

Frequently Asked Questions

What are your Hours and Schedules?

Our morning class operates from 8:50am-11:30am Monday through Thursday. Whereas our afternoon class runs 12:20pm-3:00pm Monday through Thursday.

At what age does Lexington PS accept students?

We serve children from 3 through 5 years of age. They must meet the Aug 1st district cut off to be eligible. If you have questions, please contact the preschool office at 419-884-1111 ex 6504

How do you Group Children?

There are many other factors that are considered when making class rosters. Some factors include but are not limited to boy to girl ratio, different personalities, age, sibling/relationships of peers, social emotional development, disabilities, etc.

Is there Space in the program to enroll my child? Does my child need to be Potty Trained?

Enrollment is on-going, as space is available. Student must be potty-trained to attend, provided they do not have a disability that prevents mastery of this skill. Parents can email

Cotterill.Meredith@lexington.k12.oh.us to find out about availability and space.

What are the Qualifications of Teachers?

All our PreK teachers are dual licensed, meaning they are certified to teach Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education. All staff members undergo a comprehensive background check (such as federal clearance for fingerprinting, medical exam, reference checks, child abuse training, CPR / first aid training, etc...) On an ongoing basis, our staff work closely with each other and the program director to develop lesson plans. Lexington Preschool also provides continuing in-service training and enables teams of teachers to attend conferences and workshops to bring back the latest in concepts, methods, and materials. Our teachers are well-educated and nurturing people who respect the children's need for security while encouraging autonomy.

What is the Teacher Student Ratio?

All classrooms have a qualified early childhood educator leading the class and an experienced assistant teacher. Our classrooms have a maximum of 17 students in them at one time, but most of the time there are less than 17. Ohio Department of Children and Youth provides a maximum standard of 1:11 ratio. Classrooms may also have student teachers from cooperating colleges and Special Education Itinerant Teachers working with individual students. Lexington Preschool is licensed by the Department of Education and meets all their requirements.

What is your Discipline Policy?

Discipline is a process of learning self-control, respect for others, and responsibility. Positive methods of discipline will always be practiced so children are aware of an acceptable code of conduct at school. Efforts to help students understand behaviors that are allowed, accepted, and encouraged (including individual charts or plans) will be used. Other stop-and-think strategies that lead to positive results through positive reinforcement, good role modeling and redirection will also be used. For any on-going issues, teachers will communicate with parents so that school and home are working together with a child's best interests in mind. To help children learn to manage their actions and feelings, teachers will model sharing, waiting, taking turns, solving problems, controlling impulses, and expressing ideas through words.

How do you cater to Individualized Learning?

Individualized learning in a preschool setting can take on many different forms. First and foremost, it requires patience and dedication from the teacher, as well as top-notch organizational skills. The teacher must have ample time to observe the students in his/her classroom and be able to implement lesson plans that cater to each of her student's needs individually. While lesson planning can still be organized in a general format, it will also be necessary to outline specific goals for each student. In some cases, it may only be necessary to implement preschool individualized learning in only one area, such as speech development. In other cases, the more areas of development will be affected. One child may learn best by listening, another child may be a visual learner and need to see what is being taught. Giving each child

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the opportunity to learn in the way that is best for them means that you are giving them the confidence they need to be independent learners.

What is Lexington Preschool's Philosophy and Curriculum?

Our philosophy is to introduce young children to formal learning, by building a foundation of knowledge and skills through child-directed activities in a hands-on environment that promotes independence and encourages the love of learning. We strive to partner with families, support personnel as well as the community to meet the individual needs of each child.

Our curriculum focuses on activity-based settings to educate students for academic excellence and personal integrity in a diverse coeducational community that emphasizes responsibility, stimulates collaboration, and promotes mutual respect. Students learn to have confidence, independence, high self-esteem and develop a joy of learning. We follow Scholastic PreK On My Way, Heggerty PreK curriculum and Foundations.

Do you accommodate allergies and dietary restrictions?

It is our goal to keep each child with a food allergy safe and to honor identified food restrictions to best of our ability. The teachers will post all food allergies in the classroom in clear view along with the child's photo. To best meet the children's special dietary needs, it is essential that the center staff and parents work closely together. Parents should discuss it with the Director and the child's teachers upon enrollment. Parents must submit written documentation with specific guidelines for addressing each special type of dietary need and food allergy

If the child's physician prescribes medication that needs to be administered at the school, the parents and school nurse will work closely together to make a plan that meets the medical needs of that child. All medications will be stored in the nurse's office. If the child's medical status changes, parents must notify the staff and Director of these change.

How frequently are materials and workspaces cleaned?

The classroom and materials are sanitized daily. The cleaner is approved by the maintenance department in accordance with guidelines and regulations. In addition, custodial staff sterilize bathrooms and floors daily too. We all work together to maintains school appearance and cleanliness.

Will my child have bussing provided?

Yes, all preschool students are provided the opportunity to ride the bus to and from school. However, not all parents are comfortable having their preschool on the bus. In those situations, families can drive their child to and from school as an alternative.

What documents are needed to enroll my child?

Go to the Lexington Schools website and under the school tab you will find the preschool link. Listed you will find an enrollment flyer that gives details on how to enroll your child in preschool.

My child has special needs, who do I contact?

