

Parent Handbook

Perry County Preschools



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PERRY COUNTY
S C H O O L S

Kent Campbell
Superintendent



PERRY COUNTY S C H O O L S

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the Perry County Preschool Program! We are so happy that you and your child have joined our family. We appreciate parents/guardians who understand how important it is to give your child an early start in education. Research has proven that early education opportunities, such as preschool, provide positive and long-lasting effects on children's academic success.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have. You will want to keep this resource and refer to it throughout the school year. We encourage you to be involved in your child's preschool program, and we hope this book will help you learn about our staff, instructional programs, policies, and procedures.

We welcome our preschool children as they take their first steps along the pathway of lifelong learning and education. We look forward to watching them grow this year as we work together to prepare them for success.

Sincerely,
Preschool Department

Mission: The mission of Perry County Schools is to provide a safe and engaging school environment where students are not only supported, but also challenged.

Vision: The vision of Perry County Schools is to provide students with the tools to be post-secondary ready, community leaders, and innovative thinkers.

The Perry County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, genetic information, political affiliation or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities.

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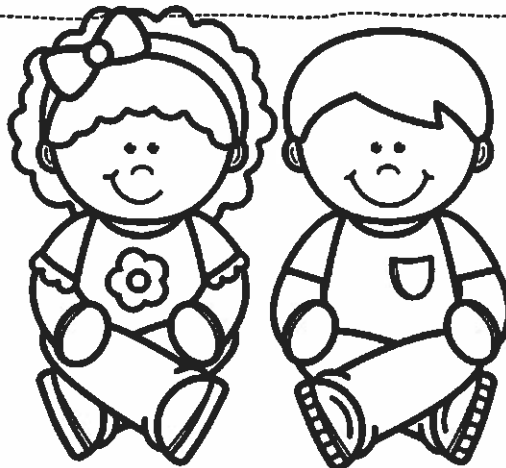
Mission Statement

The mission of the Perry County Schools Preschool Program is to provide children and their families with quality educational services that will foster independence and self-sufficiency in each child, regardless of ability or disability. By doing so, the child will be better prepared for his or her next educational environment, as well as for life at home and in the community.

Preschool is not a watered-down version of kindergarten! An active, developmentally appropriate approach to learning is incorporated in all activities. The teaching staff seeks to discover the individual skills of each child and uses that knowledge as a foundation to build concepts and skills throughout the year. Staff members also work to meet the individual needs of each child. As no one person can provide all the emotional, physical and educational support that a child needs, the preschool program utilizes a team approach: valuing information received from therapists, counselors, teaching assistants, and, most importantly, family members. It is in this way that we can meet the needs of the whole child.

Preschool Goals

1. **To provide quality early childhood education to all children enrolled.**
2. **To ensure that the environment is accepting and accessible to all children regardless of ability or disability.**
3. **To provide a whole-child approach to education.**
4. **To maintain open communication with the family.**
5. **To serve as a positive member and representative of the Perry County School System.**





Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990

Preschool Programs

The Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) of 1990 makes preschool education an important part of every school districts' program.

Preschool Programs are educational programs that focus on the physical, intellectual, social and emotional development of 3 or 4 year old children.

Preschool programs offered through the public schools have the following components:

- ★ Preschool services for eligible children at no cost to the parent
- ★ Activities that develop creativity and thinking skills through play
- ★ Partnerships with the parents through parent education
- ★ Cooperation among programs and with other agencies to provide services
- ★ Developmental, medical and health screenings



Children are admitted to the Perry County Preschool Program regardless of race, creed, sex, religion, color, or disability.



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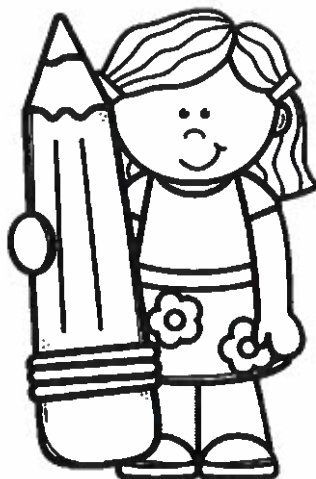


Enrollment Checklist

To enroll, students **must have** the following information on file:

1. Enrollment Packet
2. Birth Certificate
3. Immunization Certificate- (Shot) Record
4. Physical on Kentucky Physical Form
5. Eye Exam from Ophthalmologist or Optometrist
6. Dental Exam
7. Preschool Eligibly Form
8. Social Security Card

Students cannot be enrolled without the enrollment information listed above.



Program Operations

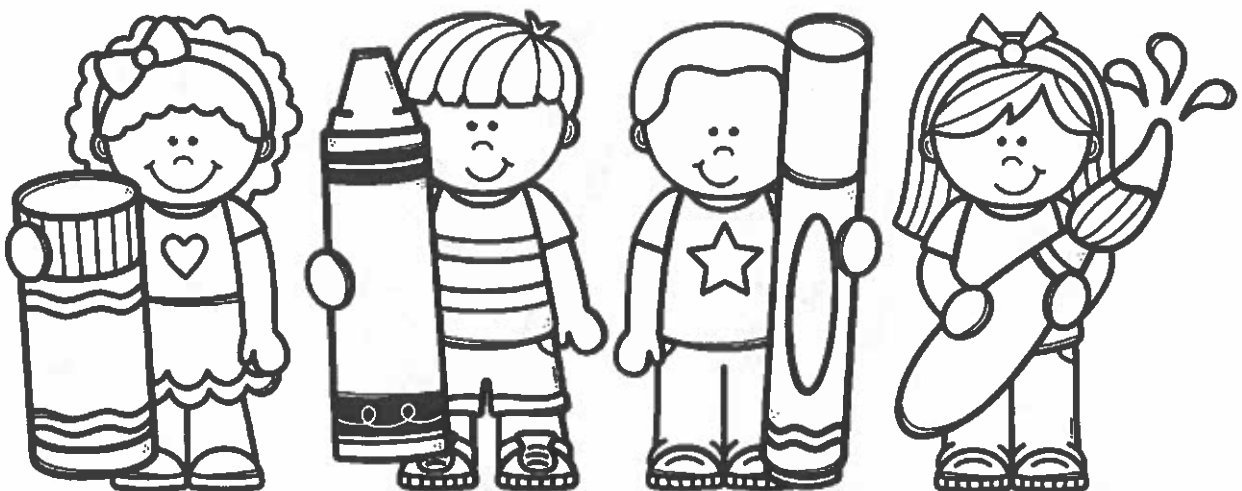
The Perry County Preschool will operate on a four-day week schedule with a morning session and an afternoon session. Children come to preschool Monday through Thursday. Teachers attend trainings, make home visits, and plan activities on Fridays.

