

Job Title:	Lead Teacher
Location:	In Person – Little Blessings Child Care Center Portsmouth, NH
Hours:	Full time, 40 hours per week,8:00 – 5:00 Monday – Friday
Salary:	\$14-\$18 an hour (depending on qualifications and experience)

About Little Blessings Child Care Center

Little Blessings Child Care Center is a non-profit childcare center licensed through the Child Care Licensing Unit in New Hampshire. Little Blessings was opened in 1992 with 24 children and has since grown to our current license capacity of 71 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old. At Little Blessings, our goal is to provide the highest quality early education and care for all the children and families we serve.

As an entity of Christ Episcopal Church governed by the New Hampshire Episcopal Diocese, Little Blessings is guided by an Advisory Board, consisting of staff, parent, church, and community representatives. We are a multi-faith facility, honoring all faiths and celebrating diversity. We encourage the understanding of differences and openness to people of all backgrounds. We support and honor awareness, diversity, and tolerance.

Little Blessings operates on the developmental philosophy that all children grow and learn at their own individual pace, not according to a calendar. Social and emotional development are our primary goals; academic development is secondary. We teach the children to respect others as well as themselves. We provide an environment where children can interact with other children as well as with adults, where they are given the opportunity to experience the joys of friendships.

Learning is discovered more than taught, however the learning environment is created and fostered by the staff. We provide age-appropriate games, activities, toys, and crafts to develop small and large motor skills; cognitive skills and thinking processes; social skills as well as self-help skills, and positive self-esteem. We strive to make our Center a family friendly and fun learning environment where unconditional love is the underlying key.

About the role

As a **Lead Teacher**, you will report to the Center Director, and will be a key partner in delivering on Little Blessings' mission of providing the highest quality early education and care for all the children and families we serve. You will be responsible for the overall running of your classroom, first and foremost ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the children in your care. You will monitor them for health, behavioral, and emotional concerns, provide them with age-appropriate instruction, and work with colleagues and families to ensure that children are learning and socializing in a positive way. You will also work with and support the professional development of junior colleagues.

The successful candidate will be an experienced childcare provider with a passion for early childhood development. They will be energetic, flexible individuals who thrive on working as part of a team, excel at building positive relationships with peers, families, and students and who are excited to contribute to the future of Little Blessings! Primary Responsibilities



- Monitor children throughout the day and always ensure safety.
- Plan, supervise and implement classroom programming and instruction in accordance with the policies and philosophies of Little Blessings Child Care Center.
- Create and maintain a learning environment focused on the needs of the individual child with consideration for their cultural and socio-economic background, interests, special needs and talents and individual style and pace of learning within the context of "typical expectations and development".
- Follow and demonstrate sound health, safety and nutritional practices.
- Make observations (weekly) and evaluations (ASQ's twice yearly) for each student within your classroom.
- Use observation and assessment to plan curriculum according to the children's interests and needs.
- Meet with the Director on a monthly basis (more if needed) to check in and discuss concerns, accomplishments, resources needed etc.
- Work as a team with other teachers in the classroom to coordinate activities, assessments, classroom environment, curriculum plans and to address concerns.
- Provide age-appropriate care for children, such as setting schedules and routines, grooming, feeding, changing diapers.
- Help plan and participate in engagement activities with families.
- Become acquainted with and build a positive, professional relationship with each child and their families.
- Establish and maintain regular communication with families about classroom activities, planned curriculum and LBCCC events.
- Support the professional development of associate teachers and child-care assistants.
- Ensure your classroom and play areas are kept neat and sanitary providing a safe, engaging, and clean environment.
- Be familiar with and maintain licensing standards.
- Use discretion and maintain client confidentiality.

Candidate qualifications

- Flexible team player with strong interpersonal skills.
- Positive, caring, compassionate attitude.
- Enthusiasm for developing positive, professional relationships with students, families and colleagues.
- Ability to communicate effectively and professionally with families, staff and administration.
- Excellent leadership skills and confidence giving direction, motivating and mentoring junior colleagues.
- Strong background knowledge of child development and a passion for working with children.
- Attention to detail and ability to organize time, and multiple priorities.



Candidate requirements

- Must have a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma, be at least 18 years of age, and meet ONE of the following pre-service training/education options:
 - A minimum of 18 credits in related coursework, including at least 3 credits in child or human growth and development, plus a minimum of 1000 hours experience working with children in a licensed child care program or public or private elementary school.
 - 2. A minimum of 12 credits in related coursework, plus 3000 hours experience working with children in a licensed child care program or public or private elementary school.
 - 3. Documentation of non-expired child development associates (CDA) in center-based programs awarded by the council for professional recognition.
 - 4. A credential from a teacher preparation program accredited by MACTE;
 - 5. Five years as a licensed family child care provider with no enforcement actions imposed by the department.
 - 6. Successful completion of the NH Early Childhood Apprenticeship program.
 - A minimum of 1000 hours of supervised child care experience in a licensed child care program, documentation of successful completion of a 2-year vocational course in career and technical education with an additional 9 credits in related coursework; Or
 - 8. Documentation from or on file with the department that she/he was qualified for and employed in the position of lead teacher on or before the effective date of these rules in 2017.
- Must maintain 18 hours of Professional Development training per year in accordance with the NH Child Care Licensing Rules.
- Must be able to pass a fingerprint and background check (employer paid).
- Must maintain current CPR and First Aid training (employer will pay for training if not certified).
- Must pass a health test and maintain documentation every three years.
- Completion of required NH health and safety training once hired.

Physical Demands and Working Conditions

- Must be able to lift and carry children aged 6 weeks to 6 years.
- Must be able to spend time sitting on the floor and working at a child's level.
- Must be able to assist in diapering, toileting and other self-help skills.
- Must be able to observe children within a wide range of vision and respond rapidly for safety and emergencies.
- Must be able to complete light cleaning and classroom organization/rearranging tasks.
- May encounter children who are ill and/or contagious.



Benefits

- Health (employer pays a portion), dental and vision insurance (employee pays).
- 403b retirement plan, with employer match after 1 year of employment. (currently 5%)
- Discounted childcare for employee's children (50% off tuition)(30% off second child)
- Access to Telehealth services (employer pays).
- Two scheduled weeks of paid vacation plus paid holidays and Paid Time Off accrual.
- Free meals when working.
- Free access to State Early Learning Alliance (SELA) Teach program, workshops and conferences and other professional development opportunities.

Interested? To apply please send your CV, cover letter and three references to <u>Dana.lbccc@gmail.com</u> or contact LBCCC with any questions!