

Typical Peer Program

Wadsworth City Schools provides an Integrated Preschool Program to service preschool students with disabilities. A key component of this program involves the participation of students who model age appropriate skills for our special needs students. Typical peers receive access to a high quality curriculum that aligns with *Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards* and is designed to prepare students for kindergarten.

Benefits for typical peers in an integrated preschool include:

- *increased social and language skills
- *a growing acceptance and appreciation of individual differences
- *increased self-confidence by being a positive role model
- *build character by providing praise and encouragement to children with disabilities when they are participating in daily play activities
- *develop leadership skills by taking greater initiative in planning and leading play activities and helping teachers by supporting children with disabilities in learning or practicing self-help skills

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This program is tuition-based. We do not accept or provide government assistance. Tuition will not be raised during a school year, but the district reserves the right to raise tuition for the next school year. Students attend 4 half days per week in the morning or afternoon. While session preferences can be noted, they are not a guarantee.

Preschool screening is required for all children being considered for placement as a typical peer. Screening criteria includes: social skills, pre-academic skills, motor skills, language skills and adaptability to classroom structure and situational changes.

Families who would like to have their child considered for our typical peer program are required to live in the Wadsworth City School District and provide the following information: original birth certificate, immunizations from birth to current, two proofs of residency, legal papers pertaining to your child, should they apply (ex. custody, adoption, etc.).