-Morning session takes place from 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM.

-Evening session takes place from 11:30 AM- 2:30 PM.

The times listed above are subject to change slightly from year to year due to changing bus schedules.

If you would like to visit a classroom prior to enrollment, please contact Stephanie Wooton, Perry County Preschool Coordinator, at (606) 439-5813. *Enrollment is ongoing throughout the school year. KERA law states that 3 of the hours must be spent in an instructional mode including gross motor.



Eligibility Criteria

- Students that are four-years old and are at risk based on income and/or have a developmental or speech delay are eligible for preschool. Over-income four-year-old students that do not have a delay or disability can attend if space is available.
- Students that are three-years old and qualify for RTI based on their Brigance or Fluharty screening will be able to attend the preschool program for the RTI process. Once the RTI process is finished and if the target team determines a referral is needed, the child will be assessed to determine if there is a delay/disability. When the assessment is complete and a delay is determined, the child will be able to remain in the preschool program.

4 Year Old Children

A child is considered a four-year old if his or her fourth birthday falls on or before August 1st of that school year.

- Incoming Preschool children are screened using the Brigance and Fluharty.
- Results are discussed with parents.
- Four-year old children that score below the expected score (cut off score for age) on the Brigance and/or score below the 9th Percentile on the Fluharty are "flagged" for follow up using the RTI process.



Eligibility Criteria Continued



Eligibility Criteria

Continued...

4 Year Old Children

1. Interventions using RTI (Response to Intervention) and "Tiered Approach" will be implemented for four-year olds that fall below the cut-off score on the Brigance and/or Fluharty screenings.
2. Children will participate in 4-6 sessions of intervention. These sessions may be conducted individually or grouped. The child will then be reassessed using the Brigance or Fluharty. If the child scores below the cut-off score, the target team looks at the student's level of progress and decides whether to continue RTI or begin the referral process. If however, the child passes the Brigance rescreening with a low score or is close to his/her target percentage on the Fluharty and the target team feels the child needs to remain in RTI based on student classroom work/progress and teacher observations, the target team may decide to continue the RTI process. Progress will be monitored and the school target team will determine if a referral to special education is indicated.



Eligibility Criteria Continued...

3 Year Old Children

A child is considered a three-year old if his or her third birthday falls on or before August 1st of that school year.

- Three-year-old children are screened using the Brigance and Fluharty.
- Results are discussed with parents.
- If the three-year-old child passes the Brigance and/or Fluharty on the initial screening, he/she will not be eligible to attend preschool.
- Children that score below the expected score (cut off score for age) on the Brigance and/or score below the 9th Percentile on the Fluharty are “flagged” for follow up using the RTI process.

1. Interventions using RTI (Response to Intervention) and “Tiered Approach” will be implemented.

2. Children will participate in 4-6 sessions of intervention. These sessions may be conducted individually or grouped. The child will then be reassessed using the Brigance or Fluharty. If the child scores below the cut-off score on the rescreen, the target team looks at the student’s level of progress and decides whether to continue RTI or begin the referral process.



Eligibility Criteria Continued...

3 Year Old Children

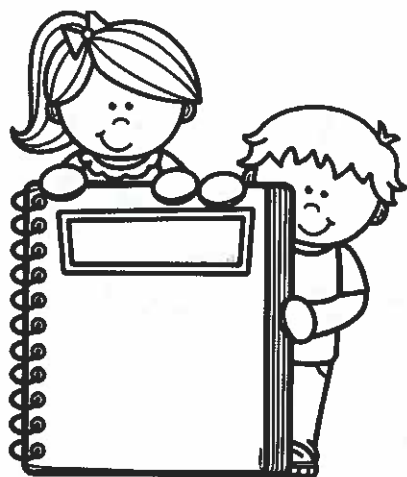
If however, the child passes the Brigance or Fluharty rescreening with a low score and the team feels the child needs to remain in RTI based on student classroom work/progress and teacher observations, the team may decide to continue the RTI process for another 4-6 sessions. If the child passes the rescreen of the Brigance and/or Fluharty and is making adequate progress, the child will exit the RTI process and will no longer be able to attend the preschool program as a three-year-old.

Target Team: The target team members may include: Principal, Parent, Preschool/Special Education or Child Care teacher(s), Classroom Paraprofessionals, Speech, P.T./O.T., other related service therapists or providers, School Nurses, Child Find Person, Preschool Director and others as determined necessary.



Steps for Determining Eligibility Based on Needs Include...

1. **Screening:** The assessment process includes an initial developmental screening to determine whether further evaluation may be needed. Developmental screening is provided to no cost to the parent.
2. **Response to Intervention:** The screening instrument may identify areas of need for further evaluation. In response to those needs, the preschool teacher will provide research based interventions and collect data to determine the child's progress with instruction. Parents will meet with the teacher to review the data and progress with the interventions. Parents will receive a copy of intervention data. If warranted, the referral process may begin which will include an Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) meeting to determine any need for further formal evaluation.
3. **Referral:** A child may be referred to Perry County Schools by a parent, teacher, professional, human service agency, physician, or other individual. A referral should be made to the public school when there is any possibility of a developmental delay or disability.
4. **Evaluation Planning and Parent Permission for Assessment:** Once a referral has been accepted and a suspected disability determined, the ARC team will plan a formal evaluation. Evaluations may be offered and only conducted with parental agreement and express written consent.



