Inspiring Every Child to Achieve

PHOENIX #1 Elementary School District

Early Learning Family Handbook

2026-2027

Preschool Principals

Faith North Principal: Angela Edington
Email: angela.edington@phxschools.org
Office: 602-523-8756
Cell: 602-723-6203 (Call or Text)

Emerson Principal: Nadine Gofonia
Email: nadine.gofonia@phxschools.org
Office: 602-253-8630

Kenilworth Principal: Anthony Pietrangeli
Email: anthony.pietrangeli@phxschools.org
Office: 602-257-3890

Lowell Principal: Dana Ramos
Email: dana.ramos@phxschools.org
Office: 602-257-6389

Preschool Hours

Faith North ECLC

- AM Session: 8:45-11:45 (M, T, TH, F)
- PM Session: 12:45-3:45 (M, T, TH, F)
- No School Wednesday

Emerson and Lowell

- 8:15-2:15 (M, T, TH, F)
- 8:15-2:15 (W)

Kenilworth

- 7:30-1:30 (M, T, TH, F)
- 7:30-12:30 (W)

Office Managers:

Faith North: Andres Alvarado: 602-257-3901
Kenilworth: Christina Munoz: 602-257-3978
Emerson: Itzel Camacho-Caro: 602-257-3908
Lowell: Mary Ruby Garcia: 602-257-3902

Transportation: 602-257-3929

Use the QR Code to access the video of the Family Handbook

Dear Faith North Families,

Welcome to Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center—where our youngest learners begin their journey with curiosity, compassion, and joy! I am honored to serve as the principal of a program so deeply rooted in fostering a love for learning for all students, and a strong commitment to family and community partnerships.

Faith North is proud to be recognized as a **4-Star Quality First site,** a reflection of our dedication to providing the highest quality preschool experience for every child. This achievement highlights our commitment to developmentally appropriate practices, specially designed instruction to meet the needs of all young learners, and trusting relationships that support the whole child.

At Faith North, we are dedicated and are here to walk alongside you to support, listen, and collaborate so that together, we can ensure your child's success. Our educators are passionate, highly qualified, and passionate about meeting your child's individual needs in a safe, engaging, and nurturing environment.

Open and frequent communication is a cornerstone of our program. Whether it's a check-in at drop-off, a family event, or a more formal conversation, please know that we welcome and value your voice as an essential part of our school community.

Faith North is more than just a school, it is a family. When your child joins our program, your whole family becomes a part of something special. We are thrilled to begin this year with you and look forward to all the moments of growth, laughter, and learning that await.

With gratitude and excitement,

Angela Edington

Statement of Child Care Services

Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC) is committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate learning environment for young children and their families. This Statement of Child Care Services is developed in accordance with Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) licensing regulations and the Faith North Early Learning Family Handbook 2025–2026.

Child Care Service Classifications

Faith North ECLC provides the following child care service classifications in accordance with R9-5-204:

- Preschool Child Care for Three-Year-Old and Four-Year-Old Children
- Special Education Preschool Services
- Transportation Services for Eligible Students with Disabilities as determined by an Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Hours of Operation

Faith North ECLC preschool sessions operate according to the district preschool calendar.

- Morning Session: 8:45 AM – 11:45 AM (M, T, TH, F)
- Afternoon Session: 12:45 PM – 3:45 PM (M, T, TH, F)
- No School Wednesday

Office hours may vary based on district operations and school schedules.

Facility Information

Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC)
910 E. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85034

Office Phone: 602-257-3901
Principal Office: 602-523-8756

Mailing Address:
Faith North ECLC
910 E. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85034

Child Enrollment and Disenrollment Procedures

Enrollment Procedures

Prior to enrollment:

- Children participate in a preschool screening.
- Families complete enrollment paperwork and provide required documentation including:
    - Birth certificate
    - Immunization records
    - Proof of address

    - Emergency contact information
    - Health information and applicable medical documentation

Children must:

- Be 3 or 4 years old by September 1;
- Reside within Phoenix Elementary School District #1 boundaries unless approved through open enrollment; and
- Be fully toilet trained unless accommodations are identified through an IEP or Section 504 Plan.

Disenrollment Procedures

Families requesting withdrawal must complete disenrollment paperwork through the front office. Disenrollment may occur:

- Upon family request;
- Following 10 consecutive unexcused absences; or
- Due to program safety or policy concerns.

Families who move outside district boundaries may apply for open enrollment based on available program capacity.

Charges, Fees, and Payment Requirements

Faith North ECLC is a tuition-free preschool program and no service fees are required for enrolled students.

Additional district preschool tuition programs at Emerson, Lowell, and Kenilworth include:

- Monthly tuition
- Daily and half-day rates
- Registration fees
- Payment requirements through Procare
- Applicable late fees

Eligible families may apply for:

- DES Child Care Assistance
- Quality First Scholarships for tuition assistance

Child Admission and Release Requirements

Children may only be released to:

- A parent/legal guardian; or
- Individuals authorized by the parent in writing.

Staff verify identification before releasing a child. Attendance and child location are monitored throughout the school day.

For early pick-up:

- Authorized adults must report to the office and sign out the child.
- Identification will be checked before release.

Positive Discipline Guidelines

Faith North ECLC implements Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and the Pyramid Model to support social-emotional development and positive behavior.

School-wide expectations are:
- Be Kind
- Be Safe

Positive guidance strategies include:
- Modeling appropriate behavior
- Redirection
- Positive reinforcement
- Teaching self-regulation skills
- Clear and consistent expectations
- Visual supports and reminders
- Problem-solving instruction

Prohibited discipline practices include:
- Corporal punishment
- Humiliation or shaming
- Threats or intimidation
- Withholding food, rest, or bathroom access

Staff work collaboratively with families to support children's behavioral and emotional needs.

Transportation Procedures

Transportation services may be provided for eligible students, including students with disabilities receiving transportation through their IEP.

Transportation procedures include:
- Supervision during transport
- Attendance verification
- Bus evacuation drills twice annually
- Release of students only to authorized adults
- Procedures for missed bus drop-offs and emergency contact notification

Families are responsible for:
- Being present at bus stops
- Maintaining updated transportation information
- Notifying transportation regarding absences or changes

Field Trip Requirements and Procedures

Field trips are educational experiences planned to enhance classroom learning.

Requirements include:
- Superintendent approval prior to the trip

- Parent notification at least two weeks in advance
- Signed permission forms for participation
- Appropriate supervision ratios
- Emergency supplies and class rosters accompanying staff

Additional procedures:
- Transportation and meals may be provided depending on trip details
- Family volunteers must be at least 18 years old
- Siblings are not permitted on field trips

Parent Responsibilities and Participation

Faith North ECLC values family engagement and collaboration.

Families are encouraged to:
- Participate in PTO activities and school events
- Volunteer in classrooms and school functions
- Attend conferences and family engagement events
- Communicate regularly with school staff
- Support school attendance and routines

Each family is encouraged to complete a volunteer commitment through:
- Volunteer hours;
- Donations; or
- Take-home projects.

General Description of Activities and Programs

Faith North ECLC provides developmentally appropriate, play-based instruction that supports the whole child. The program incorporates:
- Creative Curriculum
- Second Step Social Emotional Learning
- Learning Without Tears

Children participate in experiences that support:
- Social-emotional development
- Language and literacy
- Mathematics
- Science and technology
- Physical development
- Fine arts
- Social studies
- Kindergarten readiness

Instruction includes hands-on learning, specially designed instruction, accommodations, and inclusive practices to support all learners.

