

Frequently Asked Questions Goodyear Early Childhood Center

Thank you for choosing our program!

How many classrooms are there?

The Killingly Public Schools Preschool offers two locations, 7 classrooms are located at Goodyear and two at Killingly Central School. They are all part of the same program.

How many staff are in each room?

All classrooms are taught by a State of CT certified teacher. Because our program is accredited, we are required to maintain a ratio of 1 adult per ten children. All classrooms have at least two adults present, some have 3-4. An adult who holds pediatric CPR and first aid certification must be present in the classroom at all times.

What will my child be learning?

We are required to follow the CT Office of Early Childhood Early Learning Development Standards (ELDS). These standards drive our curriculum planning and address all areas of child development-early math, literacy, science, creative arts, physical development, cognition, social studies, and social/emotional development.

We believe in active, open-ended learning so your child will get dirty and messy. We focus on critical thinking, collaboration, and communication so you will not receive lots of papers home and/or craft projects. We do big creative problem solving here so you may receive photos of your child's work instead.

What does a typical day look like?

Nothing about preschool is typical but we do follow a consistent, structured daily schedule. Each classroom might be slightly different but sometime during the day every classroom has a classroom whole group meeting, self-directed learning time we call "Purposeful Play," small group teacher directed learning, time for outside learning, and read-a-louds. Children who stay for a full day also have a lunch and rest time, additional literacy learning, and a second outdoor learning time.

Tell me about arrival and dismissal times.

Some children arrive by bus and will come into the program once they arrive. Staff are outside to greet them off the bus and assist with those big bus steps. Children who are brought in by families can enter the building between 8:45-9:00. Families must walk their child to their classroom and sign them in. Children who arrive after 9:00 are considered late and must be signed in in the main office.

Children who attend a morning session only will be dismissed between 11:15-11:30.

End of day dismissal is from 3:00-3:15. Staff walk children out to their bus or families come into the building and sign their child out. Children picked up prior to 3:00 are considered early dismissal and must be signed out in the main office.

No child will be released to an adult who is NOT on the approved pick-up list. This includes in person pick up and bus drop off. An approved adult MUST be at least 18 years of age and be able to present formal ID.

What does the school calendar look like and what is "ERD?"

All preschool classrooms follow the Killingly Public Schools official calendar. ERD stands for Early Release Day. On some Fridays, children are dismissed early so staff can have professional learning time. There are also three full professional learning days throughout the school year.

What about eating at school?

Children who attend a morning only session will be provided a snack time. Snacks should be brought in from home. For children attending a full day, free breakfast and lunch is provided by our district food service and delivered daily. You can always opt to send your child to school with a lunch prepared at home but please note that we do not refrigerate or heat up any food. We encourage healthy eating. For those children who enjoy two meals while at school, you must send in a toothbrush (toothpaste not needed).

What about emergencies?

As a public school, we are required to practice emergency drills such as fire drills, evacuations, and lockdowns. We will send a notice home when these have taken place.

What about COVID?!

Everyone within the school building is required to wear a mask. This is in place until September 30, 2021. For those children who have a hard time keeping a mask on, we will work on this at school. Young children new to school have a grace period to adjust to mask wearing. Sick children should remain at home and will be sent home if symptoms develop while at school.