

2025-2026

Preschool Program Handbook



**6767 Gender Road
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
Tel: (614) 833-2154 Fax # (614) 833-2167
Attendance Email: ITES@cwls.us
School Hours:
9:35am – 12:10pm
1:20pm - 3:55pm**

Dear Canal Winchester Families,

Welcome to Canal Winchester Local Schools! We are delighted to have you as part of our community. As you embark on your academic journey, we want to ensure you have the resources and support needed to thrive both inside and outside the classroom. This student handbook serves as a valuable guide to help you navigate your time here at Canal Winchester Local Schools. On the pages to follow, you will find important information regarding academic policies, student services, campus resources, and school expectations. Our goal is to create an environment where every student feels supported, respected, and empowered for success.

The Student Services Department is here to assist you with any concerns, whether they relate to academic support, personal development, or campus life. We encourage you to take full advantage of the opportunities available to you and to reach out if you ever need guidance.

We are excited to be part of your journey and look forward to seeing you grow, learn, and achieve your goals. Wishing you a fulfilling and successful experience here at Canal Winchester Local Schools!

Respectfully,

Mr. Max Lallathin M. Ed
Director of Student Services

This student handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that students and their parents may have during the school year. Because the handbook contains information about student rights and responsibilities, each student is responsible for knowing its contents. Please take time to become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for your own use and your parent/guardian's use. It can be a valuable reference during the school year and a means to avoid confusion and misunderstandings when questions arise. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, contact the principal. This handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects.

CANAL WINCHESTER PRESCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK

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Mission of the Canal Winchester Local School District

“Empowering all students for success”

Welcome to Preschool! The Preschool Parent Handbook was developed to answer many commonly asked questions. Please use this tool as a reference during the school year as a means to provide clarification when questions arise. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, please contact your child’s teacher or Mrs. Mitzi Boyd, Special Education Coordinator at (614) 920-2757.

Whether you are a newcomer to our school or have previously attended, we hope you find this school year to be a memorable and exciting one. Cooperation is the key, and toward that end, we suggest you read this handbook thoroughly. The handbook tells you exactly what we expect of you and what services and benefits you may expect from the school. We are looking forward to helping you have a successful and rewarding year. *This handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects.*

CANAL WINCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Services Office
100 Washington Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
Phone: (614) 833-3182 Fax: (614) 920-2623

Mrs. Kiya Hunt	Superintendent
Mr. Nicholas Roberts	Treasurer

Canal Winchester Board of Education

Ms. Vangela Barnes	Board Member
Mr. David George	Board Member
Ms. Chloe Green	Board Member
Mrs. Monika Talley	Board Member
Mr. Adam Twiss	Board Member

Director of Special Education

Dr. Brooke Hippler
Phone: (614) 920-2624
Fax: (614) 920-2623

Special Education Coordinator

Mrs. Mitzi Boyd
Phone: (614) 920-2757
Fax: (614) 833-2167

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Canal Winchester Local School District is to empower all students for success to prepare for the most seamless transition to kindergarten possible.

The Preschool Program is designed for children residing in Canal Winchester who are between 3-5 years of age, and identified with delays in one or more developmental areas along with their typically developing peer models.

- * Our goal is to provide Preschool children with opportunities to develop motor, social and emotional skills, pre-academic, and language skills along with increasing independence with a positive self-concept.
- * Quality instruction provided by certified Early Childhood Intervention Specialists and trained paraprofessionals with an emphasis on the individual needs of each child.
- * Developmentally appropriate learning activities guided by the Canal Winchester Board of Education approved preschool curriculum and aligned with the Ohio Early Learning and Development Standards.
- * Differentiated instruction through individual, small and large group activities utilized to develop and promote maximized learning for all students.
- * The opportunity for parent involvement is available through ongoing communication with classroom staff, daily sheets, Curriculum Night, conferences, and other scheduled parent meetings.
- * For our students with special needs, an Evaluation Team Report (ETR) and Individual Education Program (IEP) identifies the intervention and related services to be provided based upon the needs of the child and are incorporated into the classroom by qualified personnel.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of the Canal Winchester Local School District Preschool Program to assist preschool children in developing cognitive, communication, pre-academic, social and emotional, play, and motor skills.

Our program is designed to help each student develop curiosity and initiative to learn, independence, and a positive self-image. Classroom teams are dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing environment for children to be able to interact with peers, adults, and materials to achieve individual goals. Recognizing the diversity of our student's abilities, interests and cultural backgrounds, our preschool program provides varied experiences to enhance their learning experience.

We believe that children develop their understanding of the world through interaction with people, materials, and concepts. Our classroom staff facilitates each child's discovery of the world by creating opportunities that enhance this exploration through the use of appropriate materials, planned spaces, teacher guided lessons, play opportunities, and a consistent daily routine.

We believe that all children develop a greater understanding of their world when given the opportunity to interact with peers who are at various developmental levels within the school community. Our preschool classrooms provide children with special needs with peer models who exhibit age appropriate social and communication skills.

We believe family is the child's most important teacher. Family support is provided through ongoing communication between staff and parent, daily sheets, annual events, and parent/teacher conferences.