Liability Insurance

Faith North ECLC carries the liability insurance required by Arizona State Statutes and R9-5-308.

Documentation of liability insurance coverage is available for review upon request at the facility.

Medication Administration Procedures

Prescription and non-prescription medications:

- Must be brought to school by an adult;
- Must remain in original labeled containers;
- Require written parent authorization; and
- Are stored in the nurse's office or school office.

Students may not carry medication on their person unless authorized by law and district procedures.

Accident and Emergency Procedures

Faith North ECLC maintains emergency procedures for:

- Fire evacuation
- Lockdowns
- Medical emergencies
- Bus evacuations
- Shelter-in-place situations

Emergency drills are conducted regularly:

- Monthly fire drills
- Quarterly lockdown drills
- Semiannual bus evacuation drills

Families are notified regarding illnesses, injuries, accidents, or emergencies involving their child.

Inspection Reports

Facility inspection reports are available on-site for review during regular hours of operation.

Arizona Department of Health Services Regulation

Faith North ECLC is regulated by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Bureau of Child Care Licensing.

Arizona Department of Health Services
Bureau of Child Care Licensing
150 North 18th Avenue, Suite 400
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Phone: (602) 364-2539

Pesticide Notification Procedures

The school posts notification at the front entrance of the school office at least 48 hours before pesticides are applied on the premises.

Parent Access to Facility Areas

Parents have access to areas on facility premises where their enrolled child receives child care services during operational hours, consistent with school safety procedures and visitor requirements.

Suspension and Expulsion Policies and Procedures

Faith North ECLC is committed to preventing suspension and expulsion through proactive and supportive practices.

Prevention strategies include:

- PBIS and Pyramid Model implementation
- Social-emotional instruction
- Positive relationships
- Predictable routines
- Individualized supports and accommodations
- Collaboration with families and specialists
- Behavior intervention strategies and coaching

Program expectations are:

- Be Kind
- Be Safe

Suspension or expulsion may only be considered when:

- A child presents an immediate safety risk to self or others; or
- The program cannot safely meet the child's needs despite documented interventions and supports.

Whenever possible, the school will collaborate with families to identify additional supports and resources before considering removal from the program.

Bringing Toys from Home

To help maintain a safe and focused learning environment, we ask that families do not send toys from home with their child to school. Personal toys can become lost or damaged and may cause distractions or conflicts among students.

Each classroom is thoughtfully stocked with a variety of developmentally appropriate toys and materials for students to explore, create, and learn throughout the day.

Homework Philosophy

At this stage of your child's development, we do not assign or encourage traditional homework. We believe young children learn best through meaningful play, everyday interactions, and relationships. Families are encouraged to support learning by reading together, talking and narrating daily activities, engaging in play with

peers and family members, and involving children in simple household tasks. These experiences help build language, social skills, curiosity, and a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Suicide Prevention

Protecting the health and well being of all students is of utmost importance to Phoenix #1. The school board has adopted a suicide prevention policy, IHAMD © INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING IN SUICIDE PREVENTION, which will help to protect students through the following steps:

● Staff will learn about recognizing and responding to warning signs of suicide in students, accessing and utilizing systems of support and seeking help for students. Staff that work with students grades 6-8 will attend an evidenced based professional development at minimum every three years.

● Phoenix #1 has designated a suicide prevention coordinator, the Coordinator of Social Services & Wellness as a point of contact for district coordination. The school social worker/counselor and psychologist serve as a point of contact for students in crisis and refer students to appropriate resources.

● When a student is identified as being at-risk, a risk assessment will be completed by a trained mental health district staff member, a school social worker/ counselor or psychologist. As soon as safety is established with the student the parent/ guardian/ caretaker will be contacted. The school social worker/ counselor or psychologist will work with the student and family to ensure a safety plan is in place as well as help connect them to appropriate local resources.

● Students and families will have access to national and local resources that they can contact for additional support, such as:

○ 988, Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

○ Crisis Text Line: Text TALK to 741-741

○ Teen Lifeline, 602-248-8336 (TEEN), text or call

○ Local Crisis Response Hotline, 602-222-9444

All school staff and students will be expected to help create a school culture of respect and support, in which students feel comfortable seeking help for themselves or friends. Students are encouraged to tell any staff member if they or a friend are feeling suicidal, or are in need of help.

While confidentiality and privacy are important, students should know when there is a risk of suicide, safety comes first. While family and parental rights are important, student safety will take priority when a risk has been identified. Once a student's safety is secure the family/parent will be immediately contacted. For a detailed review of policy changes, please see the district’s full suicide prevention policy.

Quality First – Star Rating System

At Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center, we are proud to be rated a ✯✯✯✯ **Four-Star** program by **Quality First**, Arizona's quality improvement and rating system for early care and education programs. This rating reflects our ongoing commitment to excellence in providing nurturing, developmentally appropriate learning environments for all children.

What is Quality First?
Quality First is a program of **First Things First** that partners with preschools and child care providers to enhance the quality of early learning in Arizona. Programs like ours receive coaching, resources, and support to ensure continuous quality improvement.

What Do Star Ratings Mean?
Programs are assessed using research-based tools that look at key components of quality, including:

- Safe, healthy environments
- Qualified and caring teachers
- Meaningful teacher-child interactions
- Engaging, age-appropriate learning materials
- Ongoing child assessments and communication with families

Each participating program receives a **Star Rating from 1 to 5 stars**, with 5 stars being the highest quality. Programs are reassessed every 1–2 years to maintain and improve quality.

Why Star Ratings Matter:
Star Ratings provide families with an easy-to-understand guide to help them make informed decisions when choosing a preschool. More importantly, they reflect a program's commitment to preparing children for success in school and in life.

Star Rating Levels:
✯✯✯✯✯ **Five Stars – Highest Quality**: Far exceeds quality standards (Emerson)
✯✯✯✯ **Four Stars – Quality Plus**: Exceeds quality standards (Kenilworth, Faith North)
✯✯✯ **Three Stars – Quality**: Meets quality standards
✯✯ **Two Stars – Progressing Star**: Approaching quality standards
✯ **One Star – Rising Star**: Committed to quality improvement

Faith North FREE Preschool Program

Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center
910 E Washington St. Phoenix AZ 85034
Office: 602-257-3901

Teacher/Maestra	Phone Number Número de Teléfono	Room Number Numero de Salon	Email
Lakeisha Smith	602-523-5955	147	lakeisha.smith@phxschools.org
Emily Carroll	602-523-5916	114	emily.carroll@phxschools.org
Daisy Andrade	602-523-5883	117	d.andrade1@phxschools.org
Leena Colter	602-523-5890	123	leena.colter@phxschools.org
Renee McGuire	602-523-8940	116	kristine.mcguire@phxschools.org
Kami Olsson	602-523-5866	146	kami.olsson@phxschools.org
Jayden Hair	602-523-5863	115	jayden.hair@phxschools.org
Samantha Mensack	602-322-4755	101	samantha.mensack@phxschools.org
Kelly Holt	602-523-8953	104	kelly.holt@phxschools.org
Cecilia Adame Robles	602-523-8720	100	cecilia.adame.robles@phxschools.org

Faith North Staff

Name	Position	Phone #	Email
Angela Edington	Principal	602-523-8756	angela.edington@phxschools.org
Andres Alvarado	Office Manger	602-257-3901	andres.alvarado@phxschools.org
Maeve Drake-Lavelle	Master Teacher	602-523-8756	maeve.drake-lavelle@phxschools.org
Christina Magruuder	ESS Teacher	602-523-5953	christina.magruder@phxschools.org
Xitiana Edgerton-Benitez	Nurse	602-523-5885	xitiana.edgerton-benitez@phxschools.org
Bernadette Duguay	Social Worker	602-523-8628	bernadette.duguay@phxschools.org
Marisa Brito	Child Find	602-257-3808	m.brito@phxschools.org

Enrollment Criteria:

- Your child is 3 or 4 years old by 9/1.
- Your family lives within Phoenix Elementary School District boundaries.
- Your child must be fully toilet trained.
- Your child is required to participate in a preschool screening prior to being accepted and enrolled in the program.

