals, and the world around them

Every element of the classroom is designed with purpose—supporting not only academic growth, but also social development, emotional well-being, and confidence.

Rather than overstimulation or constant direction, children are given the space to:

- Explore their interests
- Make choices
- Interact meaningfully with others
- Develop independence at their own pace

At Solid Start Early Learning, the experience is designed to feel calm, connected, and engaging—helping children build a strong foundation for learning and life.

Our Early Learning Curriculum

We use a research-based early learning curriculum, Creative Curriculum, as the foundation for supporting school readiness and foundational skill development in a way that is engaging, hands-on, and appropriate for young children.

Through this approach, children develop:

- Early literacy and language skills through conversation, storytelling, and exposure to books
- Math and problem-solving skills through exploration, patterns, and real-world experiences
- Social-emotional skills through guided interactions and group activities
- Independence and confidence through participation in daily routines

Learning takes place through:

- Purposeful play
- Hands-on exploration
- Guided learning experiences
- Meaningful interaction with peers and teachers

Rather than focusing on traditional instruction alone, children learn by actively engaging with their environment, asking questions, and discovering new concepts through experience.

This approach provides the structure needed to support school readiness while allowing flexibility for children to learn in ways that feel natural, enjoyable, and meaningful.

Nature-Based Learning

At Solid Start Early Learning, children learn not only inside the classroom, but through meaningful experiences that connect them to the natural world.

Children participate in outdoor exploration, nature-based play, and seed-to-table gardening experiences that help them develop a deeper understanding of their environment. Through these experiences, children build curiosity, confidence, and a sense of responsibility for the world around them.

Learning Through Connection with Animals

A defining part of our program is the opportunity for children to engage with animals at our own rescue animal sanctuary.

Through these experiences, children develop compassion, empathy, and respect for all living beings. Interacting with animals provides meaningful, real-life learning opportunities that support emotional awareness, connection, and kindness in a way that cannot be replicated in a traditional classroom setting.

Experiential Learning

Our program incorporates a strong focus on hands-on, experiential learning as an essential part of each day.

Children participate in:

- Yoga and movement activities
- Mindfulness and calm classroom practices
- Music and rhythm experiences
- Creative art and open-ended expression
- Physical activity that supports coordination and confidence

These experiences are thoughtfully integrated into the day to support the development of the whole child.

Through experiential learning, children develop:

- Physical strength, coordination, and body awareness
- Emotional regulation and self-control
- Creativity and imagination
- Focus, calmness, and the ability to be present
- A sense of curiosity, wonder, and connection

Rather than being separate from learning, these experiences deepen understanding and allow children to learn through movement, exploration, and reflection—helping them build confidence, independence, and a genuine love of learning.

At Solid Start Early Learning, we believe that some of the most meaningful learning happens through experience, connection, and discovery.

Our School Culture: Compassionate Humane Education

A defining part of Solid Start Early Learning is our foundation in Compassionate Humane Education (CHE).

CHE is not a separate curriculum—it is the culture of our school. It shapes how we teach, how we interact, and how children experience their day.

Through this approach, we intentionally create an environment where children learn to:

- Treat others with kindness and respect
- Develop empathy and emotional awareness
- Build positive, meaningful relationships
- Care for animals and the environment

Children are guided and supported in:

- Practicing kindness in everyday situations
- Learning how their actions affect others
- Recognizing and responding to emotions
- Building strong social connections with peers and teachers

At Solid Start Early Learning, these experiences are woven into daily routines, classroom interactions, and learning activities—not taught as a separate lesson, but lived throughout the day. By fostering kindness, compassion, and connection, we help children build a foundation that supports them both in school and in life.

Guidance & Support

At Solid Start Early Learning, we understand that young children are still learning how to communicate, regulate emotions, navigate social situations, and interact with the world around them.

Rooted in kindness, our Compassionate Humane Education (CHE) approach, guides children with patience, consistency, clear expectations, and respect. Our goal is not simply to correct behavior, but to help children develop emotional awareness, problem-solving skills, empathy, and positive social connections.

Teachers support children by:

- Helping them identify and express emotions in healthy ways
- Modeling respectful communication and conflict resolution
- Reinforcing routines, boundaries, and classroom expectations
- Redirecting children toward positive choices and interactions
- Encouraging independence, responsibility, and self-regulation

We believe children learn best in environments where they feel safe, supported, connected, and understood. Families are viewed as important partners, and open communication is maintained when additional support or collaboration may be beneficial.

