



Welcome to Preschool!

We would like to welcome you and thank you for joining the TNT Family! We are excited for the opportunity to get to know your child and partner with you in their character development journey!

This welcome letter will give you an outline of what to expect in our Preschool Class. This includes what supplies we would like you to bring to ensure your child's transition to this room is as seamless as possible. This is a very busy, yet fun learning environment and we are looking forward to building a strong relationship with each child and can't wait to help them on their individual journey through this developmental stage.

What to Bring for your Child to be Successful in Preschool:

- At least one change of clothes including shoes and socks
- A blanket and stuffed animal if applicable for nap
- Water bottle
- Rain Attire during Winter (Jackets, Boots, Hats, Bibs)

Everything that you bring into the classroom must be labeled with your child's first and last name so we can be sure that your child's belongings get home to you. We do not guarantee safe return of any items. We have many children with the same clothing. Please help us by making these labels easy to read and locate. Please check lost and found for any missing items.

****We have an ongoing fundraiser with Mabels Labels in order to provide our families quality labels and raise funds for our classrooms at the same time. If you are interested in using these labels please reach out to a member of our Admin Team.***

Expectations for Preschool

Children enrolled in the Preschool class are expected to meet the following developmental milestones in order for them to be successful and get the most out of the program.

Students in this class have:

- The ability to use the bathroom independently
- The ability to communicate with their words using multiple word sentences
- The ability to self-soothe without the use of a pacifier
- The ability to use utensils to feed oneself
- The ability to drink from a cup
- The ability to dress oneself (jacket, shoes, etc.)
- The ability to put items back where they belong in their appropriate spot
- Begun learning the beginning stages of problem solving
- Begun to identify their name, shapes and colors

Daily Routine

The daily routine supports the children in continuing to develop more complex structure in their day to day as well as personal care routines. The schedule is flexible to meet the needs of the children, while supporting structure and regularity with minimal transitions.

Curriculum and Activities

Our preschool curriculum uses a risk-based approach to education, with intentional learning set into every element of the classroom environment and every part of the daily curriculum. This is a play-based curriculum where children follow their interests and have access to most learning areas for substantial portions of every day.

Our Early Childhood Educators are there to support facilitating play and helping the children to learn to set intentions for their learning. Academic learning is woven throughout the classroom where children are able to explore math, science, art, engineering, and dramatic play areas supporting the children's curiosities and development at their own pace and interest.

TNT Kidz Center supports social and emotional learning and understands how important it is at this stage in a child's development. Feelings, articulation, language development, and appropriate behavior are all part of learning in this program. To support this, we have a supervised safe space in each classroom where children can go to reflect on their emotions, take time to calm their bodies, take alone time or quiet time if needed. Responsive adult/child relationships means that teachers check in with children to ensure that they are safe and supported in processing their feelings, emotions, and sensory input.



Academics is not a strict focus of direct learning in our classroom, as the academics are generally interwoven in every interaction the child has with the program environment. Through inquiry, hypothesis, investigations, and facilitation the students are able to gain knowledge needed to be Kindergarten ready. Literacy, math, science, social, and life skills are supported through use of materials and teacher guided explorations. The program materials change regularly to fit the varying interests and needs of each student, as we develop a curriculum that is based on individual needs.

Napping

All children enrolled in our full day preschool are required by Licensing to have one hour of uninterrupted rest time. Therefore, every child is afforded this opportunity. Children are not required to sleep, but are encouraged to rest their bodies quietly on their assigned napping cot until the rest period is over. Children who are not napping may be provided quiet individual activities to do at their cot after resting their bodies for the required hour. Every sleeping child is allowed to wake up on their own schedule and will not be intentionally woken up by a teacher in our program. This allows the child to get the rest their body requires in order to support their healthy growth and development and to be successful for the rest of the day. Your child may bring a crib blanket or sleep mat and a small stuffed animal or lovey (optional). Blankets, sheets, and cots are washed weekly to maintain a safe, clean, sanitized sleeping environment.

Appropriate Clothing

Because children are naturally curious and children learn by exploring their environments through their senses, it is important to remember that they will get messy! Please be sure to dress your child in weather appropriate clothing that you do not mind getting dirty. We of course will always change your child if it is necessary to clean clothes before leaving for the day.

Outdoor Play/Rain Attire

We are an all weather school! There are many benefits to children playing outdoors. Please reference the accompanying article outlining the benefits of rainy day play. We do ask that all families provide rainy day attire so that their child is able to experience and benefit from these activities. We have several suggestions for rainy day clothing options and we would be happy to help point our families in the right direction. It is important for our families to understand that all of our classrooms participate in rainy day play. By enrolling your child in our program you understand that your child will be participating in rainy day play and it is the



parents responsibility to provide the attire you would like your child to wear during these activities.

Developmental Assessments

Early Childhood Assessments are important in identifying critical information regarding the development of your child. Assessments are the process of observing specific behaviors, reviewing the information gathered and creating a learning environment that meets the needs of the children based on the information gathered. This process is a crucial part of a high-quality Early Childhood Program. Assessments can identify various areas in which your child excels and where they could need some more guidance. Assessments can:

- Provide a record of growth in all developmental areas: cognitive, physical/motor, language, social-emotional, and approaches to learning.
- Identify children who may need additional support and determine if there is a need for intervention or support services.
- Help educators plan individualized instruction for a child or for a group of children that are at the same stage of development.
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses within a program and information on how well the program meets the goals and needs of the children.
- Provide a common ground between educators and parents or families to use in collaborating on a strategy to support their child.

At TNT, we utilize the ASQ Assessment Tool to accurately assess your child during their time in the program. The teachers may assess your child multiple times a year depending on their individual needs.