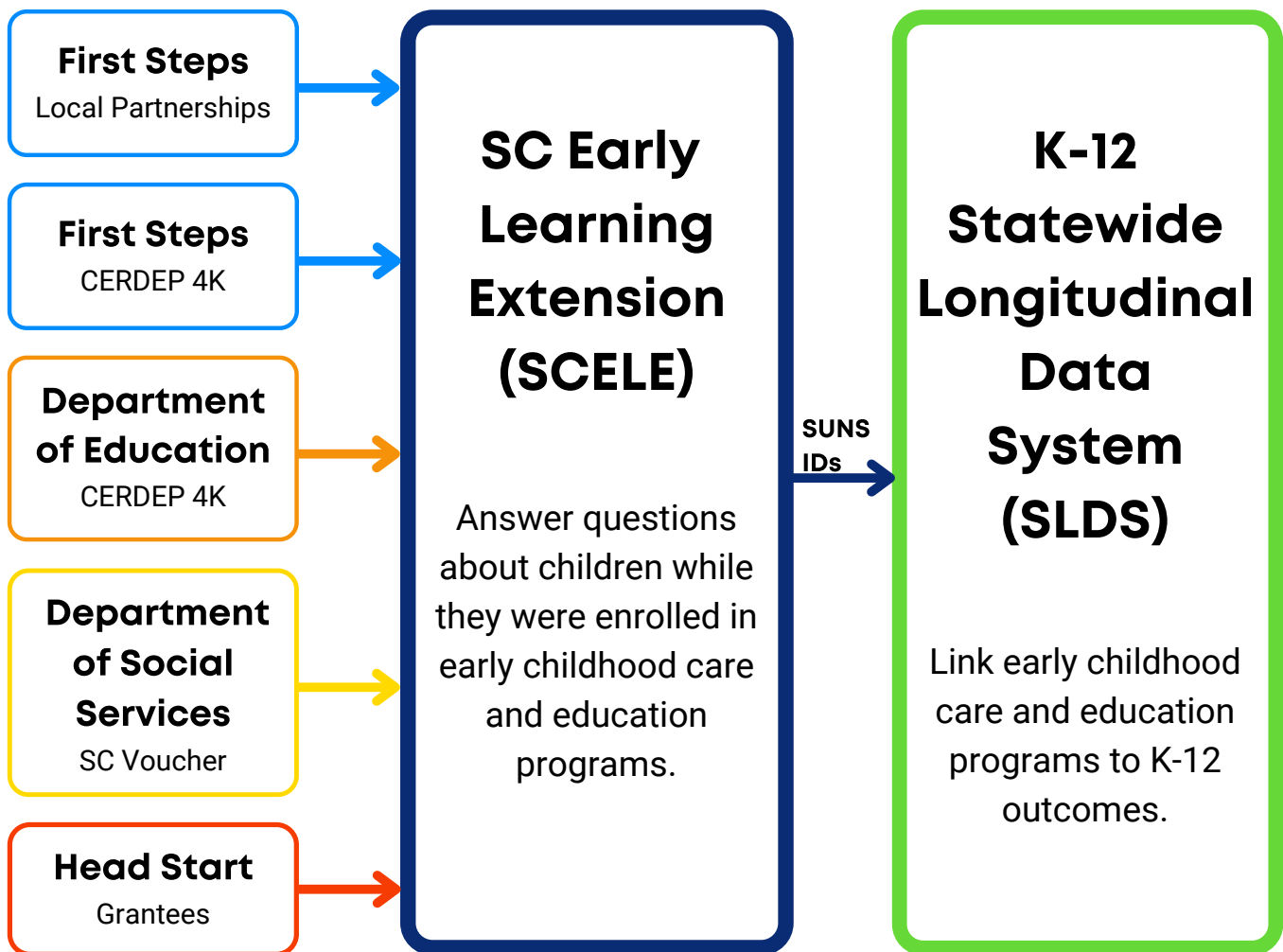


SC Early Learning Extension

The mission of the **South Carolina Early Learning Extension (SCELE)** is to improve outcomes for young children and their families through an aligned system for data-informed decisions and policies.



The **SCELE** will provide insight into utilization of early childhood care and education programs and articulate the return on public investment in early childhood to better understand their impact and to build the case for more long-term investment.

SC Early Learning Extension



THE SCELE IS A SYSTEM TO:

- Provide information to families and the public about the impact of early childhood care and education programs
- Evaluate alignment of programs and child progress to highlight opportunities for growth and new developments
- Help program administrators, teachers, and service providers identify and analyze short- and long-term outcomes for continuous program improvement
- Articulate the return on current investments in early childhood programs and build the case for future funding

THE SCELE IS A TOOL FOR:

- Families and the public to learn with near real-time dashboards about early learning programs and their long-term impact
- Policymakers to inform community needs, resource allocation, and program impact
- Researchers and evaluators to access data quickly and efficiently

THE SCELE IS NOT:

- A replacement for individual program data systems
- A duplication of the Department of Education's K-12 longitudinal data system
- An infringement on privacy or confidentiality of young children and their families
- A system that rates, ranks, or evaluates the performance or development of young children on the individual level
- A duplication or replacement of Palmetto Pre-K, a portal for families to connect with publicly-funded pre-K programs

On the horizon for SCELE:

The Early Childhood Advisory Council will take the lead in establishing the Data Governance Committee in early spring of 2021. The Data Governance Committee will safeguard program and outcome data and its accessibility. The Data Governance Committee will work to align the program data to K-12 and build a portal accessible to stakeholders by February 2024. The work of the Data Governance Committee is supported by the Early Childhood Advisory Council Data Governance Coordinator.

