

## Enrolling Your Child in the NPS Preschool Program

**Children with special needs** are accepted into the program after an assessment and team meeting in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). If you have concerns about your child's development and think that they may qualify for Special Education services, please email Sara Allium, the Early Childhood Evaluation Team Leader, at [sallium@northampton-k12.us](mailto:sallium@northampton-k12.us) to schedule an appointment for a preschool screening.

**Typically developing children** are enrolled as Community Peers. Applications submitted by February 28 will be entered into the Lottery for placement. Applications are accepted after the deadline; placements will then be made as space is available. Please download an application from the NPS website or call our office.

Fees are assessed for Preschool hours that are not included in a special education plan. Placement on the Sliding Fee Scale is determined by family size and income. They range from \$0-\$70/ week for the 4-day half-day program, and from \$0-\$168 for the 4-day school-day program.

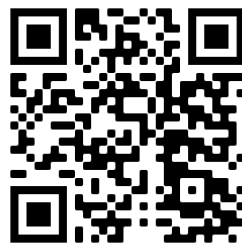
The Northampton Public Schools will not exclude any applicant on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, sexual preference, or family income.

**Updated October 2022**

If you want to have this brochure in Spanish please call (413) 587-1471

Si le gustaria esta en Espanol, por favor, llama (413) 587-1471

**For more information on:**  
NPS preschool  
Kindergarten  
Playgroups,  
Parenting Workshops,  
and more,  
please visit our website!  
[northamptonfamilies.com](http://northamptonfamilies.com)



**NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER**

40 MAIN STREET, SUITE 206  
FLORENCE, MA 01062  
**(413) 587-1471**  
[earlychildhood@northampton-k12.us](mailto:earlychildhood@northampton-k12.us)

# NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## PUBLIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

- Bridge Street School
- Leeds Elementary School



**For information, contact:**

**(413) 587-1471**  
[earlychildhood@northampton-k12.us](mailto:earlychildhood@northampton-k12.us)  
[northamptonschools.org/early-childhood](http://northamptonschools.org/early-childhood)

## Northampton Public Schools Preschool Program Overview

The Northampton Public School Preschool programs are located at the Bridge Street School and at Leeds Elementary School. Children who turn 3 years old by August 31 of the program year are eligible to apply.

Both programs are half days, with morning and afternoon sessions of integrated preschool classes for three and four year old children who live in Northampton, Florence and Leeds. Our program includes a full school-day option at each school for a limited number of 4-year old children, selected by lottery.

The Northampton preschool program integrates children who are typically developing with those with special needs. Our preschool setting allows all children to participate to their fullest capacities in the mainstream of education. Special support services are provided within the classroom as needed.



## Daily Life in Preschool



## Designed to Support Growth and Development

The classrooms are designed to support the growth and development of each child. Activities and curriculum are developed based on children's needs and interests and guided by the Department of Early Education and Care Early Learning Standards. Our classrooms are language-rich, stimulating, supportive environments. Children learn through a wide variety of play opportunities and interactions with both peers and adults.

We enjoy sand and water play, block building, fantasy play, art projects, reading books together, singing and movement, as well as working on puzzles, turn taking and much more. We play outside every day (weather permitting) offering ride-on toys, play structures, and cooperative games.

Our program emphasizes the development of social, emotional, and cooperative skills in a nurturing early educational environment.

## Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to participate in all aspects of the program and are welcome to visit the classrooms. Parents are welcome to help in the classroom, providing assistance to small group cooking or art projects. Other parents help with special events or prepare materials at home to be used in their child's class.

Each preschool class offers special family events several times during the school year. Teachers meet with families several times throughout the year to discuss their child's progress.

## Program Details

<b>4 Program days:</b>	<b>Monday-Thursday</b>
Morning Session:	8:10 -10:40, M-Th
Afternoon Session:	11:30-2:00, M-Th
School-Day Session*:	8:10-2:00, M-Th

*\*(only 4-year olds)*

**Applications** received by the February 28 deadline are entered into our preschool lottery and receive priority placement

**Highly qualified** certified SPED preschool teachers

**Tuition:** No fee for Preschool hours that are included in a special education plan (IEP).

Sliding fee scale for all other hours:

- ◆ \$0-70 for 4-day half day M-Th
- ◆ \$0-\$168 for 4-day full school day M-Th

Sliding scale fees are based on family size and gross monthly income.