Preschool Orientation June 5, 2024

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Dr. George J. Rafferty Superintendent of Schools

Mount Laurel Preschool Program Leadership

James B. DeSimone, Director of Early Childhood Education



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Program Locations

- Adath Emanu-El Early Childhood Center
- Bright Beginnings
- Fleetwood Elementary School
- KinderCare Larchmont
- Larchmont Elementary School
- LightBridge Academy
- Parkway Elementary School
- Springville Elementary School
- YMCA Briggs Road
- YMCA Commerce Parkway

Title 6A, Chapter 13A: Elements of High-Quality Preschool Programs

https://www.nj.gov/education/earlychildhood/preschool/docs /highqualitypreschool6A13A.pdf

Objectives for full-day preschool

Standards-based curriculum

- Meaningful teacher-student interactions
- Small-group and individualized instruction
- Learning through guided play
- Learning centers
- Gross motor play-outdoors weather permitting

Universal Design for Learning/inclusion

Performance-based assessment

Developmentally appropriate practices

Preschool Program Staff • Early Childhood Instructional Coaches / Preschool Intervention and Referral Specialists Social Worker/Community Parent Involvement **Specialist Preschool Nurse** Director of Early Childhood

School Staff

- Building Principal
- School Nurse
- Certified Preschool
 Teacher
- Classroom Aide
- Special Education Services

Provider Staff

- Center Director
- Preschool Nurse
- Certified Preschool
 Teacher
- Classroom Aide
- Special Education Services
- Family Worker

What is the structure of our preschool classrooms?

- 1 certified teacher (Bachelor's Degree or higher)
- 1 classroom aide
- Up to 15 children
- Mixed ages (3, 4 and 5 year olds)
- Inclusive (languages, cultures & abilities)

Social Worker/ Community Parent Involvement Specialist

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Connect with families and determine needs

- Advocate for families and obtain appropriate resources and community services
- Coordinate family and community involvement through planned activities, workshops, and shared resources
 - Work with community agencies and partners
 - Facilitate the Early Childhood Advisory Council

Family Worker

Provider-based support

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- Provide family support through check-ins, meetings, and visits
- Coordinate with district to meet the needs of families
- Coordinate family involvement and social service activities

Preschool Nurse

Conduct Annual Health Screenings:

Vision, Hearing, Dental, Height, Weight, Blood Pressure

Provide Health Education - Classrooms, Staff and Families
Maintain Student Health Records

Instructional Coach/ Preschool Intervention and Referral Specialist

 Visit classrooms to coach and provide feedback to support high quality teaching practices

Ensure curriculum implementation
Provide Supports for Social-Emotional

Learning

Support classroom teachers to address the academic, social emotional and behavioral needs of children

Creative Curriculum

- Meaningful Teacher-Child Interactions
- Social-Emotional Competence
- Constructive, Purposeful Play
- Classroom Environment as Third Teacher



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Preschool Schedule

Morning Meeting

Free-Choice Centers

Small Group Instruction

Read Aloud

End of Day Reflection/Roundup Gross Motor (outdoors, weather-permitting)

Lunch & Snack

Nap/Rest Time

Interest Areas & Choice Time

Blocks

Dramatic Play



Discovery





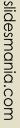
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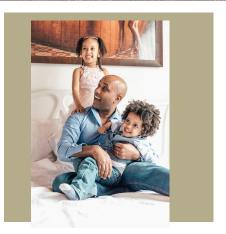