Faith North Calendar

FAITH NORTH

Early Childhood Learning Center

July 2026 - June 2027

July 2026

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August 2026

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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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January 2027

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February 2027

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March 2027

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April 2027

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May 2027

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June 2027

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Legend	
	School Recess
	Staff Professional Development Day - No Students
	New Staff Welcome Week
	District Closed / No School
	Teacher Beginning and End Work Days
	First and Last Day of School
	40th Day
	100th Day
#	Legal Holiday

Instructional Days
40th Day: 10/19/2026
100th Day: 2/25/2027
Days Taught: 147

Federal Holidays
July 4, 2026 - Independence Day
September 7, 2026 - Labor Day
November 11, 2026 - Veterans Day
November 26, 2026 - Thanksgiving Day
December 25, 2026 - Christmas Day
January 18, 2027 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15, 2027 - Presidents' Day
May 31, 2027 - Memorial Day
June 19, 2027 - Juneteenth

Revised 10/28/2024

Tuition Preschool Programs

Kenilworth Elementary School
1210 N 5th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85003
Office: 602-257-3889

Teacher/Maestra	Phone Number Número de Teléfono	Room Number Numero de Salon	Email
Rosa Vargas	602-523-5816	161	rosa.vargas@phxschools.org

Emerson Elementary School
915 E Palm Ln, Phoenix, AZ 85006
Office: 602-257-3853

Teacher/Maestra	Phone Number Número de Teléfono	Room Number Numero de Salon	Email
Renata Bitoy	602-523-8972	201	renata.bitoy@phxschools.org

Lowell Elementary School
1210 N 5th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85003
Office: (602) 257-3902

Teacher/Maestra	Phone Number Número de Teléfono	Room Number Numero de Salon	Email
Lilia Rubio		200	lilia.rubio@phxschools.org

Enrollment Criteria

- Your child must be 4 by 9/1.
- Your child must be fully toilet trained.
- Your child is required to participate in a preschool screening prior to being accepted and enrolled in the program.

Charges, Fees and Payments

- **Faith North ECLC** is a **tuition-free preschool program.** No service fees are required.
- **Emerson, Lowell, and Kenilworth:**
  - Monthly Tuition: $750
    - Daily Rate: $37.50
    - Half Daily Rate: $25
  - Registration Fee: $25
  - Phoenix #1 Employees receive a 10% tuition discount and a waived registration fee
  - Late fees apply starting on the 9th day of the month.
  - All payments will be made with Procare

Family Assistance and Scholarships

- Emerson, Kenilworth and Lowell are DES child care provider sites
- We offer families that are eligible for Quality First Scholarships (Emerson, Kenilworth) to assist with tuition.

Emerson, Lowell, and Kenilworth Preschool Calendar

Inspiring Every Child to Achieve

PHOENIX #1 Elementary School District

July 2026 - June 2027

July 2026

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August 2026

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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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January 2027

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February 2027

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March 2027

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April 2027

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May 2027

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June 2027

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Revised 10/28/2025

Legend

- School Recess
- Staff Professional Development Day - No Students
- New Staff Welcome Week
- District Closed / No School
- Teacher Beginning and End Work Days
- Family / Student / Teacher Conferences
- Quarter Start
- Quarter End
- Early Release Day
- First and Last Day of Preschool
- First and Last Day of School (Kindergarten - 8th grade)
- 40th Day
- 100th Day
- # Legal Holiday

Family / Student / Teacher Conferences

October 22-23, 2026	April 1-2, 2027
January 28-29, 2027	

Weekly Early Release Schedule

August: 5, 12, 19, 26	January: 13, 27, 28, 29
September: 2, 16, 23, 30	February: 3, 10, 24
October: 21, 22, 23, 28	March: 3, 24, 31
November: 4, 18	April: 1, 2, 7, 14, 21, 28
December: 2, 9, 16	May: 5, 12, 19, 25

Quarters

Quarter 1: 8/3/26 - 10/1/256 (43 Days)	Quarter 3: 1/6/27 - 3/18/26 (45 Days)
Quarter 2: 10/2/26 - 12/18/26 (44 Days)	Quarter 4: 3/19/27 - 5/25/26 (48 Days)

Final Grade Submissions Window

1st Quarter Window: 9/23/26 - 10/1/26	3rd Quarter Window: 3/3/27 - 3/18/27
2nd Quarter Window: 12/10/26 - 12/18/26	4th Quarter Window: 5/17/27 - 5/25/27

Instructional Days

40th Day: Kindergarten - 8th (10/28/26)	Preschool (10/13/2026)
100th Day: Kindergarten - 8th (1/22/27)	Preschool (1/29/2027)
Days Taught: 180	

Federal Holidays

- July 4, 2026 - Independence Day
- September 7, 2026 - Labor Day
- November 11, 2026 - Veterans Day
- November 26, 2026 - Thanksgiving Day
- December 25, 2026 - Christmas Day
- January 18, 2027 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 15, 2027 - Presidents' Day
- May 31, 2027 - Memorial Day
- June 19, 2027 - Juneteenth

Before and After School Care

- Before and after school care is offered at the Y-Academy at Monterey Park for Faith North and Shaw preschool students and after school care at Emerson, Lowell, and Kenilworth for a fee.
- If you are interested in registering at the Y-Academy, you will need to contact them directly. Phoenix Elementary School District#1 does not participate in the registration process for the Y-Academy.
- Phoenix Elementary School District #1 transportation is available for students attending the Y before and after school.
- If your child is enrolled at Faith North and they will attend the Y-Academy they will be enrolled in the AM session and be transported to the Y-Academy after dismissal.

Early Learning Vision, Mission and Philosophy

Vision

"At Faith North we strive to provide equitable, accessible, inclusive and innovative learning opportunities for all students and school community members."

Mission

"Phoenix #1 provides families with the emotional, behavioral and academic support, tools, and knowledge to help build connections in their homes and communities through the use of innovative, child-centered, quality programs. We work in collaboration with parents to foster every child's learning potential to ensure equitable access to meaningful learning opportunities for all."