Continued



Steps for Determining Eligibility Based on Needs Include...

5. **Evaluation:** An assessment across developmental areas or skills, including observations, direct testing and parental interview will be conducted to determine a child's skills, educational abilities, and educational needs.
 6. **Individualized Education Plan (IEP):** If the ARC determines your child is eligible for special education services, an IEP will be developed to meet his/her needs. Related services may be provided to support the IEP such as physical therapy, speech/language therapy, etc.
 7. **Parent Permission for Services:** Permission for services and placement must be acknowledged by signature of the parent prior to enrollment within the special education program or providing of special needs services.
- ***Admissions and Release Committee (ARC):** A committee made up of district representation/ARC Chair, general education teacher, special education teacher, and/or speech/language pathologist and others who may be relevant to the assessment or instructional needs of your child. The committee accepts referrals, rejects referrals, determines if more data is needed before proceeding with a referral, determines eligibility or not and are responsible for developing, reviewing, or revising and individual education plan (IEP) for a child with a disability.



Special Education Services

Perry County Preschool believes early intervention makes it possible for children with special needs to be identified and their individual educational needs met. Before entering preschool, each child is screened in the areas of: vision, hearing, speech and language, concepts, motor, social/emotional and adaptive development. Research based interventions are planned and carried out by general education personnel if a potential delay is suspected. Parents are involved in the process and receive updated data on the student's progress. Special education services are available for children, age 3 to 21, who have a developmental delay or disability. Children must meet state and federal guidelines and criteria to be eligible for preschool special education services. Preschool special education services are provided for 3-year-old and 4-year-old children who either have a:

Developmental Delay or DD means that a child within the ages of three (3) through eight (8) has not acquired skills, or achieved commensurate with recognized performance expectations for his age in one (1) or more of the following developmental areas: cognition, communication, motor development, social-emotional development, or self-help-adaptive behavior. Developmental delay includes a child who demonstrates a measurable, verifiable discrepancy between expected performance for the child's chronological age and current level of performance. The discrepancy shall be documented by: (a) Scores of two (2) standard deviations or more below the mean in one (1) of the areas listed above as obtained using norm-referenced instruments and procedures; (b) Scores of one and one-half (1 1/2) standard deviations below the mean in two (2) or more of the areas listed above using norm-referenced instruments and procedures; or (c) The professional judgment of the ARC that there is a significant atypical quality or pattern of development. Professional judgment shall be used only where normal scores are inconclusive and the ARC documents in a written report the reasons for concluding that a child has a developmental delay. **OR**

Disability "Child with a disability" means a child evaluated in accordance with 707 KAR 1 :300 as meeting the criteria for autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment which has an adverse effect on the child's educational performance and who, as a result, needs special education and related services. Eligibility for special education services due to a disability or developmental delay is determined through specific evaluation procedures according to state criteria, regulations and guidelines. All evaluations to determine a child's eligibility and need are planned by the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC), require parental permission, and are provided at no cost to parents.



Health & Medicine



Health and Safety:

In the event of an accident or emergency, every effort is made to notify the parent or guardian immediately. Signing the emergency medical treatment permission form provided by the school enables the school to seek medical care for the child if the staff is unable to reach the parent. Please be sure to update this information if it should change during the year. We must have an emergency number on file for every child.

In order to reduce the spread of contagious disease, please do not send your preschooler to school with:

- a. Temperature of 100 degrees or greater



Medication Procedures:

If a student is required to take medication during school hours, the following procedure is followed:

- * If your child must take medication at school, a parent/guardian must bring in the medication and leave it with the school nurse. A parent or guardian must sign a permission form allowing the nurse to dispense the medication to the student.
- * If your child has medication at school, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to pick up the medications when you need them back home. The medication will NOT be sent home on the bus with the child.
- * When bringing prescription medication to the school nurse, please bring them in the original container with the child's name clearly labeled. Remember... an adult needs to bring them to the health unit.
- * If your child is taking medications three times a day or less, they should be administered at home unless otherwise specified by the doctor.
- * Many over the counter (OTC) medications are kept in the school health unit such as Tylenol and Ibuprofen. A parent or guardian must sign a form giving the nurse permission to dispense these medications to students.

Rx

School Safety

Perry County preschool teachers' first concern is your child's safety. The following are procedures we must follow to ensure the safety of your child.

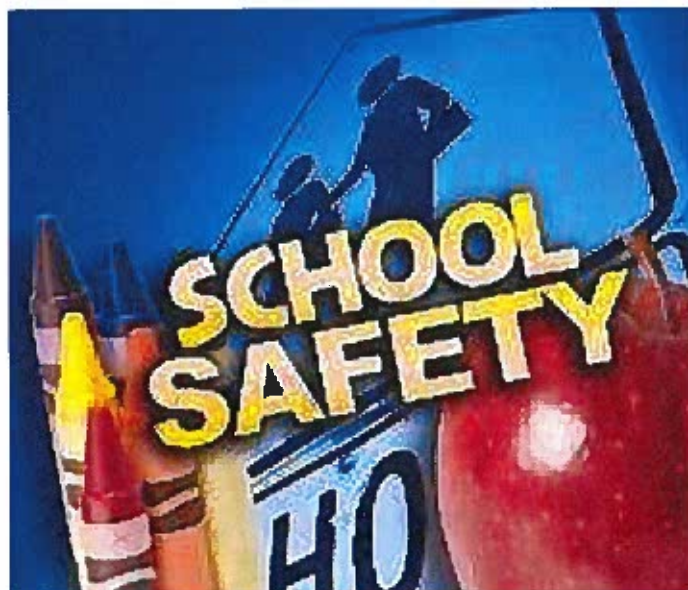
*All adults picking up your child at school or from the bus must be listed on the Enrollment/Emergency Sheet and show a valid picture ID until the school and/or bus staff is familiar with you or the person picking up your child. Please note that in case of substitutes at school or on the bus, you may be required at any time during the year to show the picture ID due to these people not being familiar with you.

