
Play First Preschool

A Ministry of FUMC

122 N. 8th St

Salina, Ks 67401

Your Best Day Ever Begins with Play!



Play First Preschool Mission Statement

Play First is not just our name, it's our philosophy! Our preschool is a creative, safe environment that celebrates a child's natural ability to imagine and wonder. We put play first because it stimulates creative thinking and brain development. Teachers facilitate and encourage problem-solving, and communication. We provide a Christian curriculum in which children learn to love God, their neighbor, and themselves. Any child meeting the age requirements shall be considered for enrollment regardless of sex, race, creed or national origin.

Goals

1. To build strong relationships with our families and students.
2. To create a small school with a big heart, where children and teachers make personal connections.
3. To have a calm, inviting space that encourages children to explore and learn from peers, teachers and themselves.
4. To show the love of Jesus through the ministries of our church.

Preschool Policies and Information

Sessions and Tuition

Pathfinders -MWF : 9-11:30am for 3-year-olds (3 by Labor Day) \$150

Trailblazers- M-F: 9-11:30am for 4-year-olds (4 by Labor Day) \$175

Off Roaders- TTH: 9-11:30am starts in January(3 by January) \$125

Tuition will be due on the 1st of each month. A late fee of \$10 will be applied after the 5th, until paid. Termination may be considered if not paid by the following month. Tuition can be paid online or in the office.

Class Size


We like to keep our class size small during instruction time. Three and four-year-olds combine for indoor/outdoor playtime, opening, closing, and for holiday parties Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Instruction time such as circle time and small group work is by class. We feel this allows the three-year-olds to learn from the four-year-olds. Both classes build confidence showing the other class what they have learned.

Requirements for Enrollment

We require a \$25 registration fee with the Enrollment Application to hold the spot for the following year. In order to attend each student would require all KDHE paperwork to be filled out and handed in; Health Assessments, Vaccinations, Medical Record Release and Field Trip forms. The policies need to be read and the form signed. Your forms must be handed in by August 29th or your child risks not starting on time. Please **DO NOT** hand forms to a teacher or administrator on the first day of school. They can be lost because our priority that day is the children. **Registration fees and payments are non-refundable.**

Open House

We will have an Open house in August. This is a great time to allow your child to meet their teacher and become familiar with the school. We also



use this time to drop off supplies and paperwork. Please come prepared with immunization forms, health records and insurance information. Supply lists will come out with the welcome letter in July because supply needs change each year.

Calendar

The school schedule would begin the Tuesday after Labor Day and follow the USD #305 calendar. In addition to this, there may be teacher trainings we need to attend or unavoidable circumstances that may happen (ex. funeral or family emergencies) where school may be canceled. We will let you know as soon

Arrival and Departure

The children will be dropped off at 9:00. Please take your child to the bathroom before we start school. Sign in. Please do not leave your child unattended on the playground. Parents will also need to notify the teacher if a different person is being picked up. That person needs to be on your registration form as a caregiver or emergency contact. They will need a Driver's License the first time they pick up. Children will also need to be signed out (the teachers will help with this). If custody is an issue, we require a notarized court order of the custody arrangement on file.

School Discipline Policy

The school will follow the Conscious Discipline model by Becky Bailey for discipline. It supports the developmental stages of social/ emotional regulation and is science based. We will also teach three important class rules from *The Connected Child* by Karen Purvis. They are Stick Together 2. No hurt (to people or property) 3. Have Fun! We want to convey unity, kindness, and playfulness. Children will be given choices, guidance, do-overs, and encouragement. Play-powered strategies are the core of our classroom management. Further on in the year we will introduce Brain Smart Rules like Following Directions, Raising One's Hand, Making Smart (green) Choices and Teamwork.



Communication

Good communication is of the utmost importance to us. When we accept a new family, we like to be sure that we can share any concerns or questions that may arise. It is important that there is a similar childcare philosophy between teachers and parents and administration. We welcome questions and feedback or discussions of any kind that are oriented towards a positive outcome for children. If a conversation is important, we want to make time for it but please let us arrange a time convenient for all parties.

