



The Story of Bells Ferry Learning Center

Our History

Bells Ferry Learning Center (BFLC) is a private, family-owned and operated center that has served the families of Woodstock and Acworth since 1989. The current owner, Sharon Foster, bought the center in 2001.

2004: BFLC partnered with the Cherokee County Board of Education to pilot the first Georgia Pre-K inclusion classroom in the county. The center's initiative enabled children with special needs to benefit from participation in an inclusive environment with highly successful results.

2006: BFLC achieved NAEYC Accreditation. Having also been named a Geor-

gia Center of Recognition, we were the only center in Cherokee County to have achieved both state and national accreditation at that time.

2008: We became a 100% Certified Lead-Free center. We continue to maintain our certification by having all of our materials and supplies inspected prior to placement in a classroom.

2009: Our franchise agreement with a major national franchisor ended and we became BFLC, an independent center.

2014: One of only 43 pre-schools in the country to be

designated a Safety 1st Center.

2014: Named "Best Child-care: Atlanta" by Kudzu.com.

2015: Earned the Quality Rated designation. Less than 10% of the child care providers in Cherokee County have the QR designation.

2016: We are excited to be opening our second location in January. We are truly looking forward to bringing our unique brand of child care to the Marietta community.



Meet the Owner

Sharon Foster holds a TCD in Early Childhood Education and began working in child care at the young age of 13 in 1978. She worked after school and full-time during the summers until 1983. Sharon went on to spend many years in the hospitality industry, but always with the dream of getting back into the child care business. Her dream came true in 2001 when she purchased the Woodstock center.

Sharon loves building relationships with families in the community and takes her responsibilities very seriously. She knows people are trusting her with their most precious treasures!

Sharon has been married to Zack for more than 22 years and they have three children, Shelby, Ben, and Natalie. She is an avid runner and her other hobbies include watching Georgia Tech football and going to concerts—especially Zac Brown Band concerts!

Setting the Highest Standards

Our goal at BFLC is to provide a safe, nurturing, and educational atmosphere where families feel welcome and comfortable. The staff enjoys establishing long-term relationships with the families they serve and are pleased that many children who start

the program in the infant room remain connected to the center through the school-age program.

We place a high priority on higher education and professional development. Many of our staff members hold advanced degrees and certifications. We routinely

exceed the state-mandated 10 hours of annual professional development.

Our commitment to voluntarily become a Quality Rated center demonstrates that our staff believes in providing the best possible environment for the children in our care.