# **Preschool Program**

#### **Program Overview**

Our preschool program emphasizes fostering positive relationships between children and adults. This helps children feel valued as individuals while developing a strong sense of belonging within the community. Through these relationships, children learn to contribute responsibly and cooperate with their peers, laying the foundation for social success.

#### 1. Nurturing Relationships and Emotional Support

- Educators build warm, responsive, and sensitive relationships with children, ensuring they feel secure and supported.
- Positive relationships create safe, stable environments where children can thrive socially, emotionally, and physically.
- Educators foster emotional regulation, helping children identify their feelings, resolve conflicts, and express their needs in an appropriate manner.

#### 2. Curriculum and Learning Framework

- The program follows a curriculum that aligns with developmental milestones and Connecticut State Standards, focusing on social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive growth.
- A well-planned curriculum provides clear goals, engaging activities, and a balanced daily schedule, ensuring children have the opportunity to explore, learn, and develop.
- Activities are tailored to meet the diverse needs, interests, and learning styles of each child, with strategies and materials that enhance individual growth.

### 3. Inclusive Teaching Approaches

- We utilize developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate teaching strategies to engage every child.
- The learning environment is designed to respect and reflect the diverse backgrounds, abilities, and experiences of all children.
- Educators collaborate closely with families to support each child's development in both the classroom and at home.

## 4. Family Engagement

- Families are an essential part of the learning process. Educators maintain open, respectful
  communication with parents, keeping them informed about their child's progress and encouraging family
  involvement.
- Educators listen to parents' insights about their child's life at home and use that information to tailor learning experiences.
- We believe in building relationships with families based on trust and respect, creating a partnership in fostering children's growth.

#### 5. Social, Communication, and Cognitive Development

- Children engage in meaningful play and exploration, enhancing their social and cognitive development.
- Educators provide opportunities for children to practice communication, cooperation, and problemsolving skills, fostering a love of learning.
- A variety of materials and activities spark children's curiosity, encourage experimentation, and develop important life skills like reasoning and cooperation.

#### 6. Individualized Learning and Flexibility

- Each child's individual needs, strengths, and interests are at the heart of our teaching approach.
- Educators assess each child's progress and adjust learning activities to meet their evolving needs.
- The daily schedule is predictable yet flexible, adapting to the needs of the children while ensuring consistency and stability.

## 7. Encouraging Creativity and Literacy

- Writing materials and activities are available throughout the classroom, supporting literacy development in all areas, such as dramatic play, art, and science.
- Educators model writing and encourage children to express themselves through drawings, words, and stories.
- Children's artwork and writing are displayed throughout the classroom, providing opportunities for reflection and extending their learning.

## 8. Safe and Enriching Environment

- The classroom is designed to promote safety, health, and well-being, with materials that are engaging, challenging, and appropriate for the children's developmental levels.
- Educators organize space and resources to enhance the learning experience across all content areas—literacy, math, science, arts, and social studies.
- The learning environment evolves as children grow, providing new challenges that extend their understanding and skills.

#### 9. Collaboration and Scaffolding

- Instruction is broken into meaningful steps, providing scaffolded learning opportunities that help children refine existing skills and acquire new ones.
- Educators customize learning experiences based on their knowledge of each child's developmental stage, strengths, and areas for growth.
- The program encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and curiosity, allowing children to explore and build upon their prior knowledge.

## **Summary:**

In the preschool program, educators foster secure, nurturing relationships that support each child's growth in a safe, inclusive environment. The curriculum emphasizes social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive development, with a focus on individual needs and interests.

By partnering with families and using developmentally appropriate teaching strategies, we create a learning experience that encourages exploration, creativity, and skill development. Children are given the tools to grow as responsible, confident community members while engaging in meaningful and enriching activities.