

About the ECDC

The Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) is a dual language elementary school serving students age three through grade five that is operated jointly by the Corpus Christi Independent School District and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMUCC).



Texas A&M University
Corpus Christi



It is a laboratory school and serves as a training and research base for many TAMUCC education programs. The mission of the ECDC supports the need for educators to become involved in the lives of students at an early age and to extend that involvement to all parts of their lives: physical, social, cultural, emotional, and intellectual.



Facilities

The Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) is on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus, located on the 240-acre Ward Island. Facilities include the ECDC school (including classroom space, cafeteria, dual language library, and computer lab), the Educational Center for Mathematics and Science (including a wet lab, dry lab, technology, and presentation space), an experimental garden, and a renovated playground featuring the latest motor development equipment and a trike track.



Interested?

Contact the ECDC at:

Early Childhood Development Center
6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5834
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5834

ECDC Front Desk
361-825-3366

Corpus Christi ISD
361-886-9200

ECDC Principal
Dr. Christine Marroquin
361-825-5953

TAMUCC
College of Education
361-825-2662

<http://ecdc.ccisd.us>
<http://education.tamucc.edu>

The Early Childhood Development Center

"Where two languages meet"



What is it that makes the ECDC special?

Dual language instruction

The Early Childhood Development Center is the only Corpus Christi Independent School District school to deliver its curriculum via dual language. Half of instruction in specified subjects is in English and half is in Spanish. Most students become bilingual and biliterate by the end of the fifth grade.

This dual language curriculum helps ECDC students improve their vocabulary, problem solving abilities, and collaboration skills while increasing their cultural literacy in both Spanish and English.

Research shows that dual language instruction provides long-term benefits in students' lives, including improved cognitive abilities, better overall school performance, lower dropout rates, and increased job opportunities.



A few statistics

Opening date: August 1996
Student body: Approximately 170
Grade levels: Pre-K3 through 5
School mascot: Sea Turtle

Arts & culture

The arts, including music, visual art, and theater, help students build critical thinking, creativity, motor skills, and cultural understanding.

All ECDC students take art, music, and drama classes. Students in Pre-K4 through the first grade receive Suzuki method violin instruction. After-school activities, guest speakers, field trips, and presentations allow students to experience a wider variety of art and culture.



The ECDC integrates the arts and culture with all aspects of life and learning, allowing students to appreciate different forms of expression in their many diverse contexts. Students develop an appreciation for the arts that will stay with them throughout their lives.



University connections

As a laboratory school, the ECDC is a training site for pre-service teachers, doctoral students, researchers, and subject specialists from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.



While the ECDC provides training to university students and faculty, the school's students also benefit from this relationship. ECDC students have access to university programming, including hands-on math and science fairs, the America Reads program, Family Science Night, individual academic planning, one-on-one tutoring, counseling services, and brown bag parent workshops.

Admission

Application to the ECDC is by lottery and is open to all CCISD students. Each year 22 children enter the Pre-K3 class. The lottery selects the student body based on the region's socioeconomic demographics. Students need not be bilingual to apply; however, the school does require that 50% of the population enter as dominant English speakers and 50% as dominant Spanish speakers.

Lottery application forms are available at the ECDC front office and at the CCISD administrative offices at 801 Leopard Street. Students entering the Pre-K3 class must be three years of age by September 1 and use the restroom independently. Applications are accepted between February and April (check each year for dates).