



*Data Brief*

Charleston County School District  
Chief Academic Office  
Department of Assessment and Accountability

## **Child Development Students Year-Long Progress, 2006-07**

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## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS IN CCSD: PROGRESS DURING 2006-07**

### **Relevant National and State-Level Research**

Studies conducted nationally suggest that well-functioning Child Development programs improve the lives of their participants both in and out of school. A recent report by the High Scope Educational Research Foundation provided results of a study that followed 128 high-risk children for over 40 years. The study concluded that for every dollar spent on high-quality preschool, taxpayers gain \$17. These gains accrue from more favorable outcomes in several areas, including a lower chance of repeating one or more grades, higher high school graduation rates, higher wages as adults, and fewer arrests.

A recent South Carolina-based research study underscores the finding that young children at risk of academic failure can get an academic boost from participating in pre-kindergarten programs. The SDE's Office of Research tracked a large group of CD program participants and a randomly-selected group of non-participating children with similar backgrounds through their fifth-grade year of school. Study results indicated that even through fifth grade, child development program participants scored significantly higher than non-participants on both PACT ELA and Math. In addition, the "achievement gap" that historically has occurred between racial groups was not significant for the CD participants, but was for the non-participants.

South Carolina ranks eighth nationally in terms of parental access to state-funded four-year-old programs according to a report release in 2006 by the National Institute for Early Education Research. On the other hand, South Carolina ranks 38<sup>th</sup> out of 38 state programs nationwide in terms of state funding for these programs.

### **CCSD Child Development Program During 2006-07**

During the Fall of 2006, 1,798 four-year olds were tested with the DIAL-3 assessment for possible enrollment in the 42 Child Development programs operated by CCSD during 2006-07. Children's test results were rank-ordered, and the lowest scorers (i.e., those most in need of Child Development program services) were selected. During 2006-07, over 1,400 children were enrolled in a variety of half-day (11 sites) and full-day (31 sites) programs.

In Spring 2007, the DIAL-3 assessment was administered to CD students as a "post-test" so that the District could analyze the degree to which the CD program helps prepare these students for school. A total of 1,283 CD students had both "pre-test" and "post-test" scores that we could analyze. **Results indicate that on average, students enrolled in CD programs during 2006-07 scored at the 23<sup>rd</sup> percentile overall on the DIAL-3 assessment when they began the program. On average, their corresponding percentile rank at the end of the school year was 85.** These significant gains suggest that the CD children are making substantial progress that goes well beyond what would be expected in the absence of CD participation. In addition to the large gains on the overall score, children made impressive gains in the language, concepts, and motor portions of the assessment, as follows. Results by CD site are provided on the attached table.

- Language scores increased from the 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile to the 71<sup>st</sup> percentile
- Concepts scores increased from the 21<sup>st</sup> percentile to the 72<sup>nd</sup> percentile
- Motor scores increased from the 38<sup>th</sup> percentile to the 91<sup>st</sup> percentile

## **An Analysis of Strengths and Weaknesses at the School-Level <sup>1</sup>**

### Total DIAL 3 Performance

Overall, schools that are making great gains or have high percentiles in the spring of 2007 on their total DIAL 3 score also are making great gains or have high percentiles for each of the individual test components (Motor, Language, and Concepts).

Schools that reached the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or above by the spring of 2007 include Mitchell, EB Ellington, Lambs, Chicora, CC Blaney, and Whitesides. Remarkably, Mitchell, Chicora, and EB Ellington are schools that started with students that were performing below district means in the fall of 2006. Other schools that had students enter in the fall of 2006 with percentile scores below district means and now have higher spring 2007 percentiles include: Drayton Hall, Goodwin, James Simons, Memminger, and Orange Grove Charter.

It should also be noted that Ladson, Midland Park, Pepperhill, and St. Andrews had percentiles that ranged from 6-15 (well below the district percentile of 23) in the fall of 2006 and now in the spring of 2007 have percentiles that range from 73-81, indicating that while these schools did not reach the district percentile of 85; they did make great gains.

