

Dear Children's Co-op Families,

As your Whatcom Community College parenting educators, we would like to cordially welcome you to Children's Cooperative Preschool and to Whatcom Community College. As parent educators, we partner with your teachers and preschool board to support the operation of the preschool and provide you and your family support and information throughout the year. Our goal is to help strengthen families and to enhance your ability to provide the best possible environment for the healthy growth and development of your child throughout preschool and beyond. We believe parents are a child's first and most important teachers. We look forward to getting to know you and your family throughout the year!

A little more about your parent educators Carolina Olza-Kelsh and Alisson Bonner! Carolina has worked with families as a parenting educator at Whatcom Community College since 2008. She has a Master's Degree of Science in Early Childhood Studies with specializations in Teaching and Diversity. She's a certified instructor of Washington State University's Strengthening Families program and she is a certified Positive Discipline parenting educator. In addition, Carolina is a state certified interpreter in Spanish for social services. Carolina has been a mentor to Whatcom Community College Early Childhood Education students and she teaches in the Early Childhood education program preparing future teachers. She has been a contributor to curriculum development for the Department of Early Learning distance education projects. She has two teenage alumni of Children's Co-op preschool!

Alisson Bonner has been with WCC as a parent educator since 2016. She has a Master's Degree in Education with specialization in Counseling. Prior to working as a parent educator at Whatcom, she has also worked as a High School Counselor and Recreation Program Coordinator for Thurston County Parks and Recreation Special Olympics programs. She has three kids who have attended Children's Co-op preschool. In her free time, Alisson loves mountain biking with her family, playing soccer, running, reading and living in Bellingham! Alisson is excited to learn and grow with families at the co-op.

Finally, a few last reminders to share! As part of your child's registration at Children's Cooperative Preschool, you are registered as a student at Whatcom Community College. Your work in the classroom, attending parent meetings and taking on a parent job at the preschool will help you work towards earning elective parenting education credits throughout the year. As a student at WCC, you also can access college services & student discounts at Whatcom Community College by getting your Orca student card. Go to: <http://whatcom.edu/campus-life/orca-student-id-card> for more info. Please take advantage of these services! For more information about WCC, please see: <http://whatcom.edu>.

Please also make sure that your immunization records are updated with the school. Children will not be able to attend school unless their immunization records (or signed exemptions) are on file.

As always, if you have any questions and need additional resources please feel free to contact us.

WCC Parenting Education Program

Carolina Olza-Kelsh, M.S.
colza@Whatcom.edu

Alisson Bonner, M.Ed.
abonner@Whatcom.edu