



Best Beginnings Preschool Family Newsletter October 2021

On behalf Best Beginnings Preschool Staff I would like to “Welcome” you to the 2021-2022 school year. We have had a great start to the year. Everyone seems excited and happy to be back at school. The children are settling into their class routine and making new friends. There is a lot of learning that takes place throughout the school year. Our main focus for the start of our school year is to maintain a safe and healthy school environment, establish routines, and get to know our students. Most of our students have not been in a classroom setting for over a year. It is important for us to take time and learn where each child is in their development. This allows us to create lessons and environments that nurture and promote developmental growth for all our students. There is an overwhelming amount of information from the CDC and King County Public Health regarding COVID-19 and the various variants that change frequently. Please know that you will be informed of any school policy adjustments as soon as we receive and process new information from the health department. If you ever have any questions please feel free to send us an email or give us a call. Happy October! ~Kerry

Preschool Information

Extending Last Day of School

Thank you all for your concern and kind wishes when we postponed our start of the school year. We will extend our school year to make up the lost time. The school calendar that went home with everyone indicates our new last days. You can also find this information on our website, www.bestbeginningspreschool.com.

Late Arrivals

If you are running late to drop off your student please contact the school office, 425-881-3468, and let us know you will be arriving late.

East Entrance Doors - The doors on the east side of the building will close and lock at 8:55 for the 3’s morning classes, 9:10 for the PreK class, and 12:20 for the 3’s afternoon class.

North Entrance Doors - The doors

on the north side of the building will close and lock at 9:10.

South Entrance Doors - The doors on the south side of the building will be unlocked for late arrivals and early pick up.

If your drop off door is the north or east entrance and you arrive late you will need to make your way to the south entrance, enter the building and ring the doorbell at the blonde door located near the women’s restroom. A staff member will greet you, take your child’s temperature and walk your child to their classroom.

Please do not knock on the window to your child’s classroom or your entrance door. This is very disruptive and startling to the teachers and children. Once teachers are in the classroom their focus and priority are to the students in class.

We encourage you to arrive on

time for school. Small children can feel overwhelmed and unsure walking into class when everyone is already there and engaged in activities.

Parent Handbook

The QR Code to the handbook is below. Please read the handbook carefully as it will have answers to questions. Be sure to carefully read the **late pick-up policy** on page 4. There is a fee for parents who are late for pickup. If you anticipate running late, please contact the office by phone, 425-881-3468 and let us know you will be late to pick up your child. Young children worry when grown-ups are not there to pick them up after school.



Tuition Information

Tuition is due on your child's first-class day of each month. If you are paying by check please write your child's first and last name on the memo line of your check. Place your check in a sealed envelope with your child's first/last name on the outside of envelope. Hand this envelope to your student's teacher or one of the office staff when you come to school. If you are paying by cash, you need to have the exact amount of cash for pay-

ment. We do not have cash on hand to make change.

Tuition paid by check or cash is considered LATE and will accrue a \$25 late fee as of the 10th of the month.

If there is a problem with your ability to pay tuition on time, please see Kerry or Patty to make alternate arrangements. Automatic withdrawals are posted on the 5th of the month or the closest business day to that date and will also accrue a

\$25 fee should the automatic withdrawal *fail* to clear.

Playground Rules

Students are welcome to use the playground, under parental supervision, before and after school. Classes have priority use of the playground. Please vacate the area if a class is using the playground. Once children have been dismissed, we transfer responsibility to parents. *Please read the parent handbook regarding playground rules.*



Please remember to complete the Daily Student Health Form. You can find links for forms on our website and QR Codes located at entrance doors. This form needs to be completed each day for students to enter the building. Thank you.



Scholastic Book Orders

Last week Scholastic Book Orders were sent home in your student's bag/backpack. These flyers will go home each month. If you are interested in purchasing books for you child, you can order online. You can choose to have books delivered to your home or the school. Orders delivered to school will be sent home in your child's school bag or backpack. Orders are due by Thursday, October 28th. If you have any questions, you can contact the school office at hc.preschool@frontier.com.

Masks



The children are doing an excellent job wearing their masks each day. It would be helpful if grown-ups could send an extra mask in bags/backpacks. We have children size masks here at school, but sometimes young children prefer to wear their own items. The extra mask can be placed in a small plastic Ziploc bag. This bag will be used to send home the used mask.

There was some concern regarding our ability to recognize parents with masks on at dismissal. It does take us a bit to be able to quickly match children with grown-ups. That is why we ask that you step forward and wave when you see your student at the front of the line and let us know if someone other than a child's usual grown up is picking up. We will only dismiss your student to those listed on the enrollment form as having permission to pick up your student. If a staff member is unfamiliar with a grownup at pick up, they will request to see identification and verify the person has permission to pick up the child.

School phone (425) 881-3468

School email
hc.preschool@frontier.com

School website
bestbeginningspreschool.com

Facebook
[Facebook.com/BBPreschool](https://www.facebook.com/BBPreschool)

Instagram @bestbeginpreschool

COVID—19/Illnesses

A new flow chart, dated September 3, 2021, went home with families at Meet and Greet. Here is the QR Code to the flow chart.



We continue to be very strict about symptoms and attending school. If your child shows any symptoms while at school we will call you to pick them up immediately. We are doing our best to keep everyone safe and healthy and that requires children with symptoms to stay home.

We are in cold and flu season and many symptoms are the same as COVID-19. Testing is helpful in confirming a diagnosis.

If your child is exposed, outside of school, to someone who tests positive with COVID-19 we do require you to email or call the school and let us know. Your child will then need to follow the Return to School Flow Chart in order to return to school.

If you ever have any questions about whether or not your child can attend school, please contact the school office, 425-881-3468, or email hc.preschool@frontier.com.

The following information is from the www.doh.wa.gov COVID-19 page.

What is quarantine?

Quarantine describes when someone who has been exposed to COVID-19 stays home and away from others for the recommended period of time in case they were infected and are contagious. Quarantine becomes isolation if the person later tests positive for COVID-19 or develops symptoms.

What is isolation?

Isolation describes when someone who has COVID-19 symptoms, or has tested positive, stays home and away from others (including household members) to avoid spreading their illness.

What is close contact?

A close contact is a person who has been within about six feet of a person with confirmed novel coronavirus infection for a prolonged period of time or has had direct contact with secretions from a person with confirmed novel coronavirus infection. The definition of “close contact” used in Washington is the same as the CDC definition.

Link to Department of Health COVID-19 website <https://www.doh.gov/Emergencies/COVID19>

LET'S PLAY

Did you know that play is an important tool for teaching and learning? When kids play, they learn how to interact with others and develop critical skills.

IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

Play is an important piece of the child development puzzle. It supports the healthy development of children in the following areas:

1. Cognitive
2. Creative
3. Communication
4. Physical
5. Emotional
6. Social



WHY PLAY?

Research shows that the first few years of a child's life provide the foundation for future learning. New advances in brain research have allowed us to 'see' how a child's brain works and to better understand how they think and learn. Because of these advances, we now know that play is crucial for a child's healthy development.



PLAY AT SCHOOL

Play is about so much more than just having "fun." Play offers a natural way for children to connect academic learning to their real lives. When children are playing, they are actually learning many valuable academic skills that will better prepare them for both school and life.



PLAY TIPS

- ✓ Give kids plenty of unscheduled time to play
- ✓ Encourage your child to play outside instead of video games or watching television
- ✓ Provide toys that encourage play and imagination, like blocks or dolls.
- ✓ Spend time playing and having fun with your kids.