*Please notify your child's teacher if your address, home telephone number, cell phone number, or work phone number changes. Also, notify us if any of the other information on your Emergency/Enrollment form changes.

*Parents are responsible for calling both the school and the bus garage if the child is going to be absent.

*If a child is absent from school for (4) consecutive days and the teacher has not heard from the parent, the teacher will contact the Family Resource Youth Service Center Coordinator for a follow-up with the family and/or a home visit will occur.

-Teachers take daily attendance. If your child is absent (4) consecutive days or your child has irregular attendance, you will be contacted to discuss attendance. *See attendance page in this handbook for further information.



School Safety

Perry County preschool teachers' first concern is your child's safety. The following are procedures we must follow to ensure the safety of your child.

*Teachers are legally obligated to report any suspected abuse or neglect of a child. If a teacher or other district employee suspects that a child has been abused or neglected, he/she is required to follow up and report it to social services. To see the full policy, go to policy.ksba.org; policy # 09.227.

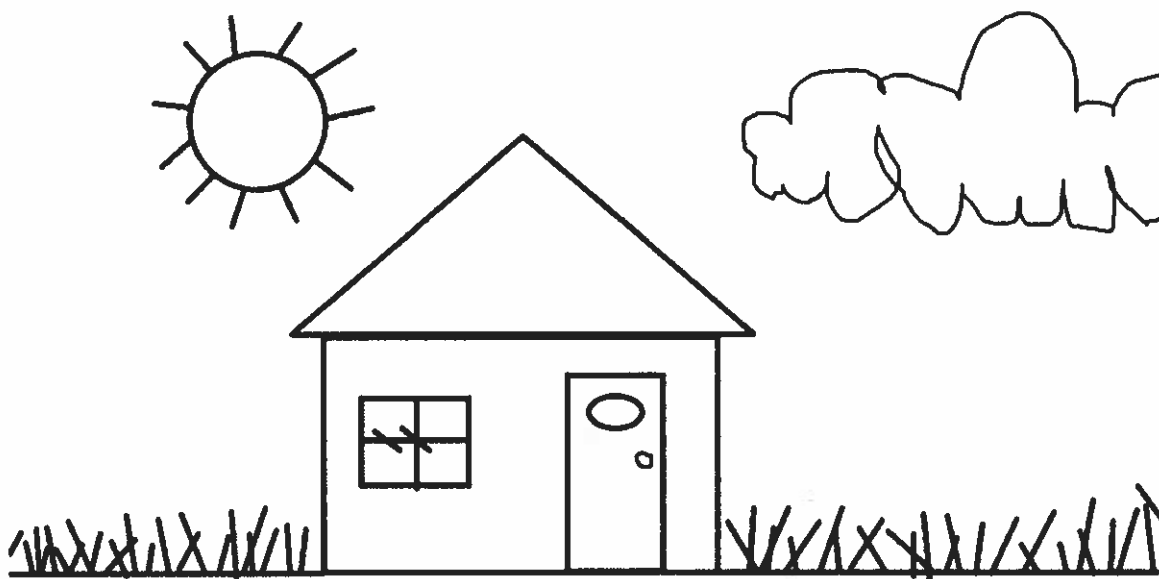
*Each school has safety drills for fire, tornado, earthquakes and lockdowns throughout the school year. These drills teach students to be alert at all times and know what to do in case of emergency weather. All aspects of safety are outlined and taught to students regularly.

*Teachers utilize the pyramid model to work with children to create nurturing relationships and high-quality supportive classroom environments. Students are taught and practice routines, procedures, and rules. Teachers teach appropriate behaviors using positive behavior interventions. Teachers provide intentional instruction and model social and emotional skills. Communication to parents/guardians occurs regularly so that consistency is kept across settings. If persistent behaviors and/or safety concerns occur, the teacher will meet with parents to develop a behavior plan. After implementing and monitoring the behavior plan, if the behaviors or safety concerns continue, the teacher will set up a meeting with parents and administrator(s) to discuss next steps. Safety is the number one priority in our preschool classrooms.



Home Visits

State preschool regulations require a minimum of two home visits by the teacher for each child every year. Teachers will schedule a home visit each semester to discuss your child's progress. We feel these home visits are a good time for you to learn more about your child's school experiences. Teachers share your child's progress and answer any questions that you have. We look forward to these visits and would greatly appreciate your cooperation in scheduling them in advance.



Parent Involvement

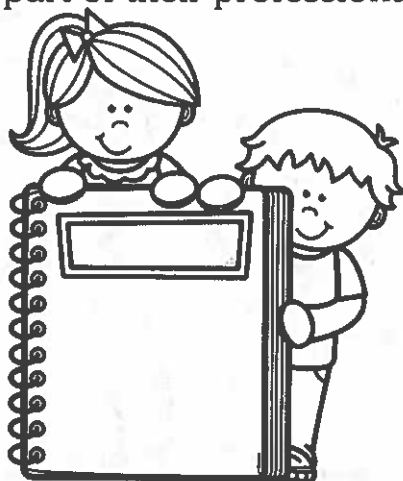
One of the most important things you can do to help your child be successful in school is to be involved in his or her education. The research evidence is now beyond dispute. When schools work together with families to support learning, children tend to succeed not just in school, but throughout life. In fact, the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which the student's family is able to (1) create a home environment that encourages learning, (2) express high (but not unrealistic) expectations for the children's achievement, and (3) become involved in their children's education at school. Keep the communication lines open between you and the teacher. Attend parent meetings that are scheduled. Come to parent workshops and volunteer in the classroom whenever you can. Parent involvement activities are scheduled throughout the year.

