

September 18, 2015

Dear Parent,

Congratulations!

You have selected Little Angels Christian Preschool, an early learning program that has achieved the Gold Circle of Quality through ExceleRate Illinois, the state's new quality rating and improvement system for early learning and development programs. ExceleRate Illinois recognizes a program's commitment to quality beyond the basic state licensing requirements (which cover seven broad areas including staffing, programming, health, safety and hygiene). The Gold Circle of Quality shows that your child's program has gone the extra mile to make sure your child receives the enhanced learning and care experience.

What does this ExceleRate Illinois Circle of Quality mean to you and your child? Regardless of the specific Circle of Quality, recognition by ExceleRate Illinois shows that your child's program has met specific standards of quality and is helping to give your child a good start in learning and in life.

About ExceleRate Illinois

ExceleRate Illinois focuses on four areas: 1. Teaching and Learning, 2. Family and Community Engagement, 3. Leadership and Management and 4. Qualifications and Continuing Education.

The Gold Circle of Quality recognizes programs which have demonstrated quality on all 15 standards, as validated by an independent assessor. Gold Circle programs meet or exceed specific quality benchmarks on learning environment, instructional quality, and all program administrative standards; group size and staff/child ratios; staff qualifications; and professional development.

For more information on ExceleRate Illinois, please visit: www.excelerateillinois.com.

Thank you for recognizing the importance of quality early learning programs for your family. We encourage you to take a moment to congratulate your program's director and staff on their achievement.

Sincerely,

Theresa Hawley, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood

Diane Grigsby Jackson, Director, Division of Family and Community Services, Illinois Department of Human Services

Cynthia Zumwalt, Early Childhood Division Administrator, Illinois State Board of Education

Denice Murray, Deputy Director Division of Regulation and Monitoring Illinois Department of Children

and Family Services

