

Education

# Child care franchise The Learning Experience has 3 local sites in the works



Child care franchise The Learning Experience has three locations in the works around the area. Shown here is a rendering of a facility planned for the Southpointe at Folsom Ranch development.

THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE



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National day care franchise The Learning Experience has three locations in various stages of development around the area as the company looks to grow its presence in the greater Sacramento market.

The Deerfield Beach, Florida-based company, which currently has 17 day care centers operating throughout California, offers traditional child care for children 6 weeks to 6 years old with an education and structured learning component in areas such as coding, languages, reading and arts. The Learning Experience currently operates a site in Elk Grove.

Last year, the Business Journal reported that The Learning Experience had [signed a lease for a Lincoln shopping center called Ferrari Pavilion](#), near the corner of Ferrari Ranch Road and Lincoln Boulevard. David Slavny, chief development officer for the franchise, said that location is anticipated to open in the third quarter of 2026.

Additionally, sites are in the works for two LRE & Co. developments, Rocklin's [University Square](#) and Folsom's [Southpointe at Folsom Ranch](#). While a typical facility is single-story and about 10,000-square-feet, Slavny said the Folsom site will be slightly larger at 12,000 square feet and will be two stories with a rooftop playground.

"There's been a lot of expansion post-Covid with people moving to the area, and there's a lot more availability of land compared to Southern California where it can be difficult to find land that is affordable for our prototype," Slavny said regarding what prompted the latest expansion in the greater Sacramento market. "The area checks a lot boxes for us in terms of population, the number of children ages 6 and under in a 1-, 3- and 5-mile radius, and average household incomes."

The Folsom site is estimated to open in the first quarter of 2027 while the Rocklin site is slated for the third quarter of that year.

Slavny said The Learning Experience believes the market could potentially support up to 20 additional locations. Its head of real estate for Northern California is currently looking for potential sites in other areas such as Roseville, El Dorado Hills, Citrus Heights, North Natomas and Rancho Cordova, he said.

Over the last two years, the franchise has opened more than 80 centers, bringing its total portfolio to more than 420 sites in 30 states, as well as three locations in the United Kingdom. More than 250 additional locations are currently in development, Slavny said. The franchise ranked No. 25 overall in this year's [Franchise 500 list put out by Entrepreneur magazine](#), which is determined by factors such as costs and fees, size and growth, support and brand strength.