



WHO WE ARE

We are a small school by design. We provide a nurturing extension of your home and a strong foundation in preparation for elementary school. Our staff knows every child and family member by name, so the children always feel how much they are loved and celebrated.

Our school sits in the shadow of Saint John Catholic Church and students get to know our parish, priests and staff. As such, their religion and church feels as much a part of their lives as school and home.

We further enrich our curriculum with programs that explore themes of science, social studies, literacy, music, arts and community, including visits from storytellers, naturalists, plus Darien Fire Department, Police and Library.

Our Saint John Parents Association (SJPA) provides several events, including Mary's Baby Shower, Valentines for the Elderly, Parents Nights and more. SJPA also provides a valuable network of parents to support you and your child during the preschool years and beyond.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Saint John Preschool is a mission of Saint John Catholic Church and is licensed by the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood.

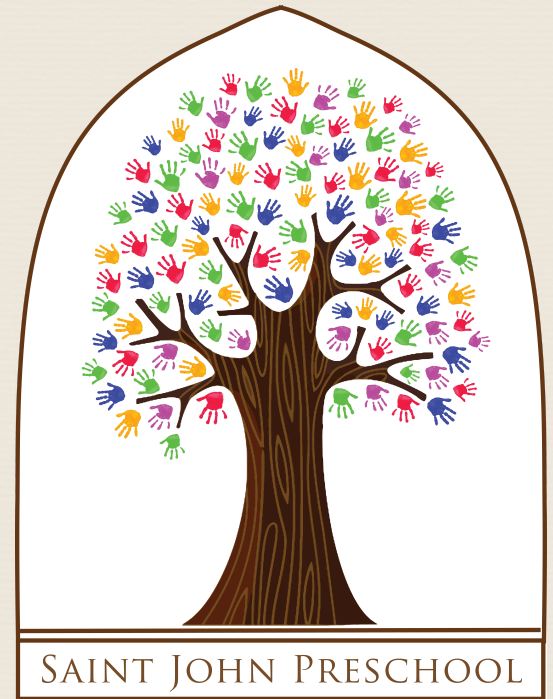
Located in the parish center, the preschool is committed to modeling and teaching Christian morals and values, while creating a caring and safe environment that fosters curiosity and love for learning.

It serves the community of Darien and surrounding towns. The school is open and welcoming to children of all faiths who are ages two through five.

Two, three, four and five-day programs are offered for preschool children.



SAINT JOHN PRESCHOOL
1986 Post Road - Darien CT 06820
203.656.0548
www.SaintJohnPreschool.com



Where Our Parish Family Grows



*Creative Learning, Cooperative Play,
and Unique Celebrations
highlight a child's experience at
Saint John Preschool.*



Fostering knowledge, confidence and faith in our children



Part of the curriculum at Saint John Preschool includes the music and movement classes offered by **Music Together®**, a nationally acclaimed organization that focuses on music education and child development.

This is made possible through the **Martha Witucki Dilenschneider Music Program** which provides funding for weekly music lessons for each age group. During these sessions, students learn the fundamentals of singing, memorize phrases and synchronize hand movements with their voices.

Classes for Two through
Five Year Old Children:

Morning Classes/Extended Day/
Lunch Bunch

Classroom Enrichment
Programs Include:

Mad Science
Animal Embassy
Storytellers
Theater
Fireman Bob
Darien Library

Curriculum developed in conjunction with
Connecticut Early Learning and
Development Standards.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

The program at Saint John Preschool is designed to promote the emotional, social, spiritual, cognitive and physical development of each child. We create a warm and accepting environment that contributes to the development of positive self-esteem as well as encouraging cooperation and interaction among children. We support the development of independence, self-reliance and problem solving. Learning experiences are intentionally designed to stimulate creativity and encourage investigation.

Through play and directed learning experiences, we intentionally plan opportunities that support learning across all domains of development and are appropriate to each child's age, stage and style of learning.

We believe that early school experiences represent a time when social interaction and play will stimulate creativity, exploration and self-awareness. It is a time when children develop a sense of their own uniqueness and sets the stage for success in elementary school and beyond. Free from the pressures of workbooks and rote learning, we provide hands-on experiences and facilitate purposeful play.

Our pedagogy brings together varied approaches to education by design, drawing from Developmentally Appropriate Practice as well as child development theorists and research. We are committed to following best practice in the field of early education and remain aware of the constantly developing knowledge base that is available to us.

