FREE Preschool Program for 3 and 4 year old children of income-eligible families in Ellis, Rooks, Rush and Rush counties.

Together We Make A Difference

Applications are accepted throughout the year. New Students may begin any time during the year when openings occur.

Families are encouraged to find a way to get involved. This can be achieved by spending time in the classroom, involvement in Family Activity Night (FAN) or Head Start’s Policy Council, as well as many other programs.

CLASSROOMS

Hays Classrooms

Full Day/Full Year Session
- 5 days per week
- 12 months
- Schedule to meet the needs of parents working 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Part Day/Part Year Sessions
- 4 days per week
- 3 1/2 hours per day
- Morning or Afternoon sessions
- 9 month program

Home Based
- Weekly visits
- Socializations two times per month
- 12 months
- Serving Ellis, Rooks, Russell and Rush Counties

Russell Classroom
- 5 days per week
- 3 1/2 hours per day
- Afternoon session

www.haysheadstart.org

323 W. 12th Street
Hays, Kansas 67601-3893
(785) 623.2430

An Early Childhood Development Program
### Head Start Involves Children, Families and the Community

**1) Education**
- Identifies and builds upon individual strengths and interests.
- Fosters intellectual, social, physical and emotional growth.
- Encourages problem solving and self expression.
- Builds self-confidence.
- Involves families in the child’s education.
- Serves children with special needs.
- Develops a positive attitude toward learning.
- Develops school readiness skills.

**2) Health**
- Provides at least one-third of the child’s daily nutritional needs.
- Helps families to locate health services.
- Provides speech, developmental, vision, and hearing screenings.
- Builds upon good mental health practices.
- Emphasizes early identification of health problems.
- Attends to special needs.

**3) Family Involvement**
- Act as volunteers, observers, and paid employees.
- Plan family education activities.
- Participate in making decisions about the operation of the program.
- Participate in home visits.
- Develop family goals.

**4) Social Services**
- Provides for enrollment of eligible children regardless of race, creed, color, national origin or disability.
- Supports family goals.
- Builds upon individual strengths.
- Assists in locating local community services.

**5) Community Collaboration**
- Provides 20% non-federal share of the local Head Start budget.
- Provides donations of time, equipment, supplies and materials.
- Provides dental, medical and other professional services.
- Provides a foundation for collaboration.
- Supports families self sufficiency efforts.

### Mission Statement

The Hays Head Start staff consisting of families, community, and staff provides a comprehensive program based on individual strengths to enrich families.

### Locations

**Hays Head Start Offices**
320 W. 13th Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2430

**Felten Middle School**
1309 Fort Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2450

**Lincoln Elementary**
1906 Ash Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2500

**O'Loughlin Elementary**
1401 Hall Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2510

**Roosevelt Elementary**
2000 MacArthur Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2520

**Washington Elementary**
305 Main Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2540

**Simpson Elementary**
1300 N. Main, Russell  
(785) 483-6180

**Home Based Programs**
320 W. 13th Street, Hays  
(785) 623-2430

### Cost

There are no fees for the Hays/Russell Head Start and the Home Based programs. All Head Start services are completely free of charge. The Full-Day/Full-Year program charges for the child care portion of the child’s day. Families must be income eligible.

### Income Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of Family</th>
<th>Income</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 family member</td>
<td>$ 9,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 family members</td>
<td>$13,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 family members</td>
<td>$16,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 family members</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 family members</td>
<td>$23,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 family members</td>
<td>$26,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 family members</td>
<td>$30,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 family members</td>
<td>$33,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each additional family member, add $3,400.

*These income guidelines are based on the National Federal Poverty Index.

### Eligibility

Hays Head Start serves people regardless of race, creed, or color. Children must be three or four years of age, on or before August 31st.

### Meals

Meals are provided in the classroom locations at no cost to the child’s family, made possible by CACFP. The meal program fulfills at least one-third of the child’s daily nutritional requirements. Families are always welcome to join the class in a meal or snack, with prior notice.