Classroom Volunteers

If you or a family member think you may want to volunteer in the school building or on a field trip throughout the school year, you must fill out a "Volunteer Application" form (Perry County School Board Policy). This form can take several weeks to process, so please fill it out and return as soon as possible. Please be aware that every time you come into the school building as a volunteer, you must stop by the school office to sign in and pick up your badge. If you want to volunteer, please contact your child's teacher and/or Family Resource Youth Service Center coordinator to schedule this ahead of time. *All of this may seem like an inconvenience at first, but remember that this is for the safety of your child.

Confidentiality

Perry County Schools will not release educational records to any outside agency without your written permission. Teachers and teaching assistants must have confidentiality training as part of their professional developmental each year.



Preschool

Parent Outreach and Active involvement Plan

It is our goal to provide our preschool students with the best early childhood learning opportunities possible. Parents are oftentimes their children's first teachers. They are advocates for their education and educational informants to the preschool teacher upon preschool entry. Like teachers, parents nurture their children's growth and development. It is through collaboration between all stakeholders (teachers, administrators, service providers, parents, and children) that the educational foundation is created for student growth and success.

Expectations for Parent Involvement

It is the intent of the Perry County School District that the parents of participating preschool students be provided with frequent and convenient opportunities for full and ongoing participation in their child's preschool program. Opportunities shall not only be provided, but strongly encouraged, regarding parent involvement. The importance of early childhood learning is promoted through child find measures such as preschool registration information and advertisement, the availability of information regarding child development/milestones, and community activities that promote early childhood education and parent involvement.



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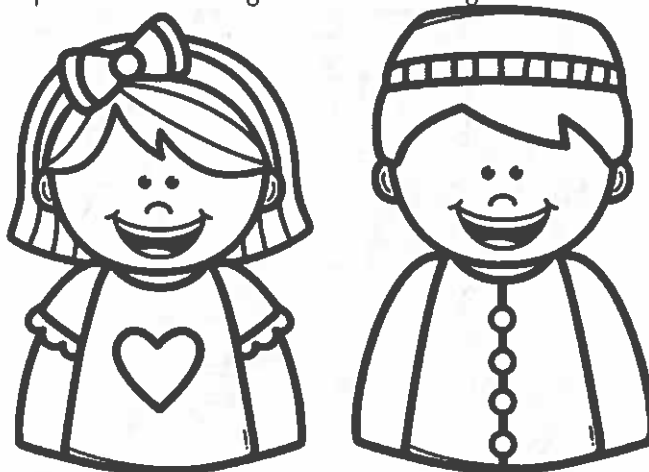
Preschool

Parent Outreach and Active involvement Plan

How Will Parent Outreach and Involvement Occur?

1. Two-way communication between teachers and parents including calls, school visits, home visits, newsletters, etc.
2. Availability of resources to parents as needed. These resources may include individuals, agencies, materials, and services.
3. Encourage parents to use the Family Resource Youth Service Centers for supports.
4. Parent Surveys will be given to allow teachers to focus on the strengths and areas for growth related to their preschool program based on parental input.
5. Encourage parents to participate in available parent workshops and parenting classes.
6. Encourage parents to volunteer in the school.
7. Encourage parents to attend events and activities regarding early childhood learning at each school and within the community. Keep parents informed of these dates.
8. Collaborate with various community partners and organizations to help find necessary and supplemental resources for student growth and development. Some of these include:

LKLP Head Start, KY Valley Education Cooperative, Perry County Public Library, Perry County UK Extension Office, Save the Children, Partners for Rural Impact, Health Department, KRCC, Primary Care Centers of Eastern KY, Salvation Army, local businesses, and local government officials. Parent input and concerns will be documented for COS and to guide educational decisions. Parent participation will be discussed at district preschool professional learning committee meetings.



Curriculum

Preschool classrooms typically follow a consistent daily routine. Instruction is provided in large group, small group, and individual activities. Skills are embedded throughout daily routines and activities. The classroom environment is designed for active learning and self-discovery. Activity centers are arranged to encourage and enhance skill development and include such areas as fine motor, dramatic play, art, science, and library.

Structure is extremely important to children of all ages. Knowing what to expect from the surroundings and being able to predict what will happen next is a source of comfort to us all. It makes us feel safe. Preschoolers are no different. A predictable classroom routine and consistent rules allow children to take initiative, problem solve, and develop independence and self-esteem. Positive reinforcement, redirection, verbal reminders, visual cues, and natural consequences are used consistently in the classroom to encourage appropriate behavior.

Preschool students will spend time outside each day when possible. By doing so, they develop balance and coordination. *Be sure to dress your child in clothing (including shoes) that is appropriate to the weather.

Our preschools use a variety of curriculums including Pocket of Preschool, Big Day in Pre-k, and Artful Reading.

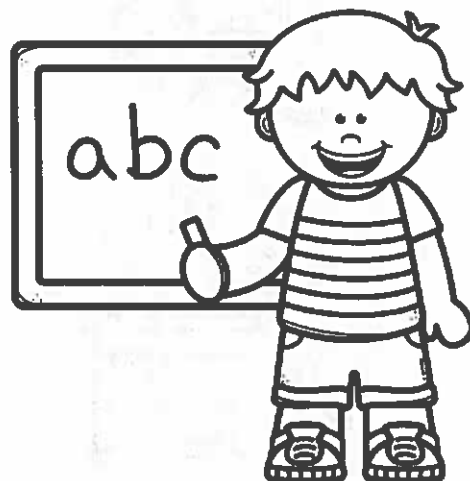
Our curriculum and lesson plans meet the Kentucky Early Learning Standards.



