

Classroom Celebrations

Procedure

Staff will review the Classroom Celebrations Policy with families during the orientation process and will discuss any concerns, adaptations, or considerations with the family.

Staff will review the information provided by families during enrollment or through the "Getting to Know Your Child and Family" document before planning any classroom celebrations to ensure all requests are accommodated.

Head Start does not endorse or promote any specific holiday. Educational staff will not plan or implement classroom wide religious holiday themed celebrations.

Staff will plan strategies for working with the children whose family beliefs do not permit participation in celebrations. Staff will include the child's parents in creating satisfactory alternatives for the child within the classroom.

Staff will use holiday celebrations as part of many other kinds of activities about a cultural group. Staff will consider the following when planning for celebrations; the purpose of teaching about this holiday, is it developmentally suitable to my group of children? Is it related to their lives? What will they be learning?

Classroom celebrations will be consistent with CACFP nutrition guidelines.

Child initiated conversations, play, and activities related to holidays will be supported by educational staff.

Individual family members may share their family holiday traditions as a classroom guest.