Daily Rhythm

At Solid Start Early Learning, each day follows a consistent and thoughtfully designed rhythm that supports how children learn, feel, and engage.

Rather than a rigid schedule, our day flows in a way that balances structure with flexibility—allowing children to experience active learning, meaningful connection, and quiet moments throughout the day. This consistency helps children feel secure, confident, and ready to participate in each part of their day.

Children move through a balanced combination of learning, exploration, movement, outdoor experiences, social interaction, meals, and rest in a way that feels natural and supportive for

early childhood development. Predictable routines help children build independence, confidence, emotional security, and a sense of belonging within the classroom community.

While each day may include different activities, experiences, and seasonal opportunities, our overall rhythm remains intentionally designed to support the whole child—academically, socially, emotionally, and physically.

A Look at Our Daily Rhythm

The schedule reflects a typical day and may vary based on children's needs, activities, and seasonal experiences.

7:00–8:00 AM

Optional Before Care

(includes breakfast, quiet activities, choice centers, and free play in a calm, welcoming environment to ease into the day)

8:00–8:30 AM

Arrival & Connection

(includes free play and morning transition time)

8:30–11:30 AM

Morning Learning & Exploration

(guided by our early learning curriculum, Creative Curriculum; includes circle time, social-emotional check-ins, center rotations, hands-on learning, small group activities, and a morning snack)

11:30 AM–12:00 PM

Lunch *(provided)*

12:00–12:30 PM

Free Play, Yoga & Physical Activity

12:30–2:00 PM

Story Time & Rest / Quiet Time

2:00–3:30 PM

Nature-Based & Experiential Learning

(includes outdoor exploration, art, music, movement, and an afternoon snack)

3:30 PM

Pick-Up

3:30–5:00 PM

Optional Aftercare

(includes snack, choice centers, free play, and quiet activities designed to support a relaxed and positive end to the day)

Our schedule is designed to support children's natural energy levels, providing time for active learning, rest, and meaningful engagement throughout the day. By balancing movement, learning, rest, and connection, children are better able to focus, regulate their emotions, and build confidence throughout the day.

Daily Essentials

To help each child feel comfortable, prepared, and supported throughout the day, we ask families to follow the guidelines below.

Meals & Nutrition

Snacks, drinks, and lunch are provided daily.

A monthly menu is shared with families and includes a variety of familiar favorites and balanced options designed to support growing children throughout the day. Mealtimes are incorporated as part of the daily rhythm, encouraging social interaction, independence, and positive experiences around food.

We are happy to accommodate allergy needs and dietary considerations whenever possible.

Students should bring a water tumbler each day.

Rest Time

Cots, sheets, and blankets are provided daily. All bedding is maintained and regularly laundered by the school.

What to Wear

Children should wear comfortable, play-appropriate clothing each day.

- Closed-toe shoes are required
- Solid Start Early Learning t-shirts are required on Fridays and for field trips

What to Bring

Please ensure your child brings a backpack each day with:

- A change of clothes
- A water bottle/tumbler

These simple routines help create a smooth, organized, and supportive environment for all children.

Security & Safety

At Solid Start Early Learning, the safety and well-being of our students is a top priority. Our campus and daily procedures are intentionally designed to provide a secure, structured, and well-supervised environment.

Our safety measures include:

- Secure entry with tag reader access for campus arrival
- Surveillance cameras throughout the campus
- Armed and unarmed security presence at key times

- Fully fenced facility
- Locked classrooms during instructional time

In addition, we maintain:

- Controlled check-in and check-out procedures with authorized pick-up lists
- Active staff supervision throughout the day
- Staff trained in safety protocols, including CPR and First Aid
- Emergency response plans and routine safety drills
- Clear communication procedures with families when needed

Our goal is to provide a safe, calm, and supportive environment where children can learn, grow, and feel secure each day.

Why Families Choose Solid Start

Families choose Solid Start Early Learning for a program rooted in kindness, connection, and real-life learning.

Our approach is designed to support the whole child—helping children grow not only in their foundational skills, but also in confidence, independence, and their ability to connect with others.

