Our mission is to...

...provide staff and families a safe, diverse childcare environment dedicated to respectful communication, problem solving, creative learning and the freedom to play!

About our program
Blazing Trails, located at Pathfinder K - 8 in West Seattle, is a non-profit before and after school childcare program for school-age children ages five through twelve. We also offer summer enrichment programs.

Blazing ’Trails’ CoRs
Children of different ages are organized into Communities of Respect (CoRs). For the summer, DUCKS are 5 year old entering Kindergarteners as of September, 2019. Other BT CoRs are RACCOONS, entering 1st-2nd graders and BADGERS, entering 3rd grade and up. Also, incoming middle schoolers who are interested may apply to join the LYNX CoR (See Mckinsey for more information on the application process). CoR assignments will shift when school starts. Although we are housed at Pathfinder K-8, our program welcomes students who will attend other schools in the fall. The DUCK CoR and special LYNX CoR will have their own time each day for CoR specific activities, though there will be many opportunities for mixed CoR activities.

Blazing Trails’ Philosophy and Vision
Our vision: “Children are empowered to discover their worth.”

We are dedicated to supporting families in our community as we help each child develop good communication skills and celebrate his or her own uniqueness. We maintain an environment that encourages intellectual, physical and social growth with respect for others and the natural environment. People relate to each other peacefully and we joyfully appreciate our rich diversity.

Staff training is a crucial component to accomplishing our goals. We support our staff, both professionally and personally, through respect for each other’s personal differences and unique teaching styles. We provide opportunities for shared leadership, professional growth and development and an environment that encourages mutual support and care.

Blazing Trails Childcare
Inclusion Policy
Our Statement of Anti-discrimination, Anti-bias & Cultural Sensitivity

We foster an understanding of diversity among people, expecting and modeling unconditional respect for self and others. We enjoy celebrating and exploring our community’s rich cultural diversity.

All children and their families are accepted according to our policies without regard to race, color, religion or belief structure, creed, ancestry, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical challenges. We have no religious affiliation.

Check us out at ...
www.blazingtrails.org
Blazing Trails Childcare

**Information**

- We are open from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM during the 8 weeks of the 2019 summer program.
- Blazing Trails is a non-profit organization with its own governing board.
- Blazing Trails maintains, on average, at least an 11 to 1 student/teacher ratio, varying with different activity types, i.e. more kids per teacher with gym/playground activities and less with directed projects. No group is ever larger than 15:1.
- Blazing Trails’ “roving teacher” and office staff are not included when figuring the student/teacher ratio and are available to support our teachers and students. They help with problem solving and any other possible challenges.
- We have use of Pathfinder’s playground, playfields, playcourt, cafeteria and gym facilities.
- We provide healthy snacks and include many organic and home-cooked options. Check with Molly for more info.
- Students must arrive by 9:50 AM to fully participate in enrichment classes. Late arrivals will miss valuable instructions.
- Parents/Guardians are always welcome to volunteer or to drop by just to “hang out”!
- Blazing Trails accepts DSHS and City subsidies and has some scholarships available (limited) at the Director’s discretion.
- Drop-in days are $60.00 each and subject to availability. State law mandates that school-age children be in childcare a minimum of 10 hours/day.

**OUR FIVE CORE VALUES**

**Respect** means following the Golden Rule* by treating yourself and others with value and respect.

**Responsibility** means accepting accountability for your actions and your role in the community.

**Honesty** means being trustworthy and truthful.

**Caring** means considering the needs and feelings of others along with your own.

**Fun** means experiencing joy and including play as an integral part of life.

* THE GOLDEN RULE – Always treat others as you expect others to treat you.

**Summer Tuition per Week**

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<th>1 day/wk</th>
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