

PEER REGISTRATION PROCESS

Your child must successfully pass the screening process before registering.

The registration packet must be fully completed and processed by the school office (birth certificate, immunizations, health record, and proof of Andover residency) before your child can attend. Registration forms are available on the aps1.net website; parents link; registration forms.

Peers pay tuition based on days attending. They may attend a half day program (morning or afternoon) or a full day program. The $\frac{1}{2}$ day 3-4 year old program runs Monday-Thursday with an option to attend 2, 3 or 4 days per week. The $\frac{1}{2}$ day 4-5 year old program and the full day program runs Monday-Friday with an option to attend either 3, 4 or 5 days per week. Full day students may buy lunch.

If enrolling siblings, twins or triplets, please understand that the children will be placed in separate classrooms, when possible.



PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Children with special needs are referred to the program by Early Intervention, private preschool teachers, parents and pediatricians. Following the receipt of the referral, an assessment will be conducted. An evaluation team meeting will be held to determine if the child is eligible for a program due to his or her needs.

ANDOVER PUBLIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

**Located at:
Shawsheen School
18 Magnolia Avenue
Andover, MA 01810
978-247-8200**

**Mrs. Carol Green
Early Childhood
Coordinator**

cgreen@aps1.net

The Andover Public Schools Preschool Program is an inclusive, multi-sensory pre-kindergarten program that serves both children with special needs and typically developing children from Andover, often referred to as "peers".

The model is the integration of children with varying abilities. Individual, as well as small and large group activities are designed to guarantee that all children are challenged and that all children learn in a safe, progressive environment.

The classrooms provide children with opportunities to flourish and actively participate in activities that foster growth and development in a manner that seeks to stimulate and nurture a genuine love for learning.

Although children who are not diagnosed with a developmental delay are often referred to as community peers, it must be emphasized that we believe that every child truly possesses strengths and attributes that allow him or her to impact the education and development of another child in a very positive and tangible way. For example, a child who demonstrates a language delay may excel in cognitive, motor and/or social skills. Peer partnerships are indeed valuable educational resources as children learn best from other children.

We envision the children who participate in this program will recognize at an early age that while each individual is different, each individual nevertheless has much to offer, and thus belongs to our community.

The Preschool Program follows the Andover Public Schools calendar year.

Preschool curriculum is aligned with the Mass. Department of Education Preschool Learning Experiences and Early Childhood Program Standards.

PRESCHOOL PEER PROGRAM

Peer Screenings take place the 2nd Friday of the month during the hours of 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. by appointment only.

Children must be 2.9 years of age to be eligible for screening but cannot start the program until they turn 3 years old.

The approximate 30 minute screening involves a brief overview of fine motor, gross motor, cognitive and language skills.

While the child is being screened by the team, the parent will fill out a brief questionnaire.

We are seeking peers who can act in an age appropriate manner, follow directions, and play independently while separating easily from the parent.

All peer students must be fully toilet trained with no pull-ups.



In order to be eligible to attend the Andover Public School Preschool Program as a peer, your child must

- Successfully pass the screening
- Be 3 years old
- Be fully toilet trained (no pull-ups)
- Be residing in Andover, MA

Parents must provide their own transportation for peer students.

Full day is 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Half day is 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.