



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **1. Why Signal Mountain Preschool?**

Signal Mountain Preschool was created in 2020 as a boutique, full-time preschool experience for the children of Signal Mountain. From the very beginning, the classes were carefully constructed and curated to offer the highest quality, educational experiences to spark each child's passion for life-long learning.

## **2. What is a 'boutique' preschool?**

We believe that every child is unique in their talents, interests, and needs. There is no 'one-size fits all' approach for children in the genuine pursuit of authentic growth and development. We made our preschool a highly curated experience utilizing Tennessee State Standards as a guide, saturated in hands-on, highly creative, multi-modal engagement. We are dedicated to continually refining and improving processes in a way that best benefits our students and their changing needs. In short, we offer a highly customized experience.

## **3. Is Signal Mountain Preschool state licensed? What does over-site look like and how is the program monitored for quality assurance?**

Signal Mountain Preschool is state licensed (and has been since opening in 2020). This means that our campuses are monitored by an assigned program evaluator (along with various other domain-specific evaluators) who routinely visit and observe staff, audit files, check safety practices, and consult to provide on-going resources and support.

## **4. What programs do you offer?**

Signal Mountain Preschool is a 3-campus school that includes the following:

1. Full-time infant & toddler preschool and part-time programming for children ages 2-5  
1315 Taft Highway, Signal Mountain
2. Full-time preschool for children ages 2/3 and 3/4  
4403 Taft Highway, Signal Mountain
3. Full-time prekindergarten for children ages 4/5/6  
1404 Taft Highway, Signal Mountain



### **5. What is full-time programming versus part-time programming?**

Full time programming runs year-round, Monday-Friday, 7:30am-5:30pm

Part-time programming runs year-round, Monday-Friday (selected days), 9:00am-3:00pm

### **6. Is there a waitlist and how do I navigate applying for my child and eventual enrollment?**

In short, yes, there is typically a waitlist to enter our program. That's why the very best time to inquire about preschool enrollment is at the entry point of our program (the infant/toddler class). The reason for this is because each of our classes graduate into the next and fill almost all open seats year to year. Having said that, there are openings from time to time due to occasional student withdrawal (families that move, have schedule changes, etc). In order to be eligible for potential openings, you must fill out and submit an application with desired placement timeline. An application can be downloaded on the website: [SignalMountainPreschool.com](http://SignalMountainPreschool.com) under the 'contact us' tab. Print application, complete it, and return it to our main location at 1315 Taft Hwy. You can also request a tour and gather more information by reaching out to us directly. Once placement is possible, we will reach out to offer your child a spot. We will then go over next steps to finalize enrollment and secure placement.

### **7. I see that there is a yearly registration/enrollment fee and a semester supply fee. What are these for and why?**

Registration/enrollment fee: SMP uses this fee not only to reserve class placement (removing opportunities for other families to claim the seat), it is also applied toward costs associated with notable school-wide events that are enjoyed each year, for example, Annual Fall Fete!

Semester supply fee: Supply fees are applied directly to the on-going expenses of daily snacks, consumable supplies (ex. art, butterflies & habitats, etc.), and the high quality (aligned with state standards) curriculum we bring in every month.

### **8. I've enrolled my child and have a start date confirmed! How can I prepare for our first day and what will we need to bring?**

Preparation is KEY in making your child's transition into group programming a success! The MOST IMPORTANT way to do this is by openly communicating



with your child. Talking through what to expect, how the routine will look, and involving your child in the process of packing items for school, will make a huge difference in your child's view of this new adventure.

***What to pack for preschool (LBELED):***

**Tote/backpack large enough to hold necessary items**  
**Water bottle filled with fresh, ice water**  
**Balanced lunch packed in lunch bag with ice pack (nut free)**  
**Weather appropriate change of clothes (including underwear & socks)**  
**Blanket / nap roll with lovie (if desired)**  
**Diapers/pull-ups, wipes (if applicable)**

*For infants/toddlers:*

**Milk for feeding schedule (breast milk/formula with instructions)**  
**Solids for feeding schedule (with instructions)**  
**Supplies/bottles/containers/utensils needed for feeding schedule**  
**Diapers, wipes, needed ointments**  
**2 pacifiers (if applicable)**  
**Preferred teethingers (if applicable)**

*Other:*

**Anything you feel is important in supporting your child and their needs**

**9. We are ready, we are packed, and we will be there soon! How do I stay in touch throughout the day once I drop off and go?**

Our main communication method is through the Brightwheel app (which you will have already downloaded on your smartphone.) The Brightwheel app is not only used for signing your child in and out of the facility, paying tuition, and downloading yearly tax statements. Our favorite tool in Brightwheel is the messaging tab. All our teachers and aids utilize the app throughout the school day to communicate frequently with parents. This includes feedback on how your child is doing, observations, fun photos, important incidents, and everything in-between. You can engage through the app as much or as little as you are able (but at a minimum, you will need to have Brightwheel notifications turned 'ON' so that you don't miss times where staff members are seeking time-sensitive feedback on specific things for your child).



### **10. My child seems sick today~ what should we do?**

If your child is showing symptoms of illness and/or has a temperature above 100.4, they should stay home to recover and if necessary, see their pediatrician to determine next steps. Our collective goal is to reduce exposure of illness campus-wide. In addition to frequent hand-washing and facility sanitation, the most impactful thing we can do is encourage parents to carefully observe their children PRIOR to bringing them to school and use discernment in how they proceed with attendance.

### **11. My child's birthday is coming up! We are planning a party outside of school and would like to bring invitations to school or have the school post the invite on Brightwheel. Can this be done and what is the procedure?**

We are happy to post invitations for children celebrating birthdays, if they can be posted to the entire classes (not individual students). We are also happy to distribute paper invitations on your behalf, if every student in the class is included.

### **12. I am part of the Signal Mountain Preschool community and have ideas, thoughts, and/or concerns to share. What can I do?**

Please know that we love you and want to hear from you. Your children and your family are important to us. We value your thoughts and encourage you to reach out if there are things you would like to share with us. You are always welcome to message us in Brightwheel (through the ADMIN tab). These messages are confidential and are only seen by limited admin staff. If you prefer to meet in person, please reach out directly and we'll find a time that works for everyone involved.

### **SIGNAL MOUNTAIN PRESCHOOL**

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