SCHOOL BEGINS AT HOME

Education begins in the home, setting the tone for each day. Here are some tips to help kickstart your child's day positively:

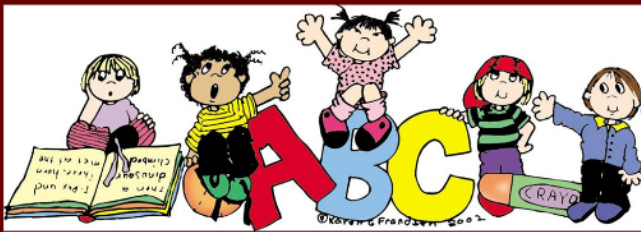
- Establish a consistent bedtime routine to ensure your child gets the 10-12 hours of sleep they need. Well-rested children are better equipped to engage actively in their learning at school.
- Dress your child in comfortable clothing, particularly with sturdy tennis shoes for daily activities.
- Provide nourishing breakfasts and lunches to fuel your child's engagement and participation at school.
- Label all clothing and supplies with your child's name to avoid confusion.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time.

- Teach and demonstrate respect for adults to your child.
- Encourage your child to treat their peers as they would like to be treated, discouraging negative behaviors like name-calling and arguing.
- Celebrate your child's efforts and good behavior at school, offering praise for their hard work and positive actions. We're doing the same here!



Canal Winchester Preschool Program PBIS Matrix

Early Childhood PBIS



- Multi-tiered framework
- Three levels of support to:
 - Tier 1 - promote expected behavior
 - Tier 2 - prevention strategies
 - Tier 3 - individualized support with intensive intervention
- Practices, procedures, and data collection measures appropriate for young children

- Provides support for ALL children
 - Nurturing
 - Responsive relationships
 - High-quality learning environments
- Positive, supportive relationships among staff, families, and children
- Focuses on classroom management & organization, differentiation of lesson plans, and explicit instruction of behavioral expectations
 - Structured routines
 - Differentiated instruction
 - Meaningful activities and materials aligned with Ohio's Early Learning Standards

Preschool Program Expectations

As part of Canal Winchester's Portrait of a Graduate initiative, students are respectful citizens. Preschoolers will demonstrate that we are never too young to show respect for ourselves, our family, and others.

	Snack Area	Hallway / Line Procedure	Playground	Restroom	Bus	Learning Areas
Be Kind	Hands, feet and body to self Clean up your area	Hands, feet and body to self	Hands, feet and body to self Include others Follow game / activity rules	Hands, feet and body to self Give others privacy Clean up after yourself	Hands, feet and body to self Use kinds words to others	Hands, feet and body to self Listen when someone is talking Use kind words to others
Be Safe	Sit safely (bottom on chair, feet on floor) Eat only your food	Eyes facing forward Walking feet	Use equipment safely Mulch and rocks stay on the ground Line up when called	Complete business quickly Wash hands (one pump of soap) Report any issues	Sit safely until dismissed (back and bottom on seat) Follow driver's instructions Keep aisles clear	Use materials correctly Follow teacher's directions Keep area clean and organized
Noise Level	Table Talk	No sound	Outdoor Voice	No sound	Driver Directed	Teacher Directed



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Canal Winchester Local School District provides a variety of special education programs and services for students identified as having a disability defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Parents of Preschool-age children with special needs are covered by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3301-55-11. This means in part, that a parent may make a referral for special education services that are tuition free. Contact Mrs. Mitzi Boyd, Special Education Coordinator at (614) 920-2757 for information.

QUALIFICATION/REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to be evaluated to determine eligibility for the program. A team meeting will be held with parents and school personnel to determine whether or not the student qualifies as having a disability as defined by IDEA and the Ohio Department of Education's guidelines. The following requirements must be met for a student to attend the Preschool program as a student with special needs:

- All applicants are required to be residents of the Canal Winchester Local School District (Please check with the district office to be sure 614 837-4533).
- If parents have concerns and believe their child may be eligible for special education services, please complete the district's preschool intake form, which is found on the district preschool website page
- Following your application submission, parents will be contacted by the Preschool Coordinator, Mrs. Mitzi Boyd, Special Education Coordinator for further support.
- If the district suspects a disability, registration information will be sent to parents, including a schedule of events for future meetings and evaluation
- **To register a student with the school district**, parents must go to www.cwschools.org for registration information.
 - Under QUICK LINKS, select STUDENT REGISTRATION and complete the pre-registration only.
 - The Registrar will notify the Coordinator when pre-registration has been completed.
- At the time of your appointment, you must bring the following documents with you to your appointment at Indian Trail:
 - a. Certified (with a raised seal) Birth Certificate
 - b. Custody Documents (if applicable) - Must include the ENTIRE document, including the Judge/Magistrate's signature
 - c. Proof of Residency –
 - Homeowner - Please provide a monthly mortgage statement/coupon

printed on your lender's letterhead. It must include the name and address of the homeowner (legal guardian of the child), and must have a current date. If the home is a new purchase, mortgage closing papers will be accepted within 2 months of closing and must include the signature page.