Early Learning Curriculum Philosophy

At Faith North Early Childhood Learning Center, our preschool curriculum is rooted in the belief that young children learn best through **developmentally appropriate**, **play-based, hands-on experiences** that support the **development of the whole child**. We are committed to creating an **inclusive, nurturing,** and **positive environment** where every child feels safe, a sense of belonging, valued, and empowered to learn and thrive. Our highly qualified staff implements **specially designed instruction**, **predictable** and **consistent routines**, **accommodations** and **scaffolds** to meet the diverse needs of all learners ensuring access to the curriculum. Our approach integrates a strong foundation in **social-emotional learning**, helping children build self-awareness, empathy, and healthy relationships. By fostering and developing **trusting connections with students, families and the community**, we successfully establish a strong foundation for lifelong learning and success for each of our young learners.

Instruction Focused on the Development of the Whole Child

Our curriculum is designed to support the whole child through hands-on learning, inclusion, and developmentally appropriate experiences. Below is an overview of the key learning areas your child will explore in our program:

🌟 Social & Emotional Development

Children learn to build friendships, cooperate with others, and manage their emotions. Teachers use positive guidance strategies—such as modeling behavior, setting clear limits, and redirection—to help children develop self-control, empathy, and confidence.

📚 Language & Literacy

We foster early reading and writing skills by encouraging rich conversations, storytelling, listening, and meaningful interactions. Children explore books, sounds, and print in fun, engaging ways that build vocabulary and communication skills.

🔢 Math & Logical Thinking

Through hands-on activities with real objects, children learn to sort, count, measure, and recognize patterns. These early math experiences build the foundation for problem-solving and critical thinking.

🎨 Fine Arts

Art, music, pretend play, and creative movement give children ways to express themselves and make sense of the world. Through these activities, children grow their imagination, creativity, and communication skills.

🏃 Physical Development & Health

Daily movement activities like jumping, balancing, and climbing help children develop strength and coordination. Fine motor skills are strengthened through tasks like buttoning, drawing, and puzzles. We promote healthy habits, safety, and hygiene as part of our daily routine.

🧠 Approaches to Learning

Children are encouraged to take initiative, explore new ideas, and stay engaged in tasks. We support curiosity, persistence, and the confidence to take risks and solve problems through independent and group activities.

🌍 Social Studies

Children learn about themselves, their families, and the community. They begin to understand routines, responsibilities, and the importance of fairness and safety through play and real-world experiences.

🔬 Science & Technology

Young learners investigate the world through observation, exploration, and asking questions. Activities are designed to promote curiosity about nature, cause and effect, and how things work in everyday life.

Preschool Curriculum

The Creative Curriculum®

- Creative Curriculum is a researched based, developmentally appropriate early childhood curriculum that supports active and hands-on learning and promotes progress in all developmental areas using a studies-based approach. Creative Curriculum is designed to be adapted to meet the needs of all our young learners at their current academic, communication and social emotional level.
- For additional information: www.teachingstrategies.com

Second Step®

- Second Step is a developmentally appropriate holistic approach to building supportive communities for every child through social emotional learning. Social-emotional learning (SEL) concepts provide an extra dimension to education, focusing on improving cooperation, communication, and decision-making. In a world where emotional intelligence is critical for lifelong happiness, successful careers, and healthier relationships, SEL gives students a framework for developing these skills.
- Children need social-emotional skills to thrive both in the classroom and in life. Social-emotional learning (SEL) curricula teach children techniques to:
    - Gain confidence
    - Set goals
    - Make better decisions
    - Collaborate with others in work and play
    - Navigate the world more effectively
- For additional information: www.secondstep.org

LEARNING Without Tears™

- Learning Without Tears eases young learners into their communication journeys with an intentionally designed curriculum. Students build pre-writing and emergent writing skills developmentally through engaging, hands-on, play-based activities. Lessons address general readiness, pre-writing, alphabet knowledge, letter and number recognition, capital and lowercase letter formation, counting, drawing shapes and colors.
- For additional information: https://www.lwtears.com

Preschool Assessment

Initial Screening

Benchmark Assessment

IEP Goals Progress Monitoring

- Our preschool program uses **Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment System** for our authentic, ongoing observational system for assessing children progress throughout the school year and their time enrolled in our preschool program.

- Teachers observe children in the context of everyday experiences where they effectively learn about and evaluate what each student knows, understands and can do.

- The comprehensive assessment includes all developmental areas (social–emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and math) ensuring an accurate and developmentally appropriate evaluation of students at all ages and levels.

- Student assessment data (observational anecdotes, student work samples, photographs etc.) is collected daily and analyzed weekly by staff to intentionally develop lesson plans and specially designed and differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all learners.

- Families will receive a report regarding their child's progress at Teacher and Family Conferences (October, February, May).

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)

At Faith North, we believe all children thrive in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment. That's why we use Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) along with the Pyramid Model, a research-based framework that promotes healthy social-emotional development for all young children.

What is PBIS?

PBIS is a school-wide and district approach to teaching and encouraging positive behaviors. We intentionally teach and celebrate children when they make safe, kind, and helpful choices. **PBIS** is not a curriculum or a discipline policy—it's a way of working together as a team to create a positive and predictable learning environment for all.

What is the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model supports young children's social and emotional skills, like making friends, sharing, expressing feelings, and solving problems and supports and reinforces the **PBIS** framework. It helps us build strong relationships, use preventive teaching, and offer individual support when needed through research based strategies and practices that are implemented by all staff daily in the classroom and on campus.

Our School Expectations:

At Faith North, we focus on two simple, school-wide rules that are easy for children to understand and follow: **Be Kind**, **Be Safe**

Staff use these rules as part of everyday routines and vocabulary when communicating with students to help children understand what safe and kind behavior looks like and acknowledge and celebrate when students make safe and kind choices.

How We Support Positive Behavior:

- We teach behavior like we teach academics—through modeling, practice, and praise.
- We give more positive feedback than correction, focusing on what children are doing well.
- We speak to children with respect and encouragement.
- We actively engage children in learning and problem-solving.
- We use tools like visuals, redirection, and reminders to support success.
- We offer tangible rewards (a sticker daily and treasure box on Friday) as recognition for positive behavior choices.

Meet Our Mascot: Buzzy Bee!

Buzzy Bee helps remind our students to Be Kind and Be Safe every day. You'll hear your child talk about how Buzzy Bee encourages them to make good choices in the classroom and beyond. Buzzy Bee visits classrooms each month to deliver the Student of the Month award for students who made safe and kind choices.

Family Communication and Support

Frequent and ongoing communication between teachers and staff and your family is important to student success and staying connected to the school to ensure families receive important updates, information about school events and classroom expectations.

Shared Communication:

- Email
- In Person/Phone Conversations
- Messaging through Class Dojo
- Daily communication log

Please inform your child's teacher of your preferred method of communication.

Informative Communication:

- District text messages, phone calls
- PTO Newsletters
- Classroom Monthly Newsletter
- Event and fundraiser flyers
- Principal video updates

Prohibited Communication:

- Texting to staff's personal cell phone numbers
- Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)

Resources

- Second Step Home Links and suggested book lists will be posted weekly on Class Dojo to families provided to support the concepts being taught in class and to practice the skills with your child at home.
- Families can request resources from the teacher, speech and language pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist and social worker to support your child's development in the home setting. Contact your child's teacher to request resources to be sent home.
- Community resources are available to provide assistance to families in need. Please contact our social worker Bernadette Duguay (602-523-8628, bernadette.duguay@phxschools.org) to assist you with connecting your family to our community partners that can support your families needs.
- If you have concerns about your child's development (social emotional, cognitive, adaptive, speech, fine and gross motor) you can contact Marisa Brito (602-257-3808, m.brito@phxschools.org) to schedule a Child Find screening.

