

Terrific Twos Program

The Terrific Twos program strives to provide guidance and structure to young children in an atmosphere of security and warmth by discovering, playing