- Signed Lease/Rental Agreement - The Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian must be the Lessee. The lease must be signed by both the Landlord and Lessee. If the lease has an expired ending date, you will also need a current utility bill (gas, water, or electric).
- If the district suspects a disability, a schedule of events for future meetings and the evaluation will be provided.
- Once a student's registration is confirmed by the District Registrar, the Preschool Coordinator will contact parents to confirm the scheduled meetings, as well as send calendar invites, specifically if the meetings are held virtually through Google Meets.
 - If the district suspects a disability, a schedule of events for future meetings and the evaluation will be provided.
 - At this meeting, parents will also be given a folder of preschool information and a copy of all forms that must be completed prior to their child's start date, should they be eligible for preschool. (i.e. Child Medical Statement provided by a physician, a physician's assistant, a clinical nurse specialist or a certified nurse, complete immunization record, and verification of having a flu shot or a signed State of OH Legal Immunization Exemption form, as well as the completion of all PowerSchool forms.)
 - The Preschool Coordinator/team will contact parents to confirm the scheduled meetings, as well as send calendar invites, indicating specifically if the meetings are held in person or virtually through Google Meets.
- If the district suspects a disability, registration information will be sent to parents, including a schedule of events for future meetings and evaluation
- To register a student with the school district, parents must go to www.cwschools.org for registration information
 - Under QUICK LINKS, select STUDENT REGISTRATION and complete the pre-registration
 - Parents will receive an email approving the pre-registration as well as next steps to complete online forms and schedule an appointment with the District Registrar
 - At the time of the registration appointment, parents are required to take the following:
 - a. Certified (with a raised seal) Birth Certificate
 - b. Custody Documents (if applicable) - Must include the ENTIRE document, including the Judge/Magistrate's signature
 - c. Proof of Residency –
 - d. Homeowner - Please provide a monthly mortgage statement/coupon printed on your lender's letterhead. It must include the name and address of the homeowner (legal guardian of the child), and must have a current date. If the home is a new purchase, mortgage closing papers will be accepted within 2 months of closing and must include the signature page.
 - e. Signed Lease/Rental Agreement - The Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian must be the Lessee. The lease must be signed by both the Landlord and Lessee. If the lease has an expired ending date, you will also need a current utility bill (gas, water, or electric).
 - f. Child Medical Statement - This document is attached and must be signed by the physician within the last 12 months
 - g. Immunization Records - Documentation must be within the last 12 months
- Once a student's registration is confirmed by the District Registrar, the Preschool Coordinator will contact parents to confirm the scheduled meetings, as well as send calendar invites, specifically if the meetings are held virtually through Google Meets.

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES: The Americans With Disabilities Act (A.D.A) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual be discriminated against on the basis of disability. This protection applies not just to the student, but all individuals who have access to the district's programs and facilities. If a disabled person visits the school and requests accommodation, s/he may submit in advance of the visit, Request for Accommodation Form (9160A). The Canal Winchester School District provides a variety of special education programs and services for students identified as having a disability defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). A student can access special education services through the proper evaluation and placement procedure. Parent/guardian involvement in this procedure is required. More importantly, the school wants the parent/guardian to be an active participant. To inquire about the procedure or programs, a parent/guardian may contact the Director of Special Education at 614-8333182.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR PEER MODELS

The Preschool program integrates typically developing Preschoolers (peer models) with our Preschoolers with disabilities. Parents can complete the district's preschool intake form, which is found on the district preschool website page

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Enrollment for Peer Models is open to all children ages **4-5 years of age and MUST reside in the Canal Winchester Local School District.**
2. Peer Models will provide children with special needs appropriate peer model interactions while benefiting from an affordable, high quality Preschool program.
3. Peer Models must be toilet trained.
4. Peer Models should exhibit age appropriate behavior, social, and communication skill development as determined by a screening session.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PEER MODELS

The following requirements must be met **before** being accepted into the program.

- All applicants are required to be residents of the Canal Winchester Local School District (Please check with the district office to be sure 614 837-4533).
- Parents and potential students will participate in a Play-Based Observation
- Following the observation, the Preschool Coordinator will contact each family to discuss their child's placement. Registration information will be sent to parents.
- **To register a student with the school district**, parents must go to www.cwschools.org for registration information
 - Under QUICK LINKS, select STUDENT REGISTRATION and complete the pre-registration
 - Parents will receive an email approving the pre-registration as well as next steps to complete online forms and schedule an appointment with the District Registrar
- **At the time of the registration appointment**, parents are required to take the following:
 - a. Certified (with a raised seal) Birth Certificate
 - b. Custody Documents (if applicable) - Must include the ENTIRE document, including the Judge/Magistrate's signature

- c. Proof of Residency –
- d. Homeowner - Please provide a monthly mortgage statement/coupon printed on your lender's letterhead. It must include the name and address of the homeowner (legal guardian of the child), and must have a current date. If the home is a new purchase, mortgage closing papers will be accepted within 2 months of closing and must include the signature page.
- e. Signed Lease/Rental Agreement - The Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian must be the Lessee. The lease must be signed by both the Landlord and Lessee. If the lease has an expired ending date, you will also need a current utility bill (gas, water, or electric).
- f. Child Medical Statement - This document is attached and must be signed by the physician within the last 12 months
- g. Immunization Records - Documentation must be within the last 12 months
- Once a student's registration is confirmed by the District Registrar, the Preschool Coordinator will provide parents with their child's start date, classroom teacher assignment, and additional preschool information.



PRESCHOOL AM/PM SESSION PLACEMENT

We understand that one session is often preferred due to a parent's work schedule. However, our number one priority is to prepare our students for a successful transition to kindergarten. With this in mind, we intend to place students that are eligible for kindergarten the following year, in the afternoon program and the younger preschoolers in the morning program. This will allow for a more developmentally appropriate program for students preparing for kindergarten as well as those just entering preschool for the first time.

TUITION

1. Tuition is expected to be paid monthly (for a 9-month period) - September through May. Payment is due on the 25th day of the preceding month with the first month's tuition to be made at the time of registration, before the first day of attendance in the preschool program.
2. Payment must be paid via PaySchool (Please note, we are NOT able to accept VISA or MasterCard in the building.)
3. For all future payments, a grace period will be given until the 5th day of the month. **If a payment is not received by the 5th day of the month, a \$20.00 late fee will be assessed. If a payment, including late fee, is not received by the 5th day of the current month, the child will no longer be able to participate as a peer model.** Parents will not receive a monthly bill; it is the parent's responsibility to pay tuition on time.



TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is available to students with an IEP if deemed necessary by the IEP team. Placement in morning versus afternoon classes of students receiving special transportation will be determined based on bus routes and available class seats. Please talk to your child's driver to determine who is responsible for fastening your child into a bus harness or other safety seat. If you choose to transport your child, please stay with him/her until reaching the designated meeting place determined by your child's teacher to ensure the safety of your child around moving cars and busses.

Bus transportation is NOT provided for peer model students. Parents must transport students to and from Preschool.

Student and Parent Responsibilities: Parents/guardians and pupils must assume that school bus transportation is a privilege to the student – not a right. Pupils will ride on assigned buses. Parents/guardians must request, in writing, to permit deviation from this rule. Requests shall be made to the elementary and transportation offices. Pupils will ride their assigned bus both to and from home unless a written request signed by the parents/guardians asking permission to be let off the bus at some other stop is presented to the office. This note along with a bus pass issued by the office will be given to the driver by the student. Parents/guardians will assume responsibility of the child when such a request is made.

Parent/Guardian Pick-up/Drop-Off Procedure

Pick-up:

Only individuals listed in your PowerSchool contacts, authorized to pick up your child, will be allowed to do so. In the event of an emergency, if someone not listed needs to pick up your child, written consent from you along with photo identification of the designated adult is required. Children will only be released to authorized adults. Should your emergency contact information change, please update it in PowerSchool and notify ITES@cwls.us as well as your child's classroom teacher.

Whenever a parent/guardian arrives to pick up a student early, they must present a photo ID. Any changes to the pick-up arrangements or designated individuals must be documented in writing and submitted to the front office (not the student's teacher). Only primary guardians are allowed to pick up a student without a written note or email from the guardian on file.

Drop-off:

If a child arrives late to school, the parent/guardian must accompany the child into the building, present ID at the designated camera checkpoint, and sign the child in. The parent must remain with the child until staff can escort them to their classroom.

Ensuring the safety of our children is our utmost priority during drop-off and pick-up times.

Please adhere to the designated pick-up and drop-off procedures established by the preschool program. We request that ALL students wait with their parent in a line during drop-off and pick-up. No parents or family members are permitted to enter the school building without prior approval from the main office. During pick-up, all adults must have their pickup form ready; otherwise, they will be directed to the main office for ID verification and confirmation of pick-up authorization.

In addition, Ohio law (ORC 4511) requires infants and young children be properly restrained by either a child booster seat or child safety seat any time they are being transported in a motor vehicle until they are 4-years-old or weigh 40 pounds. Every child, age 4-8, who is no longer in a car seat must use a booster seat until they reach 4'9" tall. Our staff are mandated reporters so please be cognizant of how your child is being transported.

For the AM session, preschool doors open at 9:25 AM and students walk to their classrooms at 9:35 AM. Doors open for preschool students to be released at 12:15 PM. In the PM, preschool doors open at 1:15 PM and students walk to their classrooms at 1:25 PM. At the time of release, doors open at 3:55PM. Please ensure that your child is picked up within these designated time frames. We are unable to ensure adequate supervision by classroom staff for children left behind during lunchtime or after school. Parents will be immediately contacted via phone.

Parents issued consecutive violations will receive a conference with the Preschool Coordinator to problem-solve future solutions and/or determine further consequences. At the discretion of the Preschool Coordinator, Franklin or Fairfield County Children Services may also be notified. In addition, if your child is a peer model, they could be dismissed from the program if they are tardy to school three or more times and/or picked up late from school three or more times.



ATTENDANCE

Students attend Preschool four days per week **(M, T, W, TH)**

There is NO preschool on FRIDAYS.

AM Schedule

School Arrival Time	9:25AM
Start Time	9:35AM
School End Time	12:10PM

PM Schedule

School Arrival Time	1:15PM
Start Time	1:20PM
School End Time	3:55PM

ABSENCES

The following are legitimate reasons for absence:

1. Personal illness
2. Illness in the family
3. Quarantine of the home
4. Death of a relative, funerals or weddings
5. Observance of a religious holiday
6. Exceptional cases (such as conventions, court, 4-H at fairs, or other activities of a school nature) deemed acceptable by the principal
7. Approved family vacations
8. Observation of religious holidays consistent with his/her religious beliefs in compliance with [ORC 3321.191 \(C\) \(1\)](#) Religious Expression Days up to 3 school days (notification confirmation must be submitted within the first 14 days of school or enrollment) and does not exclude from extracurricular events on those days.

A student is considered a habitual truant if s/he is absent without a legitimate excuse for five or more consecutive school days, seven or more days in a month, or nine or more school days in a school year. Students may be excused for the first nine absences by notification to the school by the parent. On the 10th absence, additional documentation must be provided (e.g. a doctor's note).

VACATION PROCEDURES

These absences will count towards total parent/guardian excused call-in absences from school for a semester or for the year. Administration will only approve up to five total vacation days for the school year per student. A student going with parents on vacation during school time must **COMPLETE A VACATION FORM (ALSO OBTAINED IN THE OFFICE OR ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE) AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE AT LEAST ONE (1) WEEK PRIOR TO VACATION.** Please refer to the make-up work procedure for homework guidelines.

- Projects, special assignments due during vacation, must be turned in prior to leaving for vacation unless previously agreed upon by the student and teacher.
- Students absent from school due to a vacation may not participate in or attend any extracurricular activities.