Faith North PTO

What is the PTO?
The PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) is a team of parents, teachers, and school staff working together to support and enrich every student's learning experience. Through events, fundraisers, and volunteer support, we help build a strong and vibrant school community.

Why the PTO Matters:

- Supports Enrichment Events: Assemblies, resources, special guests, and more!
- Builds a Sense of Community: Family events bring us together.
- Gives Families a Voice: Collaborate with teachers and school leaders to make a difference.
- Creates a Positive School Experience: We help make school fun, welcoming, and full of joy!
- Connects You with Others: Meet fellow caregivers and become part of our school family.

Volunteer Requirements

- No experience needed—just a helping heart.
- Whether you can offer an hour a month or help at an event, there's a role for everyone. Parents, grandparents, guardians, and family members are all welcome to volunteer.

Ways to Help:

- Event setup; help during an event
- Craft help or event activities
- Donating supplies or materials
- Staff appreciation
- Fundraising assistance; running errands or providing financial support
- Become a room parent! See the principal for more information
- Donations

How to Join

- Talk to your child's teacher, the principal, or email the PTO to express your interest
- Follow us on Facebook: Faith North School Community for updates, events, and volunteer opportunities.
- Choose your level of involvement—no pressure, just participation!

Jennifer Rodriguez-PTO President	Evelyn Avila-PTO Vice President	faithnorthpto@gmail.com

Getting involved is easy, and every bit of help makes a difference! When families are involved, students thrive.

Powered by Parents · Supported by Teachers · Inspired by Kids

Faith North Volunteering Opportunities

At Faith North, we believe that when families and schools work together, children thrive. The support of our parents and caregivers through the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) makes a huge difference in creating memorable events, enriching student experiences, and helps to build a strong school community.

Why Volunteering Matters

Parent and caregiver involvement is essential to the success of our school events and programs. To ensure we can continue to provide meaningful support for our students, we encourage families to volunteer in a way that best meets the needs of their family and student.

Volunteer Options

To make volunteering accessible and flexible for all families, we have provided a variety of options:

- *Volunteer in person:*
    - Help at school events, assist with classroom projects, or support during PTO activities.
- *Provide economic or material donations to two events:*
    - Contribute financially or donate needed items (e.g., supplies, food, decorations) for any two school events.
- *Take home projects:*
    - Complete tasks at home (e.g., cutting, assembling, organizing materials) and return them to school by the due date.
- *Become a room parent:*
    - We are in need of AM and PM room parents! If you are interested in becoming a room parent and supporting your child's classroom, please see the principal or reach out to the PTO email.

Faith North Family Engagement Events 2026-2027

July:

- 7/30: Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night: 4:00-5:30 pm

August:

- 8/3: Return to School

September:

- 9/4: Coffee Talk: 9:00-10:00am
- 9/15: Donuts with Grownups: 11:00am and 3:00pm

October:

- 10/2: Coffee Talk: 4:00-5:00pm
- 10/19-10/24: Family Conferences
- 10/30: Trunk or Treat: 11:00am and 3:00pm

November:

- 11/6: Coffee Talk

December:

- 12/1: Waffles with the Grinch: 11:00am and 3:00pm
- 12/4: Coffee Talk: 9:00-10:00am
- 12/15: Polar Express Experience: 5:00-6:00pm

January:

- 1/8: Coffee Talk: 4:00-5:00pm
- 1/14: Culture Day: 11:00am and 3:00pm
- 1/25-1/29: Family Conferences
- 1/29: Movie Night Community Event: 4:30-6:00pm

February:

- 2/5: Coffee Talk: 9:00-10:00am
- 2/11: Friendship Dance: 5:00-6:00pm
- 2/25: 100th Day of School

March:

- 3/5: Coffee Talk: 9:00-10:00am
- 3/19: Rock Your Socks for Down Syndrome Month
- 3/29-4/2: Family Conferences

April:

- 4/2: Coffee Talk: 9:00-10:00am
- 4/10-4/16: Week of the Young Child

May:

- 5/19: Kindergarten Graduation: Times TBD
- 5/25: Last Day of School

Early Learning Information

Visiting Your Child's School

- Families are encouraged to visit and volunteer at their child's school after 2 weeks from the time your child started school so that they are able to learn classroom routines and procedures.
- As required by Arizona State Law, please sign in at the office and follow the school's guidelines to visiting any classroom. If you are volunteering regularly in your child's classroom, due to DHS requirements you will need a Fingerprint Clearance Card.
- Before volunteering in the classroom you will need to notify your child's teacher within 24 hours prior to your intended visit.
- When volunteering in the classroom you will be provided specific tasks, roles and responsibilities to support the needs of the teachers and students. You will not be just working with your student independently in the classroom.
- The school will post on the front entrance of the school office 48 hours in advance when pesticides are being applied.
- The school carries the liability insurance required by Arizona State Statutes. The insurance information is available per request.

Enrollment and Disenrollment (Withdrawals, Transfers)

Enrollment:

- Prior to enrollment your child will participate in a preschool screening.
- Once accepted into the preschool program the enrollment begins with completion of enrollment packet (hard copy from the school or online) including the required documentations:
    - Birth Certificate
    - Immunization Records
    - Proof of Address (utility bill, license, lease agreement, etc.)
- The enrollment packet must be completed and provided to the front office prior to the student starting school.

Disenrollment:

- When disenrolling a student the family will need to inform the front office and come to the school to complete and sign the necessary disenrollment paperwork.
- Disenrollment occurs after 10 consecutive unexcused absences or upon family request via office documentation.
- At **Faith North**, if any preschool student moves out of the Phoenix Elementary School District #1 and would like to remain in their preschool class, they can apply for open enrollment. Open enrollment will be approved based on the available capacity of the program.

Preschool Toilet Training Policy

To ensure a safe, healthy, and developmentally appropriate environment for all children, students enrolled in the preschool program at Emerson, Kenilworth, Lowell, Faith North, and Shaw Montessori must be fully toilet trained before attending.

Toileting Readiness Standards
A child is considered fully toilet trained when they:

- Can communicate the need to use the restroom before it becomes urgent
- Can stop an activity to go to the restroom
- Can pull down and pull up clothing independently
- Can get on and off the toilet independently
- Can wipe themselves after using the toilet
- Can wash and dry their hands independently
- Can wait to use the toilet if someone else is using it or if the class is away from the restroom

Wearing pull-ups or diapers is not considered toilet trained. Children must wear underwear and be able to complete toileting activities with minimal assistance. Exceptions are allowed for children with disabilities based on student IEP or 504 plan.

Clothing Requirements
To support independence:

- Children should wear clothes they can easily manage on their own.
- Families must provide a complete change of clothes (including socks, shoes and underwear) appropriate for the season to be stored in the classroom.

Accidents, Setbacks, and Adjustment Period

We understand that even toilet-trained children may occasionally have accidents, especially in new environments. These are expected to be infrequent and are handled by staff with discretion and support. Teachers will prompt children regularly as they build independence.

