Halifax County Schools Welcome to Pre-Kindergarten

Dr. Eric Cunningham, Superintendent
Dr. Tyrana Battle, Assistant Superintendent

2025-2026 School Year

Halifax County Schools
CHARTING A NEW COURSE TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

Halifax County Schools

Pre- Kindergarten

Parent Handbook

2025-2026 School Year

Welcome to Halifax County Schools Pre-Kindergarten Program. What an exciting year we have ahead of us! Halifax
County Schools District is “Charting a New Course” to Student Achievement. Your child’s prekindergarten experience will be filled with many classroom adventures. We’ve established a partnership with NC Pre-K and Title I Programs, to provide the children of Halifax County Schools District, a free quality-prekindergarten experience.

Each of the district’s elementary schools houses a pre-kindergarten program for the purpose of exposing young children to an educational environment, prior to their attending regular kindergarten. Pre-kindergarten is a classroom-based preschool program. The pre-k staff will assist your child with becoming acclimated to the school day and classroom routines, during the first three weeks of schools.

Halifax County Schools’ Pre-K classrooms are age-appropriate and structured for learning through play, literacy and numeracy.

The classroom arrangement provides for positive behavior, and hands-on activities, which gives pre-kindergarteners a sense of routine and familiarity for a smooth kindergarten transition. We are” Striving for Five, before They’re Five”, which includes:

1. Approaches to play and learning;
2. Emotional and social development;
3. Health and physical development;
4. Language development and communication
5. Cognitive development.

The pre-k staff consists of caring teachers and administrators. Halifax County Schools' Pre-K Program is monitored by the Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) and NC Pre-K requirements.

Research states, "The first few years of life are critical for a child's cognitive development and learning. Evaluations of well-run prekindergarten programs have found that children exposed to high-quality early education were less likely to drop out of school, repeat grades, or need special education, compared with similar children who did not have such exposure" (Barnett, 1998).

This handbook is designed to help you understand the operational logistics of Halifax County Schools NC Pre-K/Title 1 Program partnership. Please read through this handbook, and reference it as a guide to help you organize your pre-kindergartener's school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric L. Cunningham, Superintendent

A Child's Eight Commandments to Parents

1. My hands are small: please don't expect perfection whenever I make a bed, draw a picture or throw a ball. My legs are short; please slow down so I can keep up with you.

2. My eyes have not seen the world as you; please let me explore safely. Don't restrict me unnecessarily.

3. Housework will always be there. I'm only little for a short-time . Please take time to explain things to me about this wonderful world and do so willingly.

4. My feelings are tender; please be sensitive to my needs; don't nag me all day long. (You wouldn't want to be nagged for your inquisitiveness.) Treat me as you would like to be treated.

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A Child's Eight Commandments to Parents

5. I need your encouragement to grow. Please go easy on the criticism; remember you can criticize the things I do without criticizing me.

6. Please give me freedom to make decisions concerning myself. Permit me to fail, so that I can learn from my mistakes. Then someday I'll be prepared to make the kind of decisions life requires.

7. Please don't do things over for me. Somehow that makes me feel my efforts didn't quite measure up to expectations. I know it's hard, but please don't try to compare me with my brother or sister.

8. Please don't be afraid to leave for a weekend together. Kids need vacations from parents, just as parents need vacations from kids.

Adapted from Kevin Leman's A Child's Ten Commandments to Parents.

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We Love Pre-K!

North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning

- Approaches to Play and Learning
- Emotional and Social
- Language Development
- Physical Development
- Cognitive Development

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NC Pre-K Locations

- Our district has 5 Pre-Kindergarten Classes.
- 18 maximum enrollment per class
- Aurelian Springs Institute of Global Learning
- Everetts Elementary S.T.E.M. Academy
- Hollister Elementary Leadership Academy
- Inborden Elementary S.T.E.A.M. Academy
- Scotland Neck Elementary Leadership Academy

School Attendance

Parents and guardians are responsible for having students present at school each day. When a child is absent, please send a note stating the reason for absence, date and parents' signature. No note will result in an unexcused absence. The note should be sent to school on the day student returns to school. Absences from school will be excused for the following reasons:

- Student illness
- Religious holidays
- Death in immediate family
- Family emergencies

LEARNING TODAY
LEADING TOMORROW!

Absences

3 consecutive absences and /or tardies for any reason, the teacher will make contact with parent.

If contact is not made,teacher will inform school social worker, who will do a home visit.

Ten unexcused absences jeopardizes your child's slot in the program.

Illness

If your child has a fever, earache, vomiting, diarrhea, runny nose that is green or yellow, Please keep your child at home.

If your child comes to school sick, please make plans to pick them up, we will call if your child is sick:This keeps all of our students safe.

A child may not return to school until he/she is fever free without medication for 24 hours.

Transportation

Our first concern is the child's safety as he/she travels to and from school.

The district offers transportation to students who live in the district.

All Pre-k students must be put on the bus by an adult and received off the bus by an adult. If no adult is present, the student will be returned to the school.

If the student is a car rider when someone else besides the parent is picking student up, please send a written note to teacher, The person picking up child will be required to show I.D.

Student Supply List

Bookbag

Change of clothes

Blanket

Teacher may share wishlist with you

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Parent Involvement

Join PTA

Join Class dojo

Join Ready-Rosie

Attend school functions

Chaperone on field trips

Ask Principals /Teachers how you can get involved

Come Grow
With us!