EXCESSIVE TARDINESS

Chronic tardiness is unacceptable. A student is considered a chronic truant if they are tardy without legitimate excuse for five or more consecutive school days, seven or more days in a month, or 12 or more days in a school year. Each student is expected to be in his/her classroom at the beginning of class whether for the morning or afternoon session. If a child is late arriving at school, he/she must be walked into the school by the parent/guardian and signed in at the office.

Regular attendance is vital to your child's success in our program. Truancy, as described above, may result in your child being asked to leave the program if he or she is a peer model. If your child has an IEP, services will not be denied; however, a change of placement to itinerant services may be considered.

REPORTING ABSENCES

If your child will not be attending school, it is important to call:

The building secretary at (614) 833-2154

Transportation (if your child rides the bus) at (614) 833-2164



Please give your child's name, teacher's name and reason for his/her absence to the secretary. If the office is unable to answer the phone, please leave the information on the school's voicemail. It is important for us to know the reason your child is absent, especially if he/she has a contagious illness such as chicken pox, pink eye, strep throat, etc. A note will be sent home to other classmates to make parents aware of the illness.

Please do not send your child to school with a fever, a bad cough, severe cold, or if he or she has vomited within the past 24 hours.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

Peer models and students with special needs may be withdrawn from the Preschool at any time. Parents must complete all required paperwork (withdrawal and record release forms) to withdraw their child from the program. Parents of special needs students may also be asked to meet with the IEP team to discuss the withdrawal and the student's specific needs.

STUDENT HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Students attending Canal Winchester Schools are required to have proof of immunization against communicable diseases, as required by Ohio law. Immunization records must include the physician's signature or the clinic's stamp. Each child must have a completed physical examination by a physician. Your child cannot attend classes until his/her physical exam has been received by our staff.

An updated medical statement is required every 13 months from the date of the initial physical examination to avoid exclusion from the program. Also, the influenza vaccine is required every year. The required [Ohio Medical Statement for Child Care](#) can be found on the District website.



ILLNESSES THAT WARRANT KEEPING A CHILD HOME

To prevent the spread of highly contagious infections in the school environment, the Ohio Department of Health has provided guidelines to protect your child and others from unnecessary exposure to infectious organisms. A student should not be in school if any of the following conditions are present:

- Any exposure to contagious bacterial or fungal infection until treated with antibiotics for at least 24 hours, including strep throat, pink eye, ringworm, skin infections (impetigo) scarlet fever and others.
- Fever of 100 degrees F. or higher (child should be fever free for 24 hours)
- Vomiting or diarrhea two or more times per day
- Undiagnosed redness and secretions from the eyes
- Scabies, until initial treatment with an appropriate scabicide
- Impetigo, until there is no discharge and it has been treated for 24 hours
- Chickenpox, until the 6th day after onset and until sores (lesions) are dry.
- Students with shingles do not need to be excluded as long as sores are covered by clothing or bandages until the sores have crusted over.
- Undiagnosed rash – as per the guidelines submitted by the Ohio Department of Health, Division of Infectious Diseases, “All children sent to school with suspicious rashes must be excluded from school until the rash has been diagnosed by a physician.”
- Difficulty or rapid breathing
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Dark urine and/or gray or white stool
- Stiff neck

The above symptoms/conditions may mean the start of a communicable disease or nuisance condition that could affect many of the other children in your child's classroom. Also, your child may be too sick to learn in school that day. In fairness to ALL children, keep your child home until you can determine what else may be developing. See communicable disease policy for further information.

Contact the school nurse if you have any questions. If both parents are employed, please make other arrangements to have a caregiver available in case your child becomes ill while at school. Include these contacts on your emergency form. **Children should NOT return to school until they are symptom free for 24 hours.**

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ILL AT SCHOOL

1. Neither the Board of Education nor the school nurse/aide shall be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illnesses.
2. A staff member trained to recognize the common signs of communicable diseases or other illnesses shall observe each child daily as he/she enters the group.
1. If a child shows symptoms of a communicable disease while at school, the child will be kept in a quiet, comfortable location away from the group and within the sight and hearing of an adult at all times.
2. The child will be observed carefully for worsening conditions.
3. Parents will be notified and are responsible for responding as quickly as possible.
4. Parents will be notified in writing whenever a child has been exposed to a communicable disease.
5. The teacher may send a child to the school clinic should he/she become ill during the school day. The health staff will determine whether or not the child should remain in school or be sent home.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS

The administration of medication and/or medically prescribed treatments for a student during school hours will be permitted only when failure to do so would jeopardize the health of the student, the student would not be able to attend school if the medication or treatment were not made available during school hours or if the child has a health impairment that requires medication to benefit from his/her educational program.

Before any medication, treatment, prescribed lotion, vitamins, over-the-counter medications or special diets may be administered to any student during school hours; the Board of Education shall require that the student's physician and parent/guardian complete a Medication or Treatment Authorization Form. This document shall be kept on file in the student's school health records. Medication must be provided in its original container, with the prescription label attached. Over-the-counter medication must be provided in the original container with the manufacturer's label attached and the student's name clearly printed on the container.

For the safety of our students, the transportation of all medications to and from school is the responsibility of the parent. Medications are administered by an RN or staff designated by the Board of Education who have successfully completed an approved medication administration training program. **Any medication or medical equipment remaining one week after the last day of school will be discarded.**

HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT SCREENINGS

The school conducts a variety of health screenings under the supervision of the health staff to provide important information about each student. Parents/Guardians will be notified if any of the screenings indicate problems or if there is a need for further medical advice. The evaluations that may affect all students include:

Hearing screening, Vision screening, Growth screening, including height and weight, Dental screening

If your child is under the care of a hearing or vision specialist, please contact the school health staff.