Families will be given a *2-week adjustment period* from the child's first day of school to demonstrate consistent toilet training.

Ongoing Accident Policy (After the Initial 2-Week Adjustment Period)

If a child has three or more accidents within one week, parents will be contacted to discuss the concern. If the issue is not resolved by the end of the second week, the child will be required to stay home until they are fully toilet trained and ready to return to school. This may take several weeks or longer, depending on the individual needs of the child.

A return to school will be scheduled following a check-in with school staff to ensure readiness to return.

During any required time away from school, tuition must still be paid in order to hold the child's spot in the program.

Notification of Changes: *address, work location, medical, etc.*

- Please notify the school office and the classroom teacher of any changes to your home address, phone number, changes of work location or emergency contacts. Proof of new address will be required.
- Please notify the school nurse and the classroom teacher of any changes in your child's medical record or any new medical problems that may occur.

Out of District and Open Enrollment Procedures

- If your address resides outside of Phoenix#1 Elementary School District boundaries you need to complete an open enrollment form (front office) that you submit to the principal at the school you would like your child to attend. Once the open enrollment form has been approved by the principal or Director of Exceptional Student Services if your child has an IEP you will be notified to complete the enrollment paperwork.
- If you move out of the district during the school year you need to inform the front office of the change of address and submit an open enrollment form to the school. You will then be contacted informing you if the open enrollment request has been confirmed or denied.

Attendance

Why Attendance Matters in Preschool!!!

Regular attendance in preschool is the foundation for your child's success in school and beyond. When children attend school consistently, they build strong relationships with their teachers and classmates, establish routines, and fully participate in hands-on learning experiences that support their development.

When students have excessive absences:

- They **lose valuable instructional time** that cannot be made up.
- They may **struggle to feel connected** or develop a strong sense of belonging in the classroom community.
- Their **daily routines are disrupted**, which can impact behavior, confidence, and learning.
- If your child has an IEP, **they may miss required special education services**, which can affect their progress toward individual goals.

We understand that occasional absences due to illness, family emergencies or life events and doctor's appointments can be necessary, but **excessive absences** can have a long-term impact on your child's growth. We are here to **partner with you** and offer support to ensure your child is at school each and every day. Let's work together to help your child **"Bee Present, Bee Proud!"** every day. Every moment at school is a moment to grow, learn, and shine!

If you need assistance with your child's attendance or resources to ensure your child attends school regularly, please talk to your teacher or call the front office. **We are here for you**!!

Absences

- It is the responsibility of the family to notify the school (front office or teacher) when a child cannot attend school or when he/she will be arriving late. When reporting the absence families will need to provide a specific reason for the absence or tardiness.
- When the child returns to school following an absence, the family must send a note or call the teacher stating the dates and the reason for the absence. If no excuse is provided, the school will send home an Absence Form to be completed by the caregiver and returned to the school.

Early Pick Up of Students

- For your child's safety, only those persons you have authorized will be allowed to pick-up the student from the classroom. Please notify the teacher of any changes to the list of authorized persons.
- For the safety and protection of students, no child will be allowed to be taken from the classroom before regular dismissal without the family or authorized person coming to the office and signing for the child. The ID of the authorized person will be checked.

Late Drop-Off and Pick-Up:

Faith North:

- Arrives at **9:00 AM or later** (morning session) or **1:00 PM or later** (afternoon session)
- Is picked up at **12:00 PM** (morning session) or **4:00 PM** (afternoon session)

Emerson:

- Arrives at **8:30 AM or later**
- Is picked up **at 2:30 PM or later**

Lowell:

- Arrives at **8:30 AM or later**
- Is picked up **at 2:30 PM or later**

Kenilworth:

- Arrives at **7:45 AM or later**
- Is picked up **at 1:45 PM or later**

To ensure minimal disruption to our learning environment and respect for instructional time, the following policies apply:

Late Pick-Up and Drop Off Consequences

If a child is picked up or dropped off late (after the session ends), the following steps will be taken:

1. **1st Incident:** Verbal reminder by the preschool teacher
2. **2nd Incident:** Family will receive a written late slip
3. **3rd Incident:** Family will be provided a copy of this signed agreement for review

4. **4th Incident:** A meeting will be scheduled with the family, preschool teacher, principal, and district administrator to review the attendance agreement

Late Pick Up Procedures

- If your child is not picked up from the school 15min after the scheduled dismissal time, the child will be taken to the school office.
- The student's family or authorized persons will be contacted immediately.
- If your child is late to school or being picked up late, you will need to come into the front office to sign in and out your child and provide a reason why you are late.
- If your child is not met at the bus stop, he/she will be returned to the school office. Families or authorized persons will be contacted immediately to arrange for pick-up of the student at the school.
- If the school is unable to contact the student's family or emergency contacts the police will be notified to pick up the child at the school.

Admission and Release of Student Procedures

- The teacher or instructional assistant will verify the identity of all individuals with picture identification before releasing an enrolled child to the individual.

- The teacher or instructional assistant will maintain daily documentation of the presence of an enrolled child in an activity area that includes accounting for temporary absences of the enrolled child from that area. The teacher or instructional assistant will denote each child's location on an attendance board in the classroom.

Faith North ECLC Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival

- Enter Faith North ECLC from Washington St.
- Follow the arrows to the red fire line and drive your car all the way forward.
- Place your teacher sign in your front windshield.
- Your child's teacher will come to your car to get your child. The driver will stay in the car.
- Your child's teacher will sign them into the preschool program.

Dismissal

- Enter Faith North ECLC from Washington St.
- Follow the arrows to the red fire line and drive your car all the way forward.
- Place your teacher sign in your front windshield.
- Your child's teacher will bring your child to your car.
- Please buckle your child in their seatbelt or car seat.

Clothing

- Uniforms are not required for our district preschool program, however dresses and tops with spaghetti straps, crop tops and short shirts, shorts or dresses are not permitted. Girls are encouraged to wear shorts under their dresses and skirts.
- Closed toe shoes are highly encouraged. Flip flops and crocs are not permitted unless approved by the principal.
- Please provide a spare set of clothes (pants, shirt, socks, and underwear) for your child to keep at school in case of accidents or messy play.
- Your child should bring to school daily a backpack big enough to fit a folder and a water bottle.

If you need assistance with getting a backpack, shoes, or clothing for your child please let your teacher know.

Social Media

- Per Phoenix #1 Elementary School District Policy teachers are restricted from communicating with students or families on any social media platform. Teachers are restricted from posting pictures of their students on social media.
- Any school related social media posts regarding students are submitted to administration for approval by the District.
- Only district approved and controlled technologies (Class Dojo, email) are allowed when communicating with teachers.
- Teachers are able to post pictures and videos and students on Class Dojo. If you do not want your child on Class Dojo inform their teacher.
- You may opt out of District and news media coverage or directory information releases by completing an Opt-Out form and submitting it to the school office within the **first two weeks** of school or enrollment, whichever is later.
- You may opt out of student Internet access by completing an Opt-Out form and submitting it to the school office anytime during the school year.
- This form must be resubmitted each school year for each child.
- The Internet/Media/FERPA Opt-Out form is available in the school office. Please also share your Opt-Out selections with your child's teacher.

Field Trip Requirements and Procedures

A "field trip" occurs when students leave school grounds for an educational purpose.

