Smart START
NEW HANOVER COUNTY

Strong and Healthy Families

Children need safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments to reach their full potential. Protective factors are strengths and supports within families and communities that allow children to succeed.

Families gain what they need to be healthy and strong when key protective factors are robust in their lives and communities.

What Does This Look Like?

- This looks like a community where people have multiple friendships and supportive relationships with others.
- Families both give and receive help. Families know where to go for support and services and are encouraged to advocate for themselves and their children.
- When needed, families have hope and problem-solving skills they can draw upon.
- Parents are nurturing and provide warm and consistent responses. Their expectations for children are in line with children's development and specific needs.
- Parents looking to strengthen skills in any one of these areas can contact Smart Start of New Hanover County for information, support or referrals.