

# About Our Program

## PHILOSOPHY

At St. Paul Early Childhood Center the philosophy is one that is important to you and your child as you prepare him/her for the life ahead. We believe a quality preschool program is child centered, devoted to meeting each child's unique needs. Each child is valued as a unique individual and treated with kindness and respect. St. Paul Early Childhood Center is designed to provide developmentally appropriate educational programming intended to supplement what is taught at home.

Children learn at their own pace, therefore learning is encouraged through selected meaningful play activities. The classroom environment provides stimulating materials and challenging open-ended activities that promote creativity and imagination. Children's experiences will be incorporated into the curriculum to stimulate motivation for learning.

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## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

**3 Year Old Program: Monday-Friday (2-5 days)**

**4 & 5 Year Old Program: Monday-Friday (2-5 days)**

**8:00AM -11:00AM or 8:00AM-2:30PM**

**Latchkey provided until 6:00pm with enough interest at an additional cost.**

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## ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. The child must be capable of profiting from the program offered.
2. The child must be 3 years of age by September 30<sup>th</sup> for the 3 year old program.
3. The child must be 4 years of age by September 30<sup>th</sup> for the 4 & 5 year old program.
4. The child must have potential to function successfully in a group.
5. The child must be toilet trained.

## LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The learning environment for the St. Paul Early Childhood Center preschool program is designed to meet the intellectual, social, emotional and health needs of preschool children. The physical make up of the classroom consists of furnishings and equipment arranged to facilitate student experiences, which enhance child development across a continuum of these learning areas.

The classroom is divided into centers. The centers include, imaginative play, art, blocks, math/manipulatives, books, writing, sensory and group area.

**IMAGINATIVE PLAY**

This area includes objects such as dress up clothes, kitchen set, dolls, play telephone, cash register and other objects that promote imaginative play.

**ART STUDIO**

This area includes crayons, markers, paints, scissors, chalk and a variety of other art materials. It also includes tables for art activities.

**BLOCKS**

This area includes blocks of all shapes and sizes.

**MATH/MANIPULATIVES**

This area consists of pegboards, beads and strings, counters, simple math games and other manipulative items.

**BOOKS**

This area will have a bookshelf and many books for the children to choose by themselves. It also has a comfortable spot to sit while looking at books.

**WRITING**

This area will have a table and chairs, bulletin board, writing utensils, word cards and paper for writing experiences.

**SENSORY/SCIENCE/TAKE APART**

This area will have a sand/water table with toys to play in the sand or water. A variety of sensory materials will be added to explore according to the activity. Other materials such as shells, dirt, magnifying glasses, prisms, and discovery bottles will be available for exploration. Children will have access to simple tools for taking apart small appliances.

**GROUP**

This area will have a dry erase board, CD/Radio, calendar, weather chart, simple musical instruments. Group language activities, music and reading stories will take place in this area.