Family Center

The Family Center at Bank Street College of Education is a non-profit inclusive center that provides child-centered, developmentally appropriate, and culturally sensitive services and support for families of children aged 6 months to 5 years. Rooted in a deep understanding that children learn best when they are actively engaged with ideas, materials, and people, our curriculum helps all children develop the early social, emotional, and cognitive skills essential to lifelong success.

Center-Based Childcare



At the Family Center's Childcare Program, children participate in supervised activities and experiences that encourage them to explore their environment, interact with their peers, and learn about the diversity within their community. Both full-time and part-time options are available to suit each family's needs.

Our child care includes a General Education program, as well as a Preschool Special Education program for children with special needs. We welcome children receiving Early Intervention supports into our infant-toddler classes and are a fully inclusive setting in which all children share the same classroom while teachers individualize activities to meet each child's physical, emotional, language, and cognitive needs.

The Family Center understands that family members are the most important people in the lives of young children. We invite family involvement, encouraging family members to volunteer in different ways and share their talents in our classrooms.

Home & Community Based Program

The Family Center Home & Community Based Program provides special education and therapeutic services to children who have developmental or educational challenges. The program includes three main components:

- Our Special Education Itinerant Teachers (SEITs) work with children who require extra support in General Education settings to help them become fully integrated into their school programs.
- We are approved to provide professional, multidisciplinary preschool evaluations for children ages 3 to 5 who are referred through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE).
- Our Family Foundations Groups offer a unique opportunity for children to engage in developmentally appropriate play in the company of their peers and parents. My Grown-Up & Me playgroup supports parents and toddlers ages 6 months to 3 years, while our My Parent & Me: Developmental Social Group supports families of young children with special needs.

The Family Center as a Training Site



Our programs also serve as training platforms for our next generation of teachers and related professionals. We offer teaching placements and internships for students from a variety of institutions and programs, including Bank Street College of Education, Teachers College, and New York University.

Interns and student teachers work as core staff members and actively participate in the planning and implementation of the daily program, the care of the children, and the support of their families.