Schools that performed relatively poorly on all components and made smaller gains include Garrett Academy, Jane Edwards, and Jennie Moore. Each of these schools scored above the district percentile (23<sup>rd</sup>) in the fall of 2006, ranging from 31-38 for these schools. However, by the spring of 2007, Jane Edwards only reached the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile, Garrett Academy reached the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile, and Jennie Moore reached the 74<sup>th</sup> percentile, all below the district figure of 85<sup>th</sup> percentile. It should also be noted that Burns, Hunley Park, and Sanders Clyde fell below the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile.

### Motor Area

Schools scoring at the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the motor area in spring 2007 include Chicora, EB Ellington, James Simons, Mt. Zion, Orange Grove Charter, and Whitesides. James Simons and Ladson should be especially noted for their gains in performance. James Simons started in the fall of 2006 with a percentile of 16 and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile. Ladson started in the fall of 2006 with the lowest percentile of 13 in the motor area and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. The district scored at the 91<sup>st</sup> percentile in the spring of 2007.

Results in the motor area were relatively low for EL Frierson and Springfield. EL Frierson moved from the 56<sup>th</sup> to the 86<sup>th</sup> percentile and Springfield moved from the 49<sup>th</sup> to the 84<sup>th</sup> percentile, while the district as a whole moved from the 38<sup>th</sup> to the 91<sup>st</sup> percentile. It should also be noted that Child & Family Development Center, Hunley Park, and Sanders Clyde fell below the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile in the motor area in the spring of 2007.

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<sup>1</sup> See the table entitled, "Child Development Students During 2006-2007: DIAL 3 Test Results From Fall 2006 Compared to Spring 2007."

### Language Area

Schools scoring at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the language area include CC Blaney, Chicora, Harbor View, Lambs, Mitchell, Mt. Zion, and Whitesides. Chicora and Mitchell should be especially noted for the gains their students have made. Chicora started in the fall of 2006 with one of the lowest percentiles (9<sup>th</sup>) in the language area and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, greater than the district figure of the 71<sup>st</sup> percentile. Therefore, not only did Chicora start disadvantaged, they also outperformed the district's overall language performance. Mitchell started in the fall of 2006 with a percentile of 16 and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 92<sup>nd</sup> percentile.

Results in the language area were relatively low for Oakland. Oakland started at the 38<sup>th</sup> percentile and only reached the 64<sup>th</sup> percentile by the spring of 2007. Therefore, Oakland initially outperformed the district, but by the spring of 2007, they were underperforming the district. Other schools showing this performance trend include James Island, Mary Ford, Springfield, and Stiles Point. Schools that performed below the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile include Burns, Fraser, Hunley Park, Ladson, Midland Park, Sanders Clyde, and St. Andrews.

### Concepts Area

Schools scoring at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the concepts area in spring 2007 include Whitesides, Mitchell, Lambs, Harbor View, CC Blaney, Chicora, and EB Ellington. Mitchell, Chicora, and EB Ellington should be especially noted for the gains their students have made. Mitchell started in the fall of 2006 with one of the lowest percentiles (9<sup>th</sup>) in the concepts area and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile. The district scored at the 72<sup>nd</sup> percentile in the spring of 2007. Therefore, not only did Mitchell start disadvantaged, they also outperformed the district's overall concepts performance. Chicora and EB Ellington started in the fall of 2006 with percentile ranks of 14 and ended in the spring of 2007 at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Results in the concepts area were relatively low for Murray Lasaine, Oakland, Springfield, and Stiles Point. These schools started with percentile ranks that ranged from 23-40 and ended between the 59<sup>th</sup>-63<sup>rd</sup> percentile, while the district as a whole moved from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 72<sup>nd</sup> percentile. Therefore, these schools started with an advantage in comparison to the district and under performed the district by the spring of 2007. Other schools with relatively low performance in the concepts area include Burns, Hunley Park, James Simons, and Ladson, all performing below the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile in the spring of 2007.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS DURING 2006-07:  
DIAL 3 TEST RESULTS FROM FALL 2006 COMPARED TO SPRING 2007**

