



Three Year Olds

CURRICULUM

The three year old curriculum offers a wide variety of age-appropriate activities and learning opportunities. It provides a balance of self-selected and teacher-directed activities, individual and large group activities, as well as indoor and outdoor experiences. Learning centers are provided that invite children to explore, experiment, create, and ask questions. Our program is committed to providing an innovative and developmentally appropriate curriculum to help prepare each child for his/her next school experience. We use the Illinois Early Education Learning Standards and NAECY guidelines to validate our goals and targets for the students.

DAILY PROGRAM

Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 9-11:30am

Tuesday & Thursday: 9-11:30am

(Monday)/Tuesday & Thursday: 12:30-3:00pm

(You may choose to send your child 2 or 3 days a week to this afternoon class.)

- Group times involving music, calendar activities, stories, creative movement, language and math experiences, teacher directed themed lessons and projects, and a group snack time.
- Free play where children choose their own center-based activities: dramatic play, puzzles & books, blocks & trucks, painting, play dough, sensory table activities, and small manipulative play.
- Outdoor play on approved playground equipment in a park-like enclosed setting or indoor play on approved equipment in our church gymnasium.

OBJECTIVES

Three year olds are just beginning to realize that the feelings of other people differ from their own; they are learning empathy. They are leaving the 'me' oriented world of a two year old and entering the world of peer relationships and self-control. Our main objective for this age group is to provide a solid foundation of social skills for interacting in a group setting and one-on-one with a peer. Along with strong social skills, we encourage cognitive learning in the areas of early math skills, pre-literacy, science, and music; provide opportunities for small and large gross motor skills; and foster independence and self-confidence.

- Promote social skills such as respect, kindness, and empathy.
- Enhance self-esteem through individual accomplishment.
- Learn how to value another person's rights by teaching respect for others.
- Encourage cognitive development and reasoning skills.
- Strengthen small motor skills using scissors, play-dough, and art.
- Develop an appropriate pattern of dependence and independence.

- Foster a sense of continuity between school and the outside world.
- Create a place of community, teamwork, and friendship.
- Explore creativity and self-expression.

GOALS

We strive to nurture growth in the following areas:

- Self-awareness
- Self-regulation
- Large motor skills
- Eye-hand coordination
- Social cooperation
- Personal independence
- Verbalizing thoughts into sentences
- Curiosity and awareness of the world
- Listening to and following directions
- Completing tasks
- Maintaining a positive self-image
- Accepting and managing responsibility
- Taking part in vocalization and rhythmical activities
- Experiencing original and creative self-expression
- Achieving self-discipline

STAFF

All teachers are college graduates; trained and experienced in Early Childhood Education. Our teachers have specialized instruction in various areas including Child Development, Reading, Music, Art, Special Education, and Elementary Education. The staff participate yearly in continuing education by attending early education workshops and seminars, observing in other early education programs and Kindergarten classrooms, and CPR certification. There are two fully qualified teachers in every classroom with an 8 or 9 student to 1 teacher ratio.

ADMISSION

Children entering the 3-Year-Old Program must be 3 years old by September 1st of the current school year. ***Children need to be toilet trained.*** There is a \$75 nonrefundable enrollment fee due upon acceptance.

REGISTRATION

Registration for each school year is open to alumni and church families in November. Open registration for the public begins in January. Contact the preschool at preschool@firstpreswheaton.org or 630-668-5147 x27 for more information or to set up a classroom visit.

TUITION

Tuition is due the 1st of each month from October through May. The September tuition payment for the school year is due on July 1st. Tuition may be paid monthly or by semester. Tuition for two

day classes is \$130 per month for 9 months or \$1,170/year. Tuition for three day classes is \$165 per month for 9 months or \$1,485/year. A \$15 activity fee is due annually to cover the cost of field trips and vision & hearing exams. Scholarships are available on a confidential basis.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Orientation for all preschool classes is held during the week of Labor Day. The preschool school year ends the week before Memorial Day. First Pres Preschool follows the Wheaton District 200 Academic calendar for holidays, in-service days, and snow days.

TRANSPORTATION

Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from school. In a designated loading area, teachers guide children as they enter and exit cars.

POLICY

The preschool is licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services of Illinois (DCFS). It is in compliance with health and safety standards established by DCFS and the Board of Health. Further policies are set by the Preschool Staff with the approval of the Session of First Presbyterian Church.

RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS

Classrooms observe Christian holidays, sing a brief prayer before snack time, and foster the kindness and community of Christian living.

First Pres Preschool & Pre-K, the first preschool in Wheaton, has been serving the community since 1967. We accept and welcome children of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

**715 North Carlton Ave.
Wheaton, IL 60187
630-668-5147 x27
www.firstpreswheaton.org**