Children that have special needs should also have a plan to support those needs. If you child already has an IEP in place, this document needs to be provided to the preschool director. If you suspect your child has special needs, a process will need to be completed, based on state guidelines. Please contact the preschool director to discuss these concerns in more depth.

When is the first day of school?

Preschool participates in a stagger start so some children will begin on the first day of school for the district whereas, other children will start on the 2nd day of school based on the district calendar. Please see the following link for specific days. Go to the district website to find the board approved yearly calendar.

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What supplies does my child need for school?

Go to the Lexington Schools website and under the school tab you will find the preschool link. Listed you will find a list of supplies your child will need for preschool.

When do I find out what bus my child will be on and when the bus will pick up/drop off my child?

The transportation department will notify families in August about your child's bus number as well as pick up/drop off time.

I have an older child that attends Western Elementary, how do I arrange to pick up my preschooler at that school with their older sibling?

Afternoon preschool children can ride the bus to Western school at the end of the day. You can pick your older child and preschooler from Western or both children can continue to ride the bus to a different location (ex. Home or sitter within Lexington district)

How do you help my child adjust to their first time being in school?

Transitions are challenging for children and adults. Continue to prepare your child for the first day by letting them know they will be in school with other kids and teachers. Their day will not be a long time (give them a framework like as long as we visit grandma or as long as we are at church, etc.) Then reassure them that _____ will pick you up or you will ride the bus home and _____ will be waiting to get you off the bus. Be sure that you are reassuring and allow them to ask questions or talk about it. This will help them feel better too.

Can my child bring comfort items to school?

Some children need a comfort item at the beginning of the year. It is something that a child can bring to school, but these items are then left in their bookbags during school hours. As the school year progresses, our goal is that the child is using this comfort item less and less at school.

Will there be nap time?

Lexington Preschool is only half day programming; therefore, we do not take naps.

My child cannot communicate well/speak, are there supports in place to help with this?

Children that have special needs should also have a plan to support those needs. If your child already has an IEP in place, this document needs to be provided to the preschool director. If you suspect your child has special needs, a process will need to be completed, based on state guidelines. Please contact the preschool director to discuss these concerns in more depth.

What does a typical day for my child look like/what is the daily routine?

Each teacher sets their daily schedule differently based on the needs of the students and the make-up of the class. However, all children within our program participate in snack, math and literacy activities, small group instruction, large group instruction, story time, free play, and gross motor activities on a daily basis.

When is open house?

Preschool open house will be held on Aug 18th. Those students enrolled in the morning class is scheduled to visit the building from 4:30-5:15pm and the afternoon class from 5:15-6:00pm

Is there any entrance testing involved in preschool?

There is no entrance testing, but teachers will ask parents to complete a screening checklist at the start of the school year. This will give them an idea of your child's developmental levels across all domains (social, emotional regulation, language, academic/cognitive, gross motor, and fine motor). Scores on this screening tool will not prevent your child from attending. Instead, it is used to provide information and a starting point for your child's learning.

Are there recommended topics my child should know before starting preschool? (Abcs/123s)

Preschool is the first learning opportunity for children. Therefore, they are not expected to know academic concepts prior to attending.

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What are final forms and how often should I update them?

Final Forms is an online application system that is used by Lexington District for students enrolling in PK-12 grade. This tool asks parents to create an account and then all their children within the district can be linked to one account. Annually (typically in June), families are contacted through an email from the system. This email requests families to verify the information listed is still accurate and then “re-sign” indicating they have reviewed and corrected all necessary information.

If my child needs to be picked up by someone else besides myself, how does that work?

Within the Final Forms enrollment system, you are provided an opportunity to list those that have permission to transport your child. Please list all approved people there and then the school will take measures to ensure we know who is and is NOT able to pick up. During pick-up we ask for proof of identification and then double check the name on the ID to the list provided. IF they are not approved, your child will remain at school until parents/guardians can transport.

Is there a fee to attend?

Lexington Preschool offers high quality preschool to 3-5-year-old children that live within the district. Tuition for this programming is \$1125 annually. You can pay this amount monthly, bi-annually, or annually. If you choose to pay monthly, the first month's tuition is due on or before September 10th.

What are preschool playdates?

Throughout the school year, we will set up opportunities for families to participate in community activities with their child while interacting with other children from the Lexington Preschool. These activities are designed to promote child interaction, family collaboration and to learn about the community around us. However, these playdates are optional.

My child is a picky eater, can I pack a lunch for my child?

Lexington Preschool is a half-day program therefore we do not offer lunch opportunities. However, we do provide snack for the children daily. A calendar of offered items is sent home to families at the start of the school year. Your child may choose to have snack or not daily, depending on their preference.

How does early release/late start affect school hours?

If your child is enrolled in the afternoon program, monthly (pre-determined dates listed on the district calendar) students will be dismissed one hour early to allow staff to engage in professional development opportunities. IF Lexington Schools is on a 2-hour delay due to inclement weather, students enrolled in the morning will NOT have school. However, the afternoon students are not impacted by delays.

Is there an inclement weather system?

Lexington Schools uses Bright Arrow as our texting service provider for public and emergency communications. If you have students attending any of our schools, you will automatically be enrolled.

When will staff be back at the school to answer questions/ drop off paperwork?

Lexington Preschool staff will return to the building on the first Monday in August. If you have specific questions or concerns, feel free to email the director at Cotterill.meredith@lexington.k12.oh.us. She will periodically be checking emails throughout the summer.