Families value:

- A strong focus on kindness, empathy, and social-emotional development
- A calm, thoughtfully designed environment that supports focus and engagement
- Hands-on, meaningful learning experiences that feel natural and engaging
- Daily opportunities to connect with nature and the world around them
- A consistent and supportive foundation that continues into our K–12 program

At Solid Start Early Learning, children are supported in becoming:

- Confident in themselves
- Capable in their learning
- Connected to others and their environment

We believe the early years matter, and we are committed to creating an experience where children feel safe, supported, and excited to learn each day.

At Solid Start, learning begins with connection, and growth follows naturally.

Family Communication

We believe strong communication between school and home is an important part of a child's success and comfort.

Families can expect regular communication regarding classroom activities, important updates, special events, and their child's experience throughout the program. We value partnership with families and encourage open, respectful communication throughout the school year.

Families will also have access to a family portal for messaging, updates, and important program information.

Health & Wellness

To help maintain a healthy environment for all children and staff, families are asked to keep children home when experiencing symptoms of illness, including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or other contagious symptoms.

If a child becomes ill during the day, families will be contacted for prompt pick-up.

We encourage open communication regarding health concerns, allergies, or medical needs so we can best support each child's well-being and comfort while at school.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Procedures

To help ensure the safety and security of all children, only parents, guardians, or individuals authorized by the family may drop off or pick up a child.

During designated arrival and dismissal times, children may be received or released by a Solid Start staff member outside the classroom. At all other times, families should accompany their child directly to the preschool classroom.

In all cases, children must be signed in at drop-off and signed out at pick-up by a parent, guardian, or authorized individual. Children will only be released to individuals listed on the child's authorized pick-up form.

For the safety of all students, families should promptly notify the school of any changes to authorized pick-up information, and identification may be requested when necessary.

Parent Information Hub

A Parent Information Hub is located outside the classroom and serves as a central location for important information throughout the year.

Families can find:

- School calendar and important dates
- Licensing information and required notices
- Program updates and announcements

- Monthly menus
- Classroom and school reminders

Families are encouraged to review the Parent Information Hub regularly to stay informed about school news and upcoming opportunities.

Preschool Tuition

3–4 Year Olds

Our preschool program is intentionally designed as a private program to support deeper learning, meaningful connection, and hands-on exploration. Children experience a balance of structured learning, real-life experiences, and opportunities to explore, create, and engage with the world around them.

Each day is thoughtfully designed to include hands-on learning, outdoor exploration, movement, and meaningful social interaction. Children engage in experiences such as cooking, gardening, caring for their environment, and connecting with nature and animals. Our classrooms are calm, engaging, and intentionally structured to support independence, confidence, and connection.

Rooted in a culture of kindness, empathy, and respect, children are guided in building relationships, developing emotional awareness, and understanding how their actions impact others and the world around them. Rather than overstimulation or constant direction, children are given the space to explore their interests, make choices, and engage in meaningful experiences.

Rather than structuring our program around the limitations of voucher programs, we have created an environment that allows children to fully participate in a consistent, well-rounded experience throughout the day. This approach supports growth across all areas—social, emotional, and academic—while helping children build confidence, independence, and strong connections with others and their environment.

Full Day | 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Includes beverages, lunch, cot, sheet, blanket; all bedding is provided and regularly laundered by the school

- Self-Pay Tuition: \$1,300/month
- VPK Eligible Families: \$1,100/month*

*Amount reflects application of the Florida VPK voucher. Eligibility requirements apply.

Optional Before & After Care

- 7:00–8:00 AM | Before Care \$55/week
Includes breakfast, quiet activities, choice centers, and free play in a calm, welcoming environment to ease into the day.
- 3:30–5:00 PM | After Care \$55/week
Includes an afternoon snack, choice centers, free play, and quiet activities designed to support a relaxed and positive end to the day.

Tuition Assistance

We understand that each family's situation is unique. Limited tuition assistance opportunities may be available based on program structure and availability.

Discounts

Multi-student discounts may be available for families with children enrolled in Solid Start Early Learning and/or Solid Rock Community School, based on enrollment and program availability.

Next Steps

We would love to connect with you and learn more about your family. To get started, please complete the Solid Start Early Learning Interest Form <https://solidrockcommunityschool.org/preschool/>



Once submitted, a member of our team will follow up to discuss next steps, answer any questions, and help guide you through the enrollment process.