School	Number Students with Fall and Spring Tests*	<i>Percentile Corresponding to the Average Normal Curve Equivalent</i>							
		Fall 06 Total	Spring 07 Total	Fall 06 Motor	Spring 07 Motor	Fall 06 Language	Spring 07 Language	Fall 06 Concepts	Spring 07 Concepts
All CCSD CD Programs	1,283	23	85	38	91	22	71	21	72
AC Corcoran	20	23	83	35	88	21	67	26	76
Angel Oak	20	26	91	58	93	19	80	19	77
Belle Hall <sup>†</sup>	40	38	87	46	89	42	81	35	72
Burns	58	15	65	24	81	16	59	17	49
C C Blaney	17	42	97	57	93	31	93	40	87
Chicora	36	16	96	43	97	9	85	14	85
Child & Family Dev. Ctr.	30	18	80	26	78	19	78	18	72
Drayton Hall <sup>†</sup>	18	17	87	23	91	24	77	19	74
Dunston	49	15	79	25	88	17	61	16	69
EB Ellington	19	21	95	49	97	23	83	14	85
EL Frierson	15	36	84	56	86	33	74	30	71
Fraser Elementary	33	24	85	53	92	16	55	19	81
Garrett Academy	14	31	69	47	84	31	56	26	57
Goodwin	72	22	88	50	96	18	71	17	71
Harbor View <sup>†</sup>	17	51	94	63	93	53	89	44	88
Hunley Park	40	15	62	29	76	13	58	17	49
Hursey	30	28	90	36	91	38	81	24	79
James Island	19	48	87	64	90	35	68	46	80
James Simons	38	17	87	16	97	26	73	19	56
Jane Edwards	16	36	44	55	69	33	25	31	40
JB Edwards <sup>†</sup>	16	26	84	33	80	29	74	28	81
Jennie Moore <sup>†</sup>	38	38	74	52	71	38	67	33	73

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		Fall 06 Total	Spring 07 Total	Fall 06 Motor	Spring 07 Motor	Fall 06 Language	Spring 07 Language	Fall 06 Concepts	Spring 07 Concepts
All CCSD CD Programs	1,283	23	85	38	91	22	71	21	72
Ladson	39	8	73	13	90	13	59	9	55
Lambs <sup>†</sup>	33	29	95	50	95	18	85	31	89
Mary Ford	40	19	83	26	94	24	65	19	62
Memminger	38	17	93	36	94	16	80	17	81
Midland Park	59	6	74	25	90	6	51	6	60
Minnie Hughes	18	38	93	66	92	30	82	33	84
Mitchell	19	13	95	33	93	16	92	9	90
Mt Zion	34	32	94	41	97	33	87	31	79
Murray Lasaine	17	25	85	38	93	25	74	23	63
N Charleston	37	17	78	42	89	11	61	17	64
Oakland	39	35	83	47	95	38	64	30	59
Orange Grove Charter <sup>†</sup>	34	18	92	31	97	18	74	19	77
Pepperhill	38	14	79	31	91	17	61	12	64
Sanders Clyde	18	14	65	28	73	15	54	12	64
Springfield <sup>†</sup>	18	31	75	49	84	31	66	25	59
St Andrews <sup>†</sup>	20	15	81	37	90	9	58	17	74
St James Santee	36	42	92	51	95	52	78	31	76
Stiles Point <sup>†</sup>	16	40	85	47	92	40	70	40	67
Stono Park	38	42	87	67	92	38	74	28	76
Whitesides <sup>†</sup>	37	38	97	30	97	46	85	45	96

\*Not included here are scores for 31 Hispanic students who tested extremely low on the pre-test, apparently due to lack of exposure to English: 1 each from Lambs, Mt Zion, Pepperhill, & Whitesides; 2 each from Goodwin & N Charleston, 3 from JB Edwards, 4 from Dunston; and 16 from Midland Park.

<sup>†</sup>Half-day programs.