

Unity Presbyterian Church Preschool

1146 Greentree Road

Pittsburgh, PA. 15220

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Unity Presbyterian Church Preschool is to provide a Christian environment in which children have the opportunity to develop positive self-concept. This is accomplished through a play-cognitive curriculum, consistent with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The curriculum encourages children to be actively involved in the learning process, to experience a variety of developmentally appropriate activities and materials, and to pursue their own interests in the context of life community and the world. The philosophy guiding the preschool program is grounded in:

- ~establishing a loving and trusting relationship in which the children feel safe and secure away from home;
- ~initiating intellectual, social, emotional, and physical experiences;
- ~providing an environment in which the child may successfully master the developmental tasks appropriate to his/her age group;
- ~enhancing the child's feelings of self-esteem, self-worth, competence, confidence, independence;
- ~encouraging and supporting a child's growth through the stages of play;
- ~providing educational and cultural enrichment and,
- ~providing experiences that primarily foster social and emotional readiness for school and future education.

Curriculum

Unity Preschool offers a wide variety of daily experiences rich in learning through all of the senses, which are planned to develop manipulative skills, cognitive acuity, motor coordination and social awareness.

The implemented curriculum at Unity Preschool supports child-initiated play with teacher-guided instruction that fosters skill development and curiosity. Age-appropriate lessons and educational materials are used to build in all areas of development. Classrooms are set up for Hands-on learning through art, music, outdoor/indoor play, small and large group instruction, and free play helping each child grow and learn.

Unity Preschool is a play-based preschool which allows children to explore, experiment, problem-solve, and engage in meaningful interactions for each child's own interests. Children are actively learning at Unity Preschool. Each child is valued and respected in the classroom. Daily activities promote self-awareness, self-regulation, relationship building, and language building.

School Policies

Health:

We encourage children to be well to come to school. If your child is ill, please do not bring them to school. The Universal Precaution Procedures have been adopted by the Preschool. The staff has strict procedures to follow when following health protocol. Gloves are worn when dealing with any body fluids. The following are policies followed.

~If your child vomits or has diarrhea (gastrointestinal symptoms) the child is not to attend school for 3 days after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea. This is strictly followed due to the highly contagious gastrointestinal viruses that spread in the preschool setting quickly.

~If your child has a fever, they must stay home for 24 hours and be free of a fever without the use of medication for 24 hours.

~Lice, impetigo, covid, chicken pox, and other communicable diseases will be handled based on the advice and recommendations of Allegheny County Communicable Disease Guidelines in determining the length of time a child remains out of school.

~Please keep your child home when sick if they have any symptoms that change your child's ability to learn or play normally.

Immunization records are to be submitted before school begins in September.

Emergency Plans

Unity Preschool has emergency evacuation and lock down plans. Plans for different events are set up and practiced by the staff. The staff is trained in CPR/First Aid. All children must have an emergency contact card on file. This information will be filled out by the parents and returned before school begins. All parents will be asked to use the school wide App for information, emergencies, and daily communications. Our social platform will be explained and set up during orientation night in September.

Transportation

Unity Preschool does not provide transportation. Parents are responsible for transportation.

Clothing:

Unity Preschool students learn through play. Please wear play clothes to school. Your child will be actively learning. This means they will paint, run, climb, and actively learn. Please wear sport shoes/tennis shoes with a rubber sole on your children. You need to have your child wear shoes that secure to the feet for safety. Please make sure their shoes fit comfortably. No sandals or shoes that slip on or off. Please dress your child in clothes that they can easily use the bathroom independently. All preschoolers must be potty trained and be able to tend to their own needs in the bathroom.

Birthdays

Classroom teachers will tell you their plans for celebrating birthdays. This information will be given to you during parent orientation night before school begins.

Holidays

Special occasion days will be shared with families before the holiday. We celebrate many holidays during the school year.

Snacks

Parents will be asked to sign up monthly on a classroom list to bring in snacks during the school year. Each child will be signed up to bring the class snack when they are signed up for a particular day. Individual snacks are not allowed unless for medical or religious reasons.

Please tell the teachers and the director if your child has any food allergies.

Medical and Developmental

If your child has any medical diagnosis or restrictions please contact the director. If your child has any developmental delays, diagnosis, or concerns, please contact the director.

Parent Communication

Parents are able to communicate with the classroom teachers and the director during the day through our school wide platform. Teachers can be contacted through this site. If you want conferences with the teachers, please set up a conference. Teachers are available to meet during the week. Please do not conference about your child in front of your child or other parents out of respect for your child. The director can always be contacted with questions or concerns via email and the director can also help set up parent conferences.

Teachers should be made aware of any issues you are having that causes a child to upset. Parent communication is very important in the preschool years as we want to work as a team in the interest of your children.

Parking

Please hold your child's hand when you walk to and from school. The parking lot is busy and we ask that all children hold their parent's hand when walking to and from your car.

Water Bottles

Please do not send water bottles to school. We provide water in each classroom.

Toys from Home

Please do not allow your child to bring toys from home to school unless the teachers ask them to bring something to share on a particular day.

Change of Clothes

Each child will be asked to bring a full set of clothes to keep in the child's classroom. Many accidents happen which require a change of clothes.

Potty Trained

All children must be potty-trained. This means that children wear underpants. All children need to be able to bathroom by themselves.

Tuition

Three payment plan options are available for paying for Unity Preschool. All tuition payments begin in June and end in February. Tuition is to be paid in full and is non-refundable. Tuition is essential to running our school. We are a non-profit school. We provide most of the student's daily supplies paid by our tuition and a few fundraisers. Tuition is to be paid even if your child goes on leave, on vacation, or misses due to any type of absence. Pick one payment plan that works best for your financial need. Payments begin in June. If you register after June, then payments missed are due at registration. Receipts are given after each payment and tax information can be done if you claim preschool on your taxes. If you have any questions about payments, please contact the director.

Sibling Discounts are given if two or more children are enrolled at the same time.

See Registration Form for program costs.

See Payment Plan Form for payment options.

Several forms must be returned by the start of school in September which includes: immunizations, enrollment agreement, medical questionnaire, Dojo info, language learner form, and emergency contact card.

During the month of August, you will receive a mailed envelope with all of the forms we need to start preschool. These forms are turned in on orientation night. The yearly academic calendar will be included in this mailing. Your registration form information is used for your address and email. If you move or change any information, please update the information via email.

Email: unitypreschool123@gmail.com