

# Welcome to Pre-Kindergarten at the Dothan Brook School!



## Mission Statement

The Dothan Brook community of students, staff, and parents is committed to providing physically and emotionally safe learning environment, fostering academic, social, and emotional growth, and nurturing a sense of belonging in all its members.

## School Information:

Principal: Mr. Dustin-Eichler

Secretary: Mrs. Wood

Nurse: Mrs. Morancy

School Counselor: Mrs. Lallier

Preschool Teacher: Ms. Chelsea Gray

[grayc@hartfordschools.net](mailto:grayc@hartfordschools.net)

(802) 295-8647 x 5116

Preschool Paraprofessionals:

Mrs. Sullivan

Ms. Haley

## Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

We teach positive student behaviors and school-wide expectations. A set of clear and positive school expectations are posted throughout the building. Staff and students acknowledge rules and accept responsibility for their own actions. Staff serve as positive role models; teaching children to be caring, safe, and responsible. Preschool staff hold the children to these expectations within a developmentally appropriate level.

### DBS Expectations:

Caring

Safe

Responsible

- We care about each others' feelings,
- We keep ourselves and others safe,
- We are responsible for what we say and do.

## **Attendance**

Students attend school Monday-Friday. School hours are 8:00-10:45 for the morning session and 12:15-3:00 for the afternoon session. Attendance is important; please call the school if your child is unable to attend due to sickness, travel, or other reason. The phone number to reach Mrs. Wood is (802) 295-8647.

## **Arrival/Departure**

Please plan to arrive with your child no earlier than 5 minutes before the starting time of the morning or afternoon session. Entrance to the preschool programs is found at the preschool double-doors, not through the main lobby entrance. You will need to sign him/her/them in and out each day.

Children are released to individuals authorized by parents. Any change in the person picking up your child must be relayed to the school secretary in writing or by calling it in. If you are picking up your child early, please notify us by 10:15 (AM session) or 2:30 (PM session).

## **Snack**

Snack is an important social and nutritional opportunity during a preschooler's day. We ask parents to sign-up to bring snack in at least once per month. We are always seeking input about our snack list, so feel free to suggest favorites and alterations. This is a great time for children to practice social interactions, learn about healthy food choices, and become more independent with eating, drinking, and cutting skills. Breakfast is offered for purchase on a sliding scale from the cafeteria; please see Ms. Gray individually if you are interested in signing up for regular breakfast bags. We will ensure that each child has a full belly to start their day! A water bottle (water only, please) is welcome to come to school, but not required; we have cups and water fountains available to children throughout the day.

## **Clothing**

Please send your child in washable clothing. We will be doing lots of art projects and spending lots of time exploring outdoors -- thus, we will be getting dirty!

Once the weather gets cold, children will need to have snow pants (even if it's cold and not yet snowy!), jacket, mittens, hat, and boots. A change of seasonally appropriate clothing is recommended in case of spills, toileting accidents, mud puddles, etc.

Labeling any clothing sent to school helps us to send the proper items home with children at the end of the day.

### **Immunizations**

These must be up-to-date in order for your child to attend the preschool program. Please refer to the school office or nurse for more information.

### **Objects From Home**

We prefer that children bring objects to school that are science related for sharing. I encourage you to search your backyards and neighborhoods for seasonal items to share. Please do not bring toys to school. The exception to this is, of course, our weekly honored student selected for a "show and tell" from home.

### **Volunteers**

We welcome parent volunteers throughout the year. I will send out a notice if volunteers are required for a specific event or activity. A volunteer form must be completed with the school office prior to your visit. Let me know if you have any hobbies, jobs, cultural practices, or activities you would like to share.

### **Communication**

A newsletter will be sent home regularly with information about planned activities, upcoming events, and important reminders. I welcome voicemail and email communication which I will do my best to reply to within 24-hours. I will not always be able to reply to email or answer calls during class sessions; please refer urgent information to Mrs. Wood in the Main Office.

### **Birthdays**

Birthdays are special occasions for preschoolers and we would like to honor the children in our classes on (or near) their special day. Please check with me

ahead of time if you would like to send in a special treat as we often have food allergies or sensitivities. A special treat may also be: stickers for friends, a craft to share, or sending in pictures of your child over the years (birth to now!) to look at as a group. Whatever your choice, please speak to me ahead of time so we can adequately prepare. For children whose birthdays fall during the summer holiday, we will celebrate them on an announced day in June.

Attached you will find the Hartford School District Pre-Kindergarten Parent Handbook which details philosophy, learning objectives, assessment tools, discipline information, records, schedule outlines, and other general information.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. We look forward to getting to know you and your child!