Bridges Career Academy
Child Development
Isle High School

Gateway to careers in childcare and education. Learn the foundations of educational strategies and organizations dealing with young children and the developmental stages of childhood. Learn to organize developmental appropriate activities, deal with young children and families, and work with professionals from the community in a real-life daycare setting. Gain entry-level employment or continue education.

**Academic Courses**
- Child Parenting
- Family Life
- Accounting I
- Psychology

**Career Experiences**
- Tour local businesses
- Listen to industry speakers
- Attend the Bridges Career Exploration Day or other regional career fairs
- Gain work experience

**Completion Standards**
- All courses
- Complete assignments
- Fulfill employer requirements

**Job Skills**
In addition to having technical skills, employers expect workers in this industry to have these skills:
- Listening skills
- Written communication skills
- Ability to work with parents and families
- Ability to manage materials and supplies
- Decision making skills

**Explore types of careers**
www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/careers

**Review the local job outlook**
www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/jobs

**Find postsecondary programs**
www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/education

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The Child Development Academy is the gateway to a wide variety of careers in the world of childcare and education. Students will learn not only the foundations of educational strategies and organizations dealing with young children but also the developmental stages of childhood. Real life activities take place in a daycare setting where students learn to organize developmental appropriate activities, deal with young children and families, and work with professionals from the community. Students completing this academy will have the skills necessary to gain entry-level employment or continue on to higher education.

**ACADEMY COURSES**

**Child Parenting** — .5 High School Credits  
This course covers parenthood and the responsibilities involved, conception, birth, prenatal and postnatal care of the mother and child as well as birth defects. Curriculum covers physical, mental emotional and social development of children from birth to toddler. Students develop, plan and implement preschool where they observe children of different ages in various settings.

**Family Life** — .5 High School Credits  
This course explores the family unit from birth through the aging process, focusing on family responsibilities and problems in society that affect families. Functions and stages of the family are discussed as well as coping with family crises, alcoholism, divorce, family violence, aging, abuse, death and dying. The institution of marriage and mate selections is also discussed.

**Accounting I** — .5 High School Credits and/or 3 College Credits  
Accounting I is a full-year course teaching the fundamentals necessary to keep books for either personal or business use. Examine source documents and determine how to classify and journalize each item. Also, students will create financial documents like worksheets, income statements and balance sheets.

**Psychology** — .5 High School Credits  
This course will present a general instruction of psychology. Specific topics will include: learning and cognitive processes, memory and thought, workings of the mind and body, sensation and perception, motivation and emotion, altered states of consciousness, developmental processes and personality theory. Students will gain insight and practical information useful in everyday life.

**COMPLETION STANDARD**
Students wishing to receive a certification must complete all courses; earn a minimum of a ‘B’ or better average grade. Grades will be determined by evaluating the student’s completion of course assignments as well as the Coordinator and employer evaluations.

**CAREER EXPERIENCES**
Students will explore and research careers with industry speakers, videos, tours and participate in Bridges Career Exploration Day and other career fairs. Work experiences at child care centers, preschools or the elementary school will allow students to practice their skills.

**JOB SKILLS**
In addition to having technical skills, employers expect their workers to have other skills such as:
- Listening skills
- Written communication skills
- Ability to work with parents and families
- Ability to manage materials and supplies
- Decision making skills

**CAREER OPTIONS:** www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/careers  
**JOB OUTLOOK:** www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/jobs  
**POSTSECONDARY PROGRAMS:** www.careerwise.minnstate.edu/education