



**Community Report on Dr. Edward L. Whigham Primary Learning
Center**

A Traditional Parent's Perspective on School Policies and Environment

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Summary and Overall Rating

Dr Edward L Whigham Primary Learning Center serves students from PreK through grade two in the Miami Gardens area. The school enrolls approximately 250 students and maintains a student teacher ratio of around 12 to 1—a smaller learning environment that supports individual attention. Academic performance is solid for early years, with reading and math proficiency rates near district averages and clear structures for readiness in higher grades.

However the school follows district policies that require staff to respect student chosen names and pronouns starting at PreK, with no parent opt out option. From a traditional or faith-based voice the school receives a **rating of three point five out of ten**. The early childhood focus and supportive environment have benefits but district identity protocols may concern some families.

School Contact Information

School Name

Dr Edward L Whigham Primary Learning Center

Address

18300 NW 47th Court
Miami Gardens FL 33055

Phone

(305) 624 8854

Grades

PreK to 2

District

Miami Dade County Public Schools

1. Academic Standing and Programs

As a primary center the school emphasizes foundational skills in reading writing and math. Curriculum is aligned to early learning standards with daily literacy blocks guided by structured

phonics and numeracy programs. Teachers use small group instruction to support emergent readers.

The school offers early exposure to STEAM and visual arts enrichment as part of the curriculum. Family reading nights help promote engagement across grade levels.

2. Student Community and Support Services

With about 250 students the school provides very small class sizes. Student demographics are majority Black with Hispanic and multiracial representation. A large percentage of families qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The school offers early intervention services for speech and language delays ESOL for dual language learners and basic counseling support.

3. Facilities and Learning Environment

Facilities include preschool rooms reading centers playground learning gardens and a media corner. The school campus is monitored from arrival through dismissal. Teachers receive training on early childhood behavior management. Parents can participate in volunteer reading programs.

4. Policy and Cultural Environment

The district requires staff use student-preferred pronouns and participate in LGBTQ inclusive training even in pre-kindergarten. While formal LGBTQ instruction is not part of early learning, inclusive language may appear informally in schools routines or small group interactions.

Parents may wish to clarify how these policies are applied and whether family preferences are respected in classroom practice.

5. Parent Engagement and Communication

Parents are invited to attend school orientation events family reading nights and early literacy workshops. Volunteer opportunities include classroom readers and book fair helpers. The school sends weekly newsletters in both English and Spanish and encourages contact with teachers via email or phone.

Helpful tip: ask for contact with your child's support team, such as reading coach or counselor, to understand early intervention options.

6. Recent Issues or Community Input

There are no reported safety incidents or misconduct concerns. The school participates in district early childhood conferences and parent feedback forms to adjust curriculum and operations. School leadership emphasizes consistency in routines to support young learners.

7. Parent Concerns and Suggested Actions

Families with traditional or faith-based values may consider:

- Early-year exposure to identity and pronoun protocols without parental choice
- Academic readiness in early grades and alignment with home expectations for reading
- How behavior is managed and whether classroom routines respect parental input
- Methods for communication about observed concerns or adjustments needed

Helpful steps for involvement:

1. Attend orientation and set expectations early with your child's teacher
2. Participate in early literacy events to support your child's progress
3. Join any parent advisory group or volunteer reading sessions
4. Observe and visit classrooms to assess tone and style of learning

Final Rating: 3.5 out of 10

Policy Environment – 2

District mandates early identity practices from PreK, no opt-out available

School-Level Practice – 5

The school maintains structured routines academic readiness and small classroom settings

Classroom Exposure – 4

No formal LGBTQ curriculum, though inclusive language may arise in teacher-led activities

Community and Cultural Tone – 6

Supportive early learning environment with strong parent engagement; district cultural policies shape language norms

Final Summary for Parents

Dr Edward L Whigham Primary Learning Center offers a nurturing and academically focused start to schooling in a small classroom environment. District policies require early pronoun practices and inclusive training for staff. Families who prefer minimal early exposure to identity topics can benefit from early engagement—meeting with staff and familiarizing themselves with routines and curriculum expectations.