DENTAL HEALTH

Your child should already be under the care of a dentist before entering preschool. As recommended by the American Dental Association, children should have a dental exam every 6 months, and complete all treatment as recommended by the dentist. A dentist/dental hygienist check is offered annually in our school district. And will conduct a dental screening for your child with your consent. You will be notified when these screenings will be conducted via ParentSquare and paper notification.

SNACKS

Students will enjoy a healthy snack, **provided from home**, in the classroom daily. The classroom teacher will communicate specific snack procedures and nutrition guidelines. Food allergies can be severe enough to warrant prohibiting the food from being in the classroom. If there is a student in your child's classroom with a severe food allergy, you will be notified at the beginning of the school year.

PLEASE INFORM YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays - The staff recognizes that birthdays are very special days for children. We want to help your child celebrate this special occasion; however, to protect students with food allergies and to comply with board policy, please follow these guidelines:

1. Limit your treats to **NON-FOOD items** such as stickers, pencils, etc.
2. Refrain from sending flowers, balloons, or other special gifts to children during school hours. To avoid hurt feelings, party invitations will not be distributed at school.

NO FOOD ITEMS MAY BE BROUGHT IN FOR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS DUE TO FOOD ALLERGIES AND DIETARY RESTRICTIONS.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND POLICIES FOR ALL PRESCHOOL STUDENTS

CLASSROOM STANDARDS

Special Needs Classrooms with peer models can have a maximum of 16 students, including up to eight students with special educational needs and up to eight same-age peer models. Our Special Needs Classroom without peer models has a maximum of 8 students with special educational needs and no peer models. Our General Education Classroom can have a maximum of 6 students with special education needs and up to eight same-age peer models. **Our General Education Classroom can have a total of 16 students with up to eight students having special education needs and the remainder being same-age peer models.**

- 1.
2. Each classroom has a certified Early Childhood Intervention Specialist or General Education Licensed Preschool Teacher and a trained paraprofessional.
3. The Preschool Program promotes development in communication and motor skills, independence and a positive self-concept.
4. The Preschool Program incorporates a written curriculum that is aligned with the Early Learning Content Standards, approved by the Canal Winchester Board of Education and endorsed by the Ohio Department of Education.

5. The Preschool Curriculum includes:

- Numbers Sense and Math
- Language and Literacy
- Readiness and Writing
- Social/Emotional Skills

DAILY ACTIVITIES

The daily activities in the Canal Winchester School District Preschool classrooms will consist of large and small group activities, playtime, and quiet time. A variety of concepts and themes will be explored through hands-on experiences; learning by seeing, hearing, feeling, manipulating objects and play materials. Individual guidance will also be included as deemed necessary through constant monitoring by the teacher of specific areas of concern to the individual child. Group activities will encourage communication between teacher and child as well as between children. Socialization is an important developmental area that will be stressed throughout the preschool day in all activities.

EXAMPLE OF DAILY SCHEDULE:

- Upon arrival at school - Take care of personal belongings, sign-in and a fine motor activity
- Circle Activity: Big Idea-Focus for the day, sharing, songs and movement
- Child-Directed Play (may include): Housekeeping; Play dough; Art; Block play; Library Center; Small Group Activity; Snack; Gross motor activities (outdoor play or gym); Story time; Dismissal

PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES

Parents must provide the following items for the child's use while at preschool:

- A change of clothing appropriate for the weather (shirt, pants, underwear, socks), in a bag or container marked with the child's name.
- Any bathroom needs if the child is not potty trained (diapers, pullups, and wipes) replenished weekly/monthly
- A backpack to go to and from school every day (**big enough to hold a standard size folder**)
- A water bottle (daily) – this will go between home and school, daily
- 1-inch three ring binder

Listed below are items that we always have a need for. If you would like to donate any of the items below, please send them in with your child to his/her classroom.

YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Hand soap – foaming

Disinfecting wipes - Lysol / Clorox

Tissues

Paper towels

Dry Erase Markers

Glue sticks & bottles - Elmer's

Colored pencils

Crayola Crayons – 24 count

Crayola "Classic" Markers - 8 - 10 count

Watercolor paint set - 8 colors

Shaving cream – unscented

Sandwich Baggies - zipper or slider closure

Gallon size baggies - zipper or slider closure

Food items (as requested)
White Paper plates (small and large)

PARENT PARTICIPATION

The Canal Winchester Preschool Program encourages active parent participation in the young child's education. The parent is viewed as the foundation of the child's education on which the CWLSD Preschool Program will build. The following activities will be offered for the support of the family:

- The total family unit will be considered in relation to the child's development and needs. Referrals to outside agencies will be offered if the determination of a need is established.
- Communication between home and school is seen as vital in order to provide adequate care and service while the child is in the school environment. Weekly newsletters and individualized notes will be sent home as necessary.
- Parent/teacher conferences are offered following school district calendars and/or as needed or requested by parent/guardian.
- Parent education and support sessions will be offered throughout the school year on a variety of subjects and interest areas relevant to the young child with special needs.
- The preschool teacher, accompanied by all other members of the team will reach out to families and consult with parents about issues related to the child's progress and how his/her development may be maximized in the home environment. Any parent concerns will also be addressed at this time.

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OUR PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO).