Assessments

Our students are assessed using a variety of assessment tools.

- Teaching Strategies Gold: Preschool students are assessed throughout the year with Teaching Strategies GOLD. While data is collected on an ongoing basis, parents will receive a detailed report in the fall, and spring. Progress reports are sent home and/or discussed during home visits two (2) times per year for all children in the preschool classroom.
- Brigance Screener: The Brigance is given at the beginning of the school year to screen for any areas of delay. Based on this information, students may begin the RTI process if there are any delays. Students are also screened in the winter and spring to assess progress.
- COS (Child Outcome Survey): This is a process involving multiple sources of information and “team based” decision making. A 7-point rating scale is used to describe how a child functions across settings and situations.



Meals

Meals are served during both preschool sessions. Both the morning and afternoon sessions are served lunch. Perry County Schools participate in the Community Eligibility Options Program. Therefore, meals are provided to ALL students at no cost to parents. However, you are still required to complete a HIF (Household Income Form).

Please notify the teacher if your child has any food restrictions.

Please notify the teacher before sending any classroom special snack. (birthday cupcakes, etc.)



Attendance

Children must be in regular attendance to gain the greatest benefits from the preschool program. Attendance is taken daily by the teacher. If your child is absent for four (4) consecutive days or your child has irregular attendance, the preschool teacher will contact you to discuss your child's attendance. Contact will be documented. Additionally, the teacher may conduct a home visit to discuss any issues related to your child's attendance.

If continuous absences occur after the teacher has met with you or contacted you several times, your child may lose his/her place in the preschool program and another child may fill his/her spot. The preschool program reserves the right to unenroll preschool students with irregular attendance after documented attempts to contact the parent have been made.



Attendance Matters



Important Information Regarding Pick-Ups and Drop-Offs !!!

Pickup Locations: Please make sure the teacher and bus driver are aware of drop-off and pick-up locations if they vary. Inform the teacher prior to any changes to the pick-up or drop-off location. While it is understandable that an issue may arise and a change may occur due to a special circumstance, changes should not occur continually. If there is a custody issue or some other issue in which a child's pick-up and/or drop-off location changes often, a schedule must be made out and followed by all parties. Continual changes to the schedule or last-minute changes create confusion and may result in your child not being dropped off (and returning to school) if someone is not at the location previously agreed upon. No child will be dropped off without an adult (on sign-out list) present. Any person(s) picking up your child must be on the sign-out list. We reserve the right to ask for proper identification.

*Please Note: Perry County Preschools reserves the right to unenroll preschool students if pick-up and drop-off issues occur often. Instances when issues occur will be documented by the teacher. A meeting and/or contact will be made. Documentation of meetings, calls, or attempts to contact parents/guardians will be made also. If the issue then continues, your child may lose his/her preschool spot as this can become a safety issue.



Important Information Regarding Pick-Ups and Drop-Offs !!!

- Sign-Out Lists: Again, anyone picking up your child **MUST BE ON YOUR CHILD'S SIGN-OUT LIST**. A sign-out form will be given to you to fill out and turn into your teacher. This must be completed prior to the first day of preschool. If the school does not have this on file, your child may not get to start preschool as this is a safety issue. All other registration information must be turned in also as previously mentioned (birth certificate, shot record, exams, social security card, etc.)
- Late pick-ups: Parents and guardians are expected to be on time to pick their preschool student(s) up. If late pick-ups occur, the date and time will be recorded by the teacher. After 3 instances of having your child picked up late, the teacher may meet with you (by phone or in-person), to discuss the issue. If the teacher is unable to contact you by phone or in person, this will also be documented. If after contact or attempted contacts a late pick-up occurs again, Perry County Preschools reserve the right to unenroll your child.



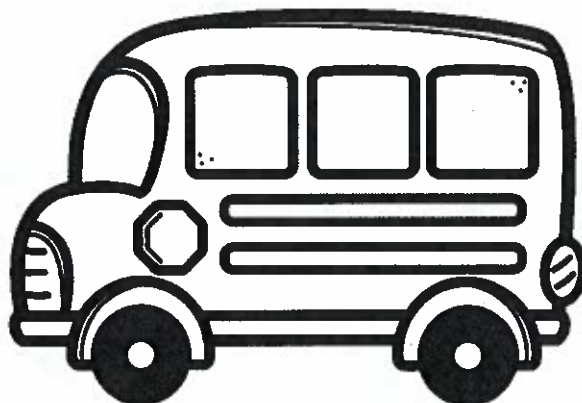
Transportation

Children may ride the school bus. A transportation/bus monitor form must be completed and must include before school pick-up location and after school drop-off location. Both destinations must be in the same school district. Any changes to transportation must be communicated to the teaching staff and the transportation department. Students will not be dropped off unless an adult is present and is on the pick-up list of the student. If an adult is not present, the child will be returned to the school. If the problem is persistent, bus transportation privileges may be suspended.

Sometimes problems do occur on the bus. If a child engages in behavior that may be harmful to himself or others, the bus driver or aide will notify the school. The school will then notify the parent about the behavior. If the problem is persistent, bus transportation may be suspended for your child.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

If your child does not ride the bus, you will need to sign a check in/check out form upon arrival and departure.



Weather & Outdoor Play

When wind chill makes the temperature feel like 35 degrees or below, students will have recess inside.

When the heat index is 92 degrees or above, students will have recess inside.

For health reasons, if your child cannot go outside, a note from the physician is required.

*Remember to dress your child appropriately based on the weather (see dress policy).

Weather Delays

When Perry County schools are closed or on a two-hour delay the preschool program will be closed. When Perry County schools are on a one-hour delay there will be no morning preschool, however afternoon preschool will operate on regular schedule.



