



Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood 3-5 Program

Birth to Five Program Mission

Our Birth to Five Program will build upon the families' strengths while offering tools and knowledge to empower families to reach their full potential.

Program Benefits

Our Curriculum

Creative Curriculum for Preschool is a nationally-recognized, research-based program aligned with Illinois Early Learning Guidelines. Developmentally-appropriate, and project-based investigations are used to foster skills in language/literacy, critical thinking/ problem solving, math, science/technology, social studies and the arts.

Parent Involvement

Our program encourages parent participation. Family Education Nights are held quarterly, and Parent and Play Groups are offered every other week. Parents are encouraged to become members of our Parent Advisory Council, and to use our Parent Lending Library.

Classroom teachers maintain ongoing communication with parents. Parent-teacher conferences are held yearly, through a meeting in your home with the teacher. Report cards are distributed three times a year.

Blended Classrooms

Our pre-kindergarten classrooms are blended, serving a mixture of ages and abilities. Services such as speech and occupational therapy are provided within the classroom for eligible students. Research has shown that both children with disabilities and children who are typically developing benefit from inclusive settings.



About our Program

Funded by Preschool for All, through the State of Illinois' Early Childhood Block Grant, our Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood Program is a needs-based, free program serving children ages 3–5 residing within District 146 boundaries. Enrollment is based on an eligibility screening or evaluation, which helps to determine children who are most in need of programming.

Each District 146 elementary school offers half-day, morning and afternoon sessions, five days a week. Bus transportation is available for eligible students, based on location and need. Each classroom is taught by a certified Early Childhood teacher licensed by the State of Illinois, as well as at least one certified classroom paraprofessional.

A child-directed, play-based curriculum is used to develop social-emotional, gross and fine motor, language, problem-solving, and self-help skills.



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Getting Started

If you have a child between the ages of 3 and 5, please contact our Family Resource Coordinator or complete and submit the referral request.

Parents will be required to prove residency within the school district. Once residency has been documented, a screening packet will be mailed to you. Upon submission of this packet, an appointment will be scheduled for our next screening date.



Screenings typically take 90 minutes. Your child will receive a vision/hearing screening by a school nurse. Language, motor, social-emotional and pre-academic readiness skills will be assessed by a team of teachers and therapists. All results will be shared with you the same day. This screening helps determine if there are any areas of concern in your child's development, and whether he/she will be eligible for classroom placement or other services.

If your child is determined eligible for our program, based on availability, he/she will either be placed immediately or put on an enrollment wait list. The wait list is based on weighted eligibility criteria, and students most in need will be placed first.

Referral Requests

Please detach and mail or bring to:
Community Consolidated School District 146
Early Learning Department
6611 W. 171st Street
Tinley Park, IL 60477

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Best way to contact you (select at least one):

Phone Email Mail

Preferred Language: _____

Translation needed?

Yes No

List of children and ages:

I am a resident of District 146:

Yes No I don't know

Community Consolidated School District 146
Serving the communities of Tinley Park, Oak
Forest, and Orland Park

"Learning for All"

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a fee for these services?

No, all program services are free for enrolled families.

How do I enroll in the program?

Please call (708) 614-4510 ext. 4231 to request an eligibility screening. Our Family Resource Coordinator will guide you through the process

My child isn't potty-trained. Can he/she attend Pre-Kindergarten?

Children do not need to be potty-trained to enroll in our program. There is a child-friendly bathroom in each classroom, and staff are available to assist as needed.

How do I learn more?

For more information, visit district146.org/early_learning, or call 708.614.4510 ext. 4231, or 708.614.4547.

Contact the Team

For more information on the Pre-Kindergarten/ Early Childhood program, please contact our Family Resource Coordinator at (708) 614-4510 ext. 4231. You may also email earlylearning@district146.org.

Additional Information

For contact information for individual classroom teachers and Early Learning staff, visit district146.org/early_learning.

Community Consolidated School District 146
6611 W. 171st Street
Tinley Park, IL 60477
district146.org/early_learning