Cell Phone Policy


Please do not call our personal cell phones during class time or after work hours. You may call the office and leave a message. Please don't pick up or drop off children while on your cell phone as it is a safety concern. Days when you are invited for special activities you are here to interact with your child. Of course, take photos and make memories but then put your phone away and just play!

Illness Policy

To protect children from illness, children should not be brought to the center if within the last 24 hours they have shown signs of illness such as rash, fever, vomiting, or diarrhea. Your child must be symptom free without the aid of Tylenol or Ibuprofen for 24 hours before they may return.

If your child becomes ill at the center, you will be asked to immediately pick them up if they show signs of the following symptoms:

A fever over 100 degrees, Lice, consecutive episodes of diarrhea, symptoms of communicable disease, vomiting, generally not feeling well, unable to participate, rash, severe cough, difficulty breathing, unidentified rash or infected areas, mouth sores, red eyes with discharge, yellowish skin or eyes.



We prefer that medication be administered at home. For safety reasons, it is extremely important that we are aware of any medications that your child is taking. This does not include epi-pens and inhalers.

For the protection of all children and staff, we ask that you notify the center within 24 hours after your child has developed a known or suspected communicable disease, or if any member of the child's immediate household has a communicable disease. If we become aware of a communicable disease affecting children in the center, a health alert will be made. We will attempt to communicate to you the earliest symptoms so additional exposure can be avoided. It is extremely important that all families keep informed of all illnesses.

Staff Care/Transportation

As a courtesy to our parents, staff are allowed to care for children outside work hours. However, if this privilege is abused in any way it will be revoked. We are aware transportation is an issue for many parents and we encourage carpooling efforts. If a staff member is providing transportation, it is not included in tuition. We do not pay staff to transport children. This is considered a mutually beneficial arrangement between adults. Please consider that staff have duties before and after class time.

Required Reporting/ Confidentiality

Employees are mandated reporters. We have a legal and moral obligation to the well-being and safety of children. If at any time a child's safety is in question, we will take the necessary steps.

Information pertaining to a child is kept confidential. Records may be reviewed by the Health Department but only for pertinent information related to their health and safety. Student Files are available to the administrative staff for these same purposes, current contact information, and to address any specific need.



Disaster/Emergency Policy

Our emergency policy is located on a board inside each classroom and is available for parents to view. As part of KDHE regulation, we participate in regular practice drills. Fire drills are practiced once a month and tornado drills are practiced once a month from April through September. Drill records are located on the board with the emergency plan. Should an emergency occur, you will be notified and asked to pick up your child. Fees will not be funded in this instance as it was our intent to teach, and circumstances were beyond our control.

Weather/Closings

In the event of severe weather, the school will close when USD 305 closes. A text message will be sent out if the school must close for other incidents like power outages.

Director's Unique Qualifications

1. Tenderhearted; has taken courses in Autism, Trauma Based Relational Intervention, Sensory Processing Disorder, and has raised children with speech and special education needs.
2. Mindful; Has practiced Yoga for over 20 years and uses it in class to connect with children.
3. Multi-lingual: has a B.A. in Spanish, practical knowledge of simple sign language both SEE and ASL, and a genuine interest to communicate with all people.
4. Has raised 5 preschoolers, all with unique needs of their own.



Teacher's Unique Qualifications

1. Associate degree in early childhood education
2. 7 years' experience as a teacher assistant
3. Has raised 2 wonderful preschoolers and worked in daycare.
4. Experience with Special Needs students and has a disabled family member.
5. Director's License and many years of continuing education

Contact Information

Contact: Administrator-Denise Blehm -785 825-0228 (8:00-5:00 pm) M-TH Director-
Erica Arb- 785- 825-0228 (8:30am-11:30 pm)
M-F cell 785 577-6440 (1:30-3:30 pm) erica@salinafirst.com