

"We've been successful because we have always hired people who demonstrate exceptional commitment to our students, families, and community," says Libby King, who has been at WCC for more than 23 years, as a teacher, site director and now executive director.

"I believe we have been able to withstand the test of time because we have an excellent reputation," she says. WCC is the only National Association for the Education of Young Children-accredited program in the 20816 Zip code. The school is also a part of the USDA Food Program serving healthy and nutritious meals.

The school's culture is inspired by play and the thrill of discovery — King says the early years of a child's life are the gateway to a lifelong love of learning and success — and it embraces changes head-on. With more need for technology, each classroom is equipped with iPads. WCC delivers innovative programs on exercise, play and music, all primary elements in programs.

"I've changed our programs to fit the needs of the community," says King, "while still adhering to our philosophy of a quality early childhood education that's accessible for everyone." WCC is a neighborhood school, and also attracts children from D.C. and Virginia.

At WCC, children learn at an individual pace with caring, well-trained teachers who are attentive to each child's particular needs and who create a warm, loving and safe place to learn.

"I'm especially proud that our families come back to visit us after graduating from our program. And, even more wonderful, we have students now whose parents were once students here!" Adds King, whose son attended WCC, "I'm fortunate to run a preschool that I believe in and love."

## Westmoreland Children's Center (WCC)

**LIBBY KING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

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