- Teachers will submit a field trip (walking, off campus) request to the superintendent 3 weeks prior to the event.
- The principal will provide documentation if the field trip request is approved or denied.
- Teachers will inform parents 2 weeks prior to the field trip and encourage volunteers to attend
- A completed field trip form will be required for each student to attend the field trip.
- A fee may be requested for families to contribute for their child to attend the field trip based on the cost of the field trip. If any family is unable to contribute to the cost of the field trip for their child, please notify your child's teacher so that other arrangements can be made.

- Transportation and a sack lunch will be provided to students based on the length and location of the field trip. Family members will need to bring their own lunch and may need to provide their own transportation based on the capacity of the bus.
- Teachers are required to bring their emergency backpack including water and field trip class roster on the field trip.
- Family members that volunteer for a field trip must be 18 years of age and may be with their child or a small group of children during the field trip depending on the number of volunteers and students attending. Siblings (regardless of age) will not be able to attend the field trip.
- Family members that volunteer for a field trip their responsibilities include:
    - *Presence and Attentiveness*: Being able to physically participate in the activity, keeping students in sight and not being distracted from duties.
    - *Student Behavior Monitoring and Intervention*: Enforcing school rules/policies, restricting students from leaving the group and engaging in inappropriate behaviors or language and taking action when safety is compromised and expectations are not followed.
    - *Responding Appropriately to Emergencies*: Immediately notifying the teacher of the emergency (lost students, medical injury, natural disaster, abduction of a student, physical danger) and handling emergencies that occur properly to reduce potential injury and damage with a readily accessible CPR/First Aid certified staff member.

Classroom Birthday Parties

- Students can celebrate their birthday in the classroom with a small celebration. Please provide the teacher with 24 hours' notice prior to the party.
- Families are required to purchase store bought snacks and baked goods to share with the students due to potential food allergies in the classroom. Home baked cakes and treats are not allowed.
- If the family is hosting a birthday party outside of school, families are able to distribute invitations to students during school hours. The invitations will be sent home in the child's backpack to the students' families. The teacher and staff will not be responsible for any additional tasks related to the birthday party (collecting RSVP's, communicating with families regarding party details, etc.).

Food and Nutrition

- Preschool students are provided FREE breakfast and lunch in the classroom setting daily.
- If your student has food allergies the school nurse can provide you with a form for your child's doctor to complete identifying the allergies.
- The district requires the Medical Statement for Meal Modification form to be completed to provide alternative food and drink options.

- If your child has food allergies or is a picky eater the family is welcome to provide breakfast and lunch for the student to eat during meal time in the classroom.
- Use the link to access this month's school lunch menu: Preschool Monthly Menu

Student Safety

Car and Booster Seat Laws

- Arizona law requires all children under the age of five must be seated in a legally recognized child restraint system.
- A child restraint system is a general term for devices used in a vehicle to protect infants and children from being injured in an accident and includes items such as car seats, infant safety seats and booster seats.
- On August 2, 2012 Arizona expanded the law to include children up to eight years old who are shorter than four feet nine inches.

If you need assistance with acquiring a car seat or booster you can contact your child's school social worker to provide you with resources.

Staff Responsibilities as Mandatory Reporters in Arizona

- **Who is a Mandated Reporter?**
  In Arizona, all school staff—including teachers, aides, directors, substitutes, and volunteers—are legally required to report suspected child abuse or neglect. This is defined under Arizona Revised Statutes § 13-3620.
- Staff must immediately report if they form a reasonable belief that a child has been harmed by non-accidental physical injury, neglect, lack of medical care, or emotional abuse.
- *Mandatory Reporting Policy:*
  All preschool staff are required by Arizona law (A.R.S. § 13-3620) to report any reasonable suspicion of abuse or neglect—immediately by phone or in person, followed by a written report within 72 hours. Reports must be made directly to DCS or local police.
- All staff are trained annually and when hired on the requirements, expectations and process of being a mandatory reporter.

Drug-Free Zone

- All our school campuses are drug-free zones. This policy also applies to off-campus consumption when traveling to or from a district property, as well as all school-sponsored events and activities. In a designated drug-free zone, it is strictly forbidden to use, possess, distribute, or sell controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.

Marijuana Exposure and Student Safety

Our top priority is providing a **safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment** for every child. We understand that what happens at home can affect a child's readiness to learn and participate at school.

We want to remind families that **exposure to marijuana smoke—whether in the home, around children, or in vehicles—can have negative effects** on young children's health, development, and behavior. Secondhand marijuana smoke can impact a child's ability to focus, regulate emotions, and participate in classroom activities.

To maintain a safe and respectful environment for all students and staff:

- If a child's **clothing or backpack smells strongly of marijuana**, their **backpack will be placed outside the classroom** for the day.
- The child will be **changed into clean clothes** provided by the family or the school, if available.
- If a clean change of clothes is not available, the **family will be called to bring a clean outfit** before the child can return to class.

We ask that families take care to avoid smoking marijuana in or near vehicles or homes where children are present or where their belongings are stored. This helps us protect all students and maintain a healthy, welcoming school environment.

If you have questions or concerns, or if your family needs support, please don't hesitate to contact the front office. We appreciate your partnership in keeping our classrooms safe and supportive for every child.

Firearm Safety

- Firearms (concealed and unconcealed) are prohibited on any Phoenix #1 campus.

Emergency Drills

- To prepare for the event of an emergency, we plan and practice for many different potential scenarios with evacuation and lockdown procedures.
- Each year, we update our emergency plans and ensure during onboarding new staff and the beginning of each school year ALL staff members are trained on proper protocols.
- Each month, we practice ***Fire Drills*** to teach students the safest, quickest route to exit school buildings. These drills educate students and staff on the proper evacuation procedure in the event of an emergency in the school.
- **Bus Evacuation Drills** are practiced twice a year with staff and students.
- ***Lockdown* Drills** are also practiced quarterly at each school. During a lock-down drill, students remain in their classroom under the supervision of their teacher. This procedure prepares students and staff in the event of an emergency in the surrounding area.
- At home you can review these rules for student safety to help ensure that your child remains as safe as possible in the event of an emergency.
    - Follow your teacher's instructions.
    - In an evacuation, exit the classroom safely. Do not run.
    - Stay with your teacher or a staff member at all times.

- Remain quiet during a fire, emergency, evacuation or lockdown drill.

If you have questions or concerns about your school's safety plan, please contact your school principal.

Health and Safety Information

Each school is staffed with a Registered Nurse. The Health Team periodically conducts vision, hearing, dental, and growth screening as well as immunization updates. The Registered Nurse serves as a resource person for the classroom teacher on a variety of health topics. The health team administers emergency care and first aid for ill or injured students.

In the event your child becomes seriously ill at school, runs a high fever, has diarrhea, or is vomiting, you will receive a phone call instructing you to pick up your child. **A child with these symptoms will need to stay out of school for 24 hours from the last incident.** If you are unable to pick your child, you will need to designate a person who can on the Emergency Card completed in the enrollment packet.

Immunizations

Proof of immunization must be shown at time of enrollment. If immunizations are not up-to-date or are missing, the child will not be allowed to enroll. When additional doses are required during the school year, parents/guardians will be notified by the school nurse. If the required immunization is not received within the specified time, the students attendance will be paused Compliance insures a safe and healthy environment for each child.

