*NEWMARKET PRESCHOOL PROGRAM*

Welcome to the Newmarket Preschool Program. It is the goal of this program to have parents, teachers, and therapists (if involved with your child) work together in meeting the unique needs of each child.

As parents, you play a vital role in your child’s development. Remember, YOU are your child’s first and most important teacher. We invite you to work together with the program staff to become an active participant in our school.

The primary goals of our program are to:

* Develop each child’s potential and independence to the maximum
* Enhance each child’s ability to participate in the most beneficial educational environment
* Provide parents with the opportunity to build skills and confidence in working with and for their children by promoting and sharing information and ideas

School Calendar:

The Newmarket Preschool Program follows the same school vacation calendar as the Newmarket Elementary School. We begin a week or so later and may end a week or so earlier in June. We will notify you if there are any changes in the calendar.

School Day Routines

## **Table Task** – The children participate in a teacher directed activity focusing on pre-literacy, math readiness, cooking, or social play skills

**Circle Time** – We sing a “Hello” song, talk about the weather, play a game, and practice counting skills

**Teacher Choice** – A few areas of the classroom are opened with activities. The children choose where they will play

**Teacher/Therapist Directed Activities** – Speech and Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists and teachers plan activities based on the needs of individual and groups of students

**Snack Time** – A time to socialize and practice turn taking and other social skills. Parents send snack for their child each day.

**Free Play** – The children choose an area of the room in which to play.

#### **Playground/Motor Routine in class** – We work on gross motor skills and give the children an opportunity to use some of their boundless energy!

PRESCHOOL SCHEDULE:

Morning Program:

#### Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:30 - 11:00

Tuesday, Thursday

8:30 - 11:00

# Afternoon Program

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

12:15 - 2:50

Tuesday, Thursday

12:15 - 2:50

STAFF:

Julie Cooper, *Preschool/Special Education Teacher, Child Find Coordinator*

Anne Cocci, *Preschool/Special Education Teacher, Preschool Partners Coordinator*

Adele Walker, *Teacher Assistant*

Donna Tobey, *Teacher Assistant*

Lori Carmichael, *Speech and Language Pathologist*

Lyn McCann, *Occupational Therapist*

Anne Tufts, *Occupational Therapist*

### Denise Murphy-Simmons, *Physical Therapist*

Rose Marie and Heidi, *Special Education Bus Drivers*

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Preschool Program is divided into morning and afternoon sessions. The children range in age from 3 to 5 years old and represent various levels of development. All sessions have a high adult to child ratio and are based on a developmental model with a consistent daily schedule. All activities, both individual and group, are adapted to the individual needs of the students and promote success. There is a balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities in each session. Language and communication skills are very strong components of the program.

Our program offers curriculum ranging from basic skills to readiness levels. Basic skills curriculum provides an environment of controlled stimulation where children begin to learn how to follow routine directions and to communicate their needs through 1-2 words and/or sign language. Self-help skills are taught, including eating, dressing, and toileting. Children are encouraged to interact with peers in play situations. Adults facilitate and model play schemes. Small group times encourage sitting in a group for small periods of time with active experiences of music and movement as well as sharing ideas and information.

Children beginning to interact with their environment independently are involved in a curriculum that emphasizes play and communication with their peers, listening and following group directions, completing table tasks and teacher-directed activities and exploring their environment through activities such as music, art, and movement.

Readiness curriculum encourages the development of those skills which will help children to be successful in an elementary school setting. These skills include cooperative interactions with peers, listening to and following multiple-step directions, exploring concepts through games and play experiences, and working on paper and pencil tasks. The curriculum is theme-based with an emphasis on whole language experiences that support pre-reading and writing skills as well as math exploration. The Newmarket Preschool Program uses may of the same curricula and “buzz-words” used in kindergarten and the primary grades.

Curriculum planning is based on weekly to monthly themes appropriate to the developmental stages and interests of preschool children. Self-help and decision-making skills are emphasized, as are appropriate play behaviors. Each child’s program is tailored to his/her individual needs as stated in his/her IEP (if applicable) and implemented within the context of the social setting. Therapy takes place in the classroom and is incorporated into all routines and activities.

Transition plans are developed with the elementary teachers and special educators in the spring before a child is eligible for Kindergarten.



Newmarket

Preschool

Program

## Newmarket Elementary School

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Newmarket, NH 03857

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