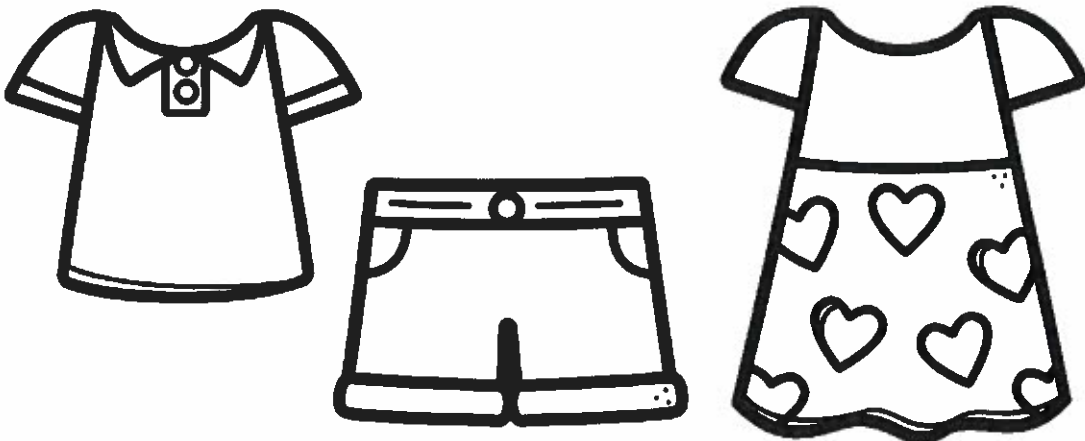
Dress Code

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for Pre-K. We do sometimes get messy, so please keep this in mind.

Dress Appropriately for the Weather

The changes in weather require the preschool staff to monitor the health and safety of the children. Parents should dress children to maintain a comfortable body temperature.

- For example, in warmer months, children should wear lightweight cotton and in colder months, layers are best.
- Coats, hats and mittens are required for outdoor play in winter (mittens are preferred over gloves).



Personal Belongings

Please do not allow your child to bring any toys or other personal items (jewelry, rings, etc.) to school unless requested by the teacher. We have many things to work with at school. Toys brought from home are difficult to share and easily broken.

There may be times when the teacher asks for parents/guardians to send in certain things at certain times – depending on what is occurring in the classroom at that time. The teacher will notify you at these times when items requested may be sent.

Children are permitted to bring a backpack and lunchbox (however- food is provided per class via our food service program). Each child will have an area for his/her backpack and coat to be hung. This is their personal classroom cubbies.

Please label all book bags, lunch boxes, jackets, etc. with your child's name.



Most Preschool Aged Children...

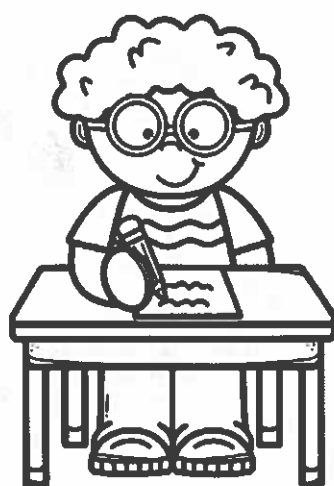
From 3 to 4 years of age, most children...

- Explore their world and start to learn how to read and write.
- Can recognize matching sounds and some printed letters and numbers.
- Understands ideas such as beside, near, above, under, and far.
- Listens, follows directions, and can focus on a specific task.
- Takes turns speaking in a conversation.
- Likes being read to and knows about books.
- Starts to understand the connection between spoken and written words.
- Can count, sort, compare, and identify shapes.
- Holds a pencil or crayon the right way.
- Tries to “write” ideas or notes by scribbling.



Tips On How to Help Your Child

- Have a regular reading time everyday.
- Visit the library often and take your child to children's activities there.
- Sing songs and say nursery rhymes. If your child uses sign language, sign with your child.
- Give your child the time and materials to color, draw, do puzzles, and cut paper.
- Volunteer: There are many ways you can volunteer in the preschool classroom. If your schedule allows you to volunteer during school hours, that is great! We'd love to have you. There are also many opportunities for involvement, including but not limited to:
 - Assisting on a preschool field trip.
 - Sharing a family cultural custom with the class.
 - Collecting materials needed for crafts and other projects.
 - Talking to the class about your job.
 - Helping set up at parent trainings and events.



How Children Learn from Activities






When you visit your child's classroom, you see a room full of children playing. Like most parents, you are probably wondering what your child is learning. To answer your questions, we have made an activities chart.

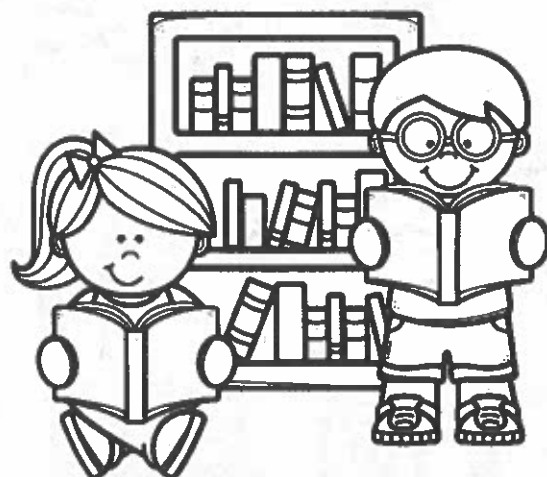
We have listed typical things children do when they play in each area of the classroom (when children do this).

Then we listed the concepts and skills children actually develop from this play (they are learning to).

Please remember that it is against preschool regulations to use workbooks or ditto sheets in the preschool classroom.



