



Building Blocks 2025-2026 Pre-Kindergarten

What is Pre-Kindergarten?

Transitional kindergarten is an optional, one year program offered for children who are not yet old enough or not yet prepared for the demands of entering a full day, all week kindergarten. Our Pre-K program provides students with the opportunity to build the social, developmental and academic skills needed to begin kindergarten in a more gradual way. The curriculum and approach in this type of program is a stepping stone between preschool and kindergarten, allowing an extra year to acquire kindergarten readiness.

Pre-K works with a modified kindergarten curriculum and uses games, chants, songs and movement along with a paper and pencil curriculum to learn kindergarten skills. Arts and crafts are still a part of our Pre-K program but on a lesser scale than you would see, for instance, in a 4 year old pre-school classroom.

*While 3 year old preschool is geared toward students who turn 3 years old by September 1st, and 4 year old preschool is geared toward students who turn 4 years old by September 1st, the Pre-K program works more specifically with students who are 4 ½ (birthday would need to be by March 1st of this current year).

Benefits of a Pre-K Program:

1. Helps build a strong foundation for future academic success.
2. Assists in growing confidence by introducing kindergarten curriculum and standards.
3. Blends the social, emotional, and cognitive experiences of preschool with the educational emphasis of a kindergarten program.
4. Creates more one-on-one time with the teacher with smaller class sizes (1:10).
5. Bridges the gap between a 2 or 3 half days a week preschool and a 5 full days a week kindergarten.

(Our Pre-K program will be offered 5 days a week for 3 hours per class.)

Key Factors when considering your child for Pre K:

Pre-K is for children who may perhaps be too young for a traditional kindergarten but are developmentally ready to learn kindergarten skills.

If a child is younger than the standard kindergarten age, they will need to demonstrate sufficient development through an in-person observation and testing to be admitted to Pre-K (see below)

Eligibility

Your child's eligibility for Pre-K will be based on an evaluation of your child's readiness for the program. This process involves an in-person objective evaluation with your child.

Parents and guardians of students who are not currently enrolled in a 3's or 4's Building Blocks class will need to schedule an evaluation appointment. This in-person evaluation should take less than 20 minutes and will assess your student's knowledge of letters, numbers, counting, pencil grip, cutting and tracing, cognitive skills, speech/communication development, attention, comprehension, ability to follow directions and motor skills. The best placement for your child in either our 4's preschool class or our Pre-K class will be determined based on the results of his/her assessment.

Students currently enrolled in our Building Blocks 3's or 4's preschool classes will have student assessments from their teacher to determine best placement for the following year so they will not need to make an appointment to be assessed.