

# Preschool Overview

Our Preschool provides a place where your child can gain a sense of self, explore, play and build confidence.

**A play-based curriculum** (British Early Years Foundation Stage) provides opportunities to develop literacy and math skills through meaningful situations. Children develop the ability to think abstractly by using their senses to explore and create with real objects.

**Our day** starts off at 9:00 am with free choosing of toys, games or activity. We then move on to circle time, where we meet as a group to focus on personal, social and literacy skills. We sing songs, recite poems, read stories and do music with movement. We break at 10:15 for snack and playtime outside, weather permitting. The rest of the morning we meet to work on the different developmental areas, listed below, through activities and/or centres.

**In personal, social and emotional development**, we focus on respect, taking turns, working and playing together and communicating our thoughts and feelings.

**Our literacy program** includes stories, poems, rhymes and role play. We also work continually on our speaking and listening skills through group time, individual interaction, play and storytelling. Children also can check out books once a week from our Library.

**Mathematics** is problem solving, sorting, counting activities, colours, patterns, shapes and games.

**Understanding of the world (Science Skills)** is exploration through indoor, outdoor, natural and the manmade environment. We focus on the child's immediate environment and what they can relate too.

**Gross motor development** builds on fundamental skills through movement such as balancing, walking, running, jumping, climbing and hopping. We have scheduled outdoor playtimes every day.

**Fine motor skill development** is developed through practical experiences (like beads, peg boards, play dough, building blocks), independent skills (putting shoes and jackets on, taking them off) and pre-writing skills (crayons, drawing, painting, arts and crafts).

**Expressive arts and design** are explored through seasonal crafts, painting and drawing activities, through music and movement and our twice-yearly concerts.

The 3-year-old may also participate in our afternoon creative activity programme together with the older reception aged students between 12:00pm-3:30pm as long as teachers and parents agree that they can cope with a full day at school.

## Our Requirements for children entering Preschool class:

Children need to be three years old as of August 31<sup>st</sup> of the school year. We kindly ask that children are toilet trained. In addition, we ask that no diapers or pull ups are worn to school.

We **recommend** 4 mornings; we **require** 3 mornings for 3-year-olds.

We find that the more mornings students attend the better they integrate into the group and understand the language and rules and routine of the classroom.

## Preliminary Visit:

Please do not hesitate to contact the school to visit us with your child before you register for our programme