**Choctaw Tribal Schools**

**Pre-Kindergarten Philosophy and Goals for Four-Year-Old Children**

**The Pre-Kindergarten philosophy is based on the belief that early childhood is a critical time to maximize each child’s potential. The district’s motto, Alla Momat Ikkana Chih (All Children Will Learn), incorporates the traditional values of the children’s Choctaw culture and language. The blending of culture with the academics reflected in the learning environment is directly aligned to the curriculum’s domains and skills developed by the Mississippi Department of Education. The domains provide the foundation of academics, social, emotional, physical, and motor development for our children.**

**Goals for children attending the Choctaw Tribal Schools’ Pre-Kindergarten Program:**

* **Celebrate and respect Choctaw culture and language**
* **Develop an enjoyment for learning**
* **Increase intellectual ability to think and interact with others**
* **Promote positive relationships with peers, teachers, and other adults**
* **Encourage the child to express himself/ herself in conversations with others**
* **Prepare opportunities to develop self-help skills**
* **Schedule opportunities for supporting peers in cooperative learning experiences**
* **Model and instruct oral language literacy through speaking, listening, thinking, writing, and dramatic play activities**
* **Increase skills and competencies in mathematical reasoning and scientific investigation**
* **Promote physical growth through gross and fine motor activities**
* **Provide a high quality research-based program**