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT/DISCIPLINE

The Canal Winchester Preschool Program provides a safe and nurturing environment by using techniques such as positive reinforcement, praise and redirection. The child's team will work with the family to develop a consistent plan for behavior modification as appropriate. Discipline plans vary based on individual student and classroom needs. The following guidelines are used to help create a safe and structured environment for your child:

- A Preschool staff member in charge of a child or group of children shall be responsible for their discipline.
- Constructive, developmentally appropriate child guidance and management techniques are to be used at all times and shall include such measures as redirection, separation from problem situations, talking with the child about the situation and praise for appropriate behavior.
- The program's actual methods of discipline shall apply to all adults on the premises and shall be restricted as follows:
 1. There shall be no cruel, harsh, corporal punishment or any unusual punishments.
 2. No discipline shall be delegated to a child to give to another child.
 3. Physical restraints may only be used in situations where the student has become a danger to himself or others and less intrusive interventions have not been effective. Physical restraints are prohibited from being used as a form of discipline.
 4. No child shall be placed in a locked room or confined in an enclosed area such as a closet, a box or similar cubicle.
 5. No child shall be subjected to profane language, threats, derogatory remarks about himself or his family or other verbal abuse.

6. Discipline shall not be imposed on a child for failure to eat, failure to sleep or for toileting accidents.
7. Techniques of discipline shall not humiliate, shame or frighten a child.
8. Discipline shall not include withholding food, rest or toilet use.
9. Separation, when used as discipline, shall be brief in duration and appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability and the child shall be within sight and hearing of a Preschool staff member in a safe, lighted and well-ventilated space.
10. The school shall not abuse or neglect children and shall protect children from abuse and neglect while in attendance in the Preschool program.

* This document shall serve as the discipline policy and ALL Preschool staff members shall receive a copy of the program's discipline policy for review.

CHILD GUIDANCE

Children enrolled in the CWLSD Program will be monitored and supervised by responsible, caring staff members. Children who are having difficulty making appropriate choices, following directions and/or who become aggressive will receive immediate guidance from a staff member.

This guidance may include:

1. Redirecting the child to a different play area or activity
2. Time out for appropriate length of time, within sight and hearing of a preschool staff member
3. Loss of time in a preferred activity

The CWLSD Program has procedures to be followed within our program whenever a child is injured as a result of an action by another child. Every situation has unique characteristics and may require special consideration.



CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

As required by law, all school employees and administrators must immediately report any suspicion of abuse or neglect to Children's Services.



FIRE, TORNADO AND SAFETY DRILLS

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. Students will practice fire, tornado and safety drills throughout the school year. Evacuation procedures are posted in each classroom.

SCHOOL DELAYS AND CANCELLATIONS

If it is necessary to close school, the Canal Winchester Local School District will attempt to make this decision as early as possible utilizing an automated phone, email and text system. This program allows the immediate notification to all households and parents of any critical or unplanned event that will cause school cancellation, delay or early dismissal. The school will continue to use radio and television to broadcast school closings and delays due to weather. ****NOTE: While technology is great, sometimes a phone call may roll to your voicemail or a text is delayed due to service area or you may not have updated your contact information therefore we encourage you to also check the local news station for cancellations or delays if you are unsure. We will also post to the district website if there is a cancellation.***

When school is canceled, your child’s preschool teacher will send “learning to go” bags home with students in preparation at the beginning of the winter months for the school year with activities and resources. We will utilize the bags with two days’ worth of activities. If there are more than two days of school cancellations, resulting in preschool being canceled, teachers will create and send home a second round in preparation for future delays. In addition, teachers will reach out to families via ParentSquare on days of cancellation for check-ins, etc.

AUTOMATED CALL SYSTEM STATEMENT

The Canal Winchester School District, in order to provide immediate communication in case of an emergency or school closing, uses an automated call system. ParentSquare allows notification to all households and families, by telephone, of any critical or unplanned event that will cause school cancellation, delay or an early dismissal. Additionally, this system will be used for announcements and reminders during non-school hours. In order to receive these calls PowerSchool online forms must be completed.

Please go over alternate plans for school delays and early dismissals with your child at the beginning of the school year.

2025-2026 IMPORTANT DATES

[Canal Winchester School District Calendar](#)

AUGUST						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER						
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28	29	30				







OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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Semester Grading Periods – MS/HS	
1 st Quarter	8/12/25 – 10/8/25
2 nd Quarter	10/13/25 – 12/19/25
Semester Break	
3 rd Quarter	1/5/26 – 3/13/26
4 th Quarter	3/23/26 – 5/28/26

 Canal Winchester LOCAL SCHOOLS <i>Empowering All Students For Success</i>	
2025-2026 District Calendar	
August 2025	
Aug 4-6	New Staff Work Days
Aug 7	Full Staff Work Day
Aug 8	Professional Development Day
Aug 11	Full Staff Work Day
Aug 12	First Day for Students (staggered starts TBD)
September 2025	
Sept 1	No School – Labor Day
Sept 22	No School – Prof. Development
October 2025	
Oct 8	End 1 st Quarter (MS/HS)
Oct 9-10	No School – Fall Break
Oct 13	Begin 2 nd Quarter (MS/HS)
November 2025	
Nov 3	No School – Conferences (altered hours)
Nov 4	No School – Prof. Development
Nov 7	End 1 st Trimester (IT/WT)
Nov 10	Begin 2 nd Trimester (IT/WT)
Nov 26-28	No School – Thanksgiving Break
December 2025	
Dec 19	End 2 nd Quarter/1 st Semester (MS/HS)
Dec 22-31	No School – Winter Break begins
January 2026	
Jan 1-2	No School – Winter Break cont.
Jan 5	School Resumes/Begin 3 rd Quarter
Jan 19	No School – Martin Luther King Day
February 2026	
Feb 13-16	No School – Presidents' Day Wknd.
Feb 20	End 2 nd Trimester (IT/WT)
Feb 23	Begin 3 rd Trimester (IT/WT)
March 2026	
Mar 6	No School – Prof. Development
Mar 13	End 3 rd Quarter (MS/HS)
Mar 16-20	No School – Spring Break/Eid al-Fitr
Mar 23	Begin 4 th Quarter (MS/HS)
April 2026	
Apr 3-6	No School – Easter Break
May 2026	
May 25	No School – Memorial Day
May 28	Last Day for Students
May 29	Last Day for Teachers