If you have chosen to not have your child vaccinated for religious or health reasons you will need to contact your school's nurse to complete and return the waiver form.

Immunizations are free to all school-aged children at the office of their AHCCCS provider, in the County Clinics or at the office of the school nurse. The clinics are generally open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., except on Wednesdays and holidays. Location of the County Clinic is listed below:

Roosevelt Clinic
1645 E. Roosevelt St.
Phoenix, AZ 85006
602.506.6909

To help protect each child, the state requires immunizations against the following:

MMR = Mumps, Measles, Rubella
IVP = Polio Vaccine

DTaP	=	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
HEP A	=	Hepatitis A
HEP B	=	Hepatitis B
VARICELLA	=	Varicella

Reporting of Communicable Diseases

Written notice will be provided to each staff member, parent of an enrolled child and local health department within 24 hours of the occurrence of any of the following communicable diseases or infestations:

- ✓ **Food borne or waterborne illness**
- ✓ **Invasive Disease**
- ✓ **Mumps**
- ✓ **Rubella (German Measles)**
- ✓ **Chicken Pox**
- ✓ **Bed Bugs**
- ✓ **Measles**
- ✓ **Meningococcal Invasive Disease**
- ✓ **Pertussis (Whooping Cough)**
- ✓ **Varicella**
- ✓ **COVID-19**

Medication

Prescription Medicine: Medications must be in the original container with the dispensing Pharmacy label and must be brought to the nurse by the parent. The time of the day the medication is to be given should be indicated on the prescription label. Only a 30-day supply can be kept at school. A District form, which is available in the nurse's office, must be completed and signed by the parent before the school staff can dispense medication. Under no circumstance is a student to keep prescription medications on his/her person.

Non-Prescription Medication (over the counter): Medications that have been recommended by a physician, but not prescribed, can only be given to the child if it is brought to the nurse in its original container by an adult. Written permission from parent or guardian for the administration of specific non-prescription medications shall be on file in the student's health record. The child must not keep ANY medication on his/her person. All medications must be kept in the nurse's office or school office.

Student and Family Supports and Resources

Child Find and Preschool Child Find

- If you have a concern about your child's development (social emotional, cognitive, adaptive speech, fine or gross motor) you can contact **Child Find** to request and schedule a screening for your child at **602-257-3808** or **m.brito@phxschools.org.**
- Prior to the Child Find screening your child will need to complete a hearing and vision test, which can be completed by your child's doctor or the school nurse at Faith North.
- We offer **Child Find** screenings each month. Children as young as age 2 years and 9 months old may participate in hearing, vision and developmental screenings.
- If the Child Find screening team recommends moving to a developmental evaluation you will schedule the evaluations and MET meeting to determine the results of the evaluation before leaving the screening.

Special Education Services

- All free and appropriate public education (FAPE) services will be provided in an inclusive classroom setting to children with special needs who qualify and are enrolled in our preschool program.
- Transportation to and from school can be provided to the family if the student requires transportation to access their classroom setting as identified on the IEP and determined by the IEP team at no charge to students.
- Families transportation responsibilities:
    - An authorized caregiver must put the child on the bus in the morning and meet the bus in the afternoon.
    - Students will be released to authorized adults ONLY.
    - If you are not at the bus stop or your home when the bus is dropping off your child they will be returned to school for you to pick up.
    - The child and caregiver need to be at the stop or home 5min before the designated pick up/drop off time.
    - The bus will wait for 2min at the stop/home before they leave for the next stop.
    - Families need to contact transportation if the child is absent, you have moved or the child will no longer be riding the bus.
    - If your child wears a harness on the bus the family is responsible for having the harness on the child prior to boarding the bus.
    - If you feel your child needs additional safety measures more than a seatbelt you will need to contact your child's teacher to request a harness or car seat.

Social Emotional Support

Phoenix #1 has also proven a commitment to the social emotional wellness of our students and community. Our district employs full time social workers at each school site who are available to address social, emotional and mental health challenges to support the unique needs of our students and families.

Services provided include but are not limited to:

- Second Step instruction in the classroom setting
- Peer relationship support, emotional wellness, and social skills support
- Family and Community engagement
- Individual and small group counseling as well as referrals to outside behavioral health services
- Social Emotional Learning, coaching, support and facilitation
- When available, the provision of basic needs such as clothing, school supplies, and food supplies.
- Referrals to community resources and assistance in locating appropriate help

In addition to our Social Worker we have community partnership with **Southwest Behavioral Health** and **Smart Support** through *Quality First* that provide additional services at the school site for eligible families.

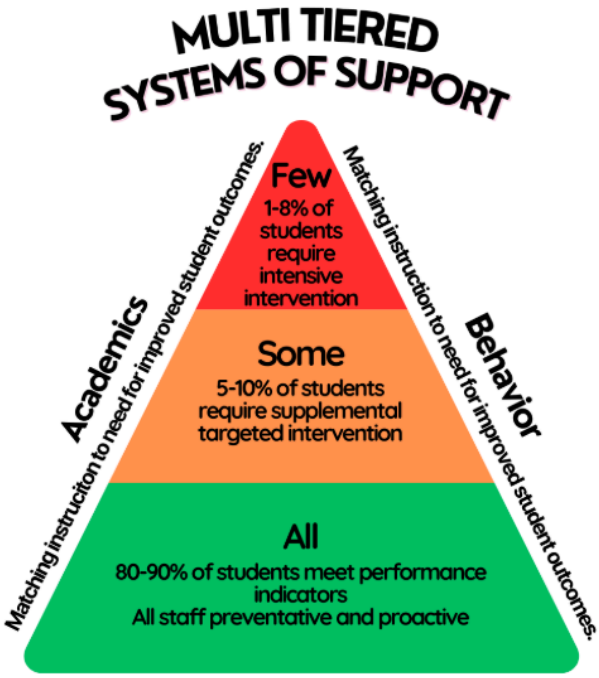
Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

MTSS is a framework we use to ensure every child gets the right level of support to grow and succeed. It helps us provide high-quality teaching and personalized help in areas like learning, behavior, and social-emotional development to support the needs of the whole child.

How It Helps Students:

- All children receive strong, developmentally appropriate instruction every day.
- If a child needs additional support, we develop and provide targeted research-based strategies based on their needs to implement in the classroom.
- Progress is closely monitored to make sure supports are working.

Family Involvement:
Families are essential partners! We work together to set goals, share progress, and support learning at home and school. Your input helps us understand your child's strengths and needs.



McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance

IF YOUR FAMILY LIVES IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS:

In a shelter

In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative adequate accommodation

In a car, park, abandoned building, or bus or train station

Doubled up with other people due to loss of housing or economic hardship

Your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal McKinney-Vento Act.

Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school; or continue attending their school of origin (the school they attended when permanently housed or the school in which they were last enrolled), if that is your preference.
  - * If the school district believes that the school you select is not in the best interest of your children, then the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if you request this.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.

If you believe your children may be eligible, contact the local liaison to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.

LEA Information

Ashley King
602-257-3746

Arizona Department of Education
Homeless Education Program Coordinator
(602) 542-4963
Homeless@azed.gov
www.azed.gov/homeless

If you need further assistance with your children's educational needs, contact the National Center for Homeless Education:
1-800-308-2145 * homeless@serve.org * http://nche.ed.gov