	WHEN CHILDREN DO THIS:	THEY ARE LEARNING TO:
	Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put blocks in trucks and dump them Use blocks and wooden animals to create a zoo Balance on large block on top of another 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand size, weight, and number concepts (math and science) Recreate the world around them (geography and social skills)
	Dress Up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put on dress-up clothes Pretend to be grown-ups Separate cups and plates at clean-up time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their small muscle skills (self-help and writing) Understand their experiences better (abstract thinking) Group objects in categories
	Hand Toys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put pegs in pegboard Finish a puzzle Sort pictures that are the same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate the actions of their eyes and hands (reading and writing) Complete a task (study habits and self-esteem) Match and classify (math)
	Art: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use play dough Gather paper, scissors, and glue Draw a picture of a person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize how materials change (science) Plan and carry out a task (study habits and independence) Use symbols (reading and writing readiness)
	Outdoors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch and throw balls Talk about changes in plants, people, and things outside as seasons change Climb on outdoor equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate eye and hand movements (physical development) Sharpen observation skills (science) Use their bodies in challenging tasks (self-esteem)



Educational Resources

Early Childhood Resources- KDE

[Early Childhood Resources - Kentucky Department of Education](#)

Family Guides [Getting Started - Governor's Office of Early Childhood \(ky.gov\)](#)

Let's Learn Kentucky [Let's Learn Kentucky - Governor's Office of Early Childhood](#)

PreKinders [Pre-K Literacy Pages - PreKinders Preschool Activities](#)

Splash Learn <https://www.splashlearn.com>

ABCya! <https://www.abcya.com/>

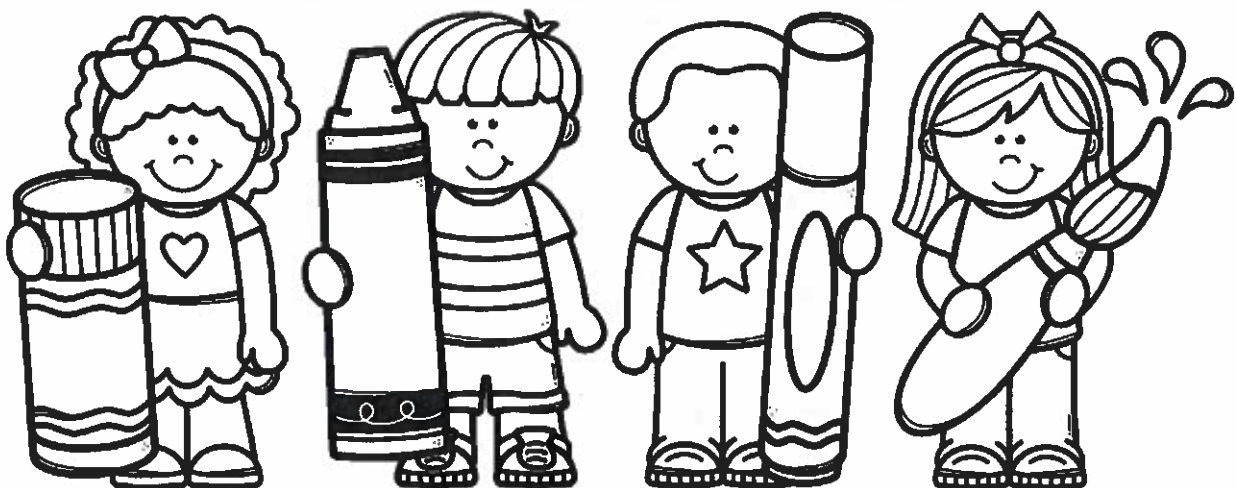
Fun Brain

National Geographic Kids [FunBrain.com](#)

PBS Kids [PBSKids.org](#)

Star Fall

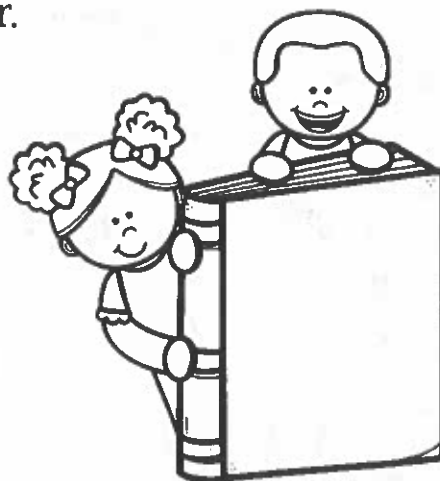
Vroom



Transition

All four-year-old children who have completed the preschool program will be involved in transition activities prior to kindergarten/primary enrollment. Listed below are activities that will ensure successful transition for all students and staff:

1. The preschool children will visit the kindergarten/primary classrooms. This activity will allow children to meet the kindergarten/primary teacher and familiarize themselves with the classroom surroundings.
2. Preschool children will have the opportunity to attend schoolwide assembly programs with other primary students (when appropriate).
3. Preschool teachers will plan and implement instructional activities that prepare preschool students for primary.
4. Preschool children will be invited to summer camps and/or activities provided by the district and/or community partner.
5. Kindergarten/primary teachers and early childhood assistants will attend ARC meetings regarding preschool students.
6. Kindergarten/primary teachers will be invited to attend early learning opportunities including trainings offered by Ashland Regional Training Center, Kindergarten Transition Summit(s)-Meetings, and other collaborative learning opportunities.
7. Primary preparation activities for parents which includes information packets given to parents at kindergarten registration. Preschool staff will conduct parent meetings to introduce kindergarten teachers at the end of the school year.



Key People

The following are key people that will be involved in your child's preschool education:

Preschool Teacher:

Teacher's Assistants:

Principal:

School Secretary:

Bus Driver:

Speech Pathologist:

Occupational Therapist:

FRYSC Coordinator (Family Resource Youth Service Center) :

Counselor:

District Superintendent: Kent Campbell

Perry County District Child-Find Coordinator:

Bridget Brewer

Perry County District Preschool Director:

Stephanie Wooton