	New Staff Work Day
	No School – Staff Work Day/Prof Development Day
	No School – Holiday or Break
	First Day/Last Day for Students
	End of Trimester/Grading Period – IT/WT
	End of Quarter/Grading Period – MS/HS

JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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29	30	31				

APRIL						
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MAY						
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24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Trimester Grading Periods – IT/WT	
1 st trimester	8/12/25 – 11/7/25
2 nd trimester	11/10/25 – 2/20/26
3 rd trimester	2/23/26 – 5/28/26

Report Cards/Interims (Gr 3-12):
final grades available in PowerSchool the Thursday
following the Quarter/Trimester End Date listed

BOE approved 11/18/24

Preschool will operate Monday-Thursday weekly.

SCHOOL VISITS

Parents are encouraged to keep open communication with their classroom teacher to help answer any questions or concerns. The Preschool program welcomes visitors. However, please arrange a visit with your child's teacher in

advance. **This includes completing the district application for the observational visit.** In order to make sure that visits do not distract students from instruction, we ask that parents adhere to the following procedure:

1. State law requires any person visiting the school to report directly to the office, sign in and secure a visitor's pass. You must show a picture ID to enter the building.
2. Since staff is directly responsible for students, please reserve questions and discussions with classroom personnel for a time when they are not involved with students outside of the observation time. This would require a scheduled meeting between the teacher and parents at a later time.
3. Please refrain from interrupting student routines, as well as talking with your child.

Visitor Requests to Use School Facilities to Provide Private Services

Except in unique circumstances or an isolated instance, schools will not make facilities available for private-service providers, such as doctors, psychologists and therapists, to provide services to students at school – either in person or remotely. Parents may remove their children from school to receive private services off campus. However, parents are encouraged to schedule private services at a time that does not conflict with the student's school day.

CONFIDENTIALITY

DIRECTORY INFORMATION NOTICE: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Canal Winchester Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's/guardian's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAS) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories - names, addresses and telephone listings - unless parents/guardians have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. If you do not want Canal Winchester Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing. The District has designated the following as directory information: student's name, major field of study, dates of attendance, current grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight of a member of an athletic team, date of graduation, honors and awards received, and the current and previous educational institution attended by the student. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the district to include this type of information in certain publications such as: a playbill, showing your student's role in drama or musical productions, yearbook, honor roll or other recognition list, and graduation programs.

STUDENT RECORDS: Teachers, counselors and administrative staff keep many student records. There are two basic kinds of records - confidential records and directory information. The Records Control Officer for the district is responsible for the processing and maintenance of all student records.

Confidential records contain education and behavioral information that has restricted access based on the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Ohio law. This information can only be released with the written consent of the parents/guardians, the adult student or a surrogate. The only exception to this is to comply with State and Federal laws that may require release without consent. Included in the confidential records may be test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary actions and communications with the family and outside service providers. The school must have the parent's/guardian's written consent to obtain records from an outside professional or agency. Confidential information that is in a student's record that originates from an outside professional or agency may be released to the parent/guardian through the originator. Parents/guardians should keep copies of such records for their home file. Parents/guardians may also provide the school with copies of records made

by non-school professional agencies or individuals. Information on former students also falls into directory and confidential information categories and will be made available on the same basis as enrolled students. Students and parents/guardians have the right to review educational records generated by the school district, request amendment to these records, insert addendum to records and obtain copies of such records. Copying costs may be charged to the requestor. If a review of records is wanted, please contact the building principal in writing stating the records desired. The records will be collected and an appointment will be made with the appropriate persons present to answer any questions there may be.

PHOTOGRAPHY/PUBLICATION DISCLAIMER: During the course of the school year, pictures, videotapes, etc., containing your child's image may be used in newspaper articles, television stories, newsletters, brochures, school web pages, yearbooks, promotional products and other similar publications. If you **DO NOT** want your child's image published in the manner described above, please notify the office **in writing** as soon as possible and then verify with us that we have received your request. You must submit a written notice to the office at the beginning of each school year.

INDIAN TRAIL FACULTY AND STAFF

* For a list of all faculty and staff members, please visit <https://indiantrail.cwschools.org/about/staff-directory>

Important Phone Numbers

ITES Office	833-2154
ITES Fax	833-2167
Board Office	837-4533
School Counseling	833-2166
Transportation	833-2164

PARENT MEETINGS

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled two times during the school year on parent teacher conference nights. These meetings are meant to help keep open lines of communication between parent and teacher. If additional time or conferences are needed, arrangements may be made through the teacher. Information sheets and online access, to schedule a meeting, will be sent home with students prior to these scheduled conference dates. In addition, annual **IEP conferences** are held for all students with special needs. These conferences will be scheduled by the teacher and include the IEP team.

PROGRAM LICENSE

The Preschool Program is inspected and licensed by the Ohio Department of Education. Our license and letter of inspection are displayed in the preschool areas. Copies of inspection and compliance reports of the program are available to parents upon request.