Art

Toys & Games







Teaching

Strategies App

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Partnering with Families

Parent Guest Visits



Celebrations of Learning

Teaching Strategies Gold

Social Emotional Development

Physical Development Language Development

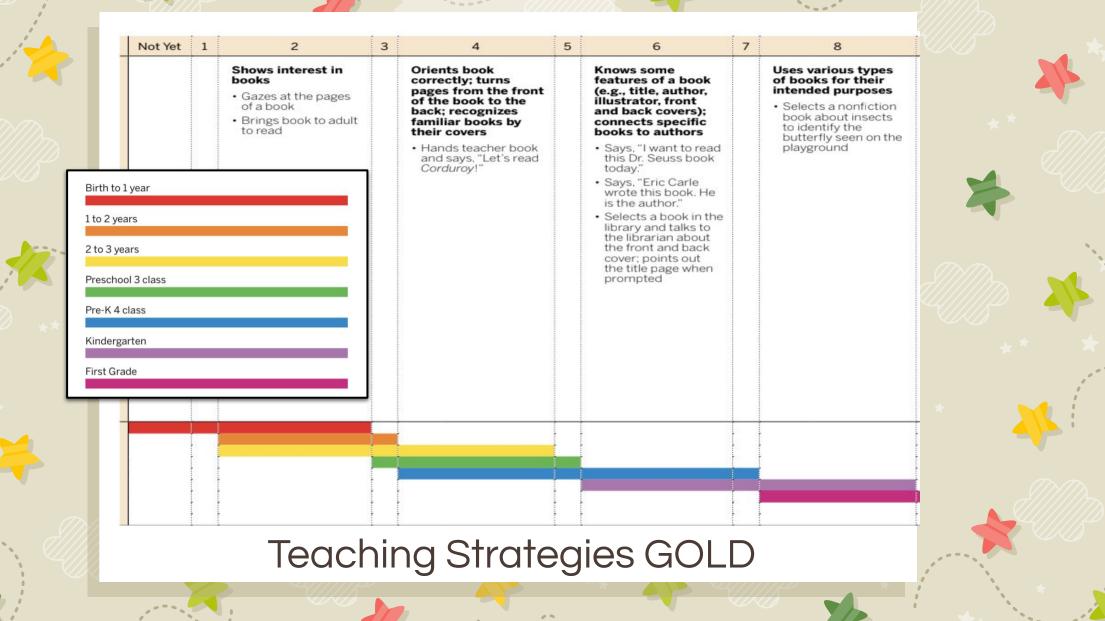
Cognitive Development

Literacy

Mathematics

Science, Social Studies, Technology and The Arts English Language Acquisition

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Three Checkpoints

Fall

Winter

Spring

(June)

(December)

(March)

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- Screening
 Early Childhood Screening Inventory- 3 (ESI-3)
 Initial screening (October)
 Follow-Up Rescreening (December)
 Identification of additional
 - supports (ongoing)



Preschool Intervention and Referral

What is Preschool Intervention and Referral?

• Preschool Intervention and referral is a process of providing strategies to your child's teacher to support your child's individual needs

When you might hear from your child's Preschool Intervention and Referral Specialist (PIRS)?

- After the ESI-3 Screening
- If your child's teacher requests additional assistance for supporting your child

What happens at a Preschool Intervention and Referral Team (PIRT) meeting?

• You and your child's teacher come together with our early childhood team to develop strategies to best support your child's individual needs.

Who attends a PIRT meeting?

Parents or Guardians
 Classroom Teacher
 Preschool Social Worker
 Center Director or School Principal
 Family Worker
 Early Childhood Instructional Coaches/ Preschool Interventional and Referral Specialists



Before/After Care

Available at provider sites
Transportation from district schools to provider sites for daycare; info on website.
https://www.mtlaurelschools.org/DayCare.aspx

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Transportation

 Consolidated Preschool and K-4 Bus Runs at elementary schools and Adath Emanu-El • Bus Aides (runs with 5 or more preschoolers) Preschoolers sit at the front of the bus • Centralized bus stops Make sure your child is ready for the bus on time! • An adult must be present at the bus stop at drop-off.

Information to Follow

- School Orientation/Back to School Night
- Class Placements
- Transportation Information
- School/Center Specific Information

Mount Laurel Board of Education Danielle Stuffo, President Melissa DeClementi, VIce President Roger Gibson Curtis Green

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PREPARING FOR

PRESCHOOL!

Scan here for helpful information about your child's transition to Preschool! Prepare for transitions, goodbyes, helpful skills to practice, supplies list, and more!



SCAN ME

Questions may be emailed to: mtlpreschool@mtlaurel schools.org