

**South River Early Learning Center/Educational Annex
& Primary School**

South River, New Jersey 08882
908- 356-5803

Dr. Heather Lieberman
Principal

Mrs. Karissa Disney
Assistant Principal

2026- 2027 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Dear Prospective South River Preschool Parents & Guardians;

South River Public Schools will once again be conducting a free full day preschool program funded by the New Jersey Department of Education. The program is conducted by the South River School District, and is offered to three and four-year-old children that reside in South River. Please note the following important information related to the application process for the 2026-2027 school year:

Space is limited; submission of an application does not guarantee placement in the program. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available vacancies, children will be placed on a wait list.

Children who will be 3 or 4 years old by or on October 1, 2026 are eligible to apply. The child and family **must** reside in the South River.

The program is offered on the South River School District Campus at either; the Primary School, The Early Learning Center, or the Educational Annex. Head Start will be offered either at their South Amboy location or the Educational Annex depending on enrollment. If the Head Start program is offered in South Amboy transportation from South River will be provided.

Students who meet the eligibility criteria for enrollment in the Acelero Head Start program will automatically be enrolled in that program (subject to registration requirements being met) until all available seats in that program are filled. When acceptance letters for the Preschool Program are mailed, accepted Acelero Head Start families will be notified of that fact. Individuals who do not get a seat in Acelero Head Start will be identified as ‘Acelero Eligible’ and will be offered the next available seat in Acelero when and if one becomes available.

Children currently enrolled in the preschool program who do not meet the age requirements for Kindergarten will be eligible to continue the preschool program for the 2026 – 2027 school year; no registration is required.

Applications for consideration must be received by the Preschool Secretary, located at the Early Learning Center by close-of-business on **Friday, April 24, 2026**. You may mail in your application. Please send it to: 19 Montgomery Street, South River, NJ 08882

Applications will be reviewed for correctness and completeness by the Preschool Secretary when they are submitted. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. If problems are found in your application, you may receive a call from the Preschool Secretary, who will attempt to reconcile the matter over the phone. Please ensure you include correct telephone numbers and email addresses on your application.

If your child is selected for the 2026-2027 South River Public Schools Preschool Program, you will be notified by **Friday, May 29, 2026** and a letter with the registration process will be provided to you. Students not selected will automatically be placed on the program's 'Wait List' in the order applications were received.

Once accepted into either program, parents must complete the required registration process for the South River Public Schools District by **July 31, 2026**. Failure to do so may result in the loss of a seat in the program. Until registration is successfully submitted and processed the child will not be allowed to attend the program, and no teacher will be assigned.

Any child who departs the program, and seeks to re-enter will be placed on the 'Waitlist' in the order they requested to be considered, pending a vacancy in the program being identified.

Attendance:

To accept placement in our Pre-K program, families must commit to **full-day attendance, five days a week whenever school is in session**. Because the program is designed as a consistent, daily learning experience, we are not able to accommodate partial-day schedules or attendance for only certain days of the week. Children must be dropped off for the **entire school day** each day school is open in order to maintain their placement.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us. We can be reached at 908-356-5803.

Thank you,
Dr. Heather Lieberman, Principal
Mrs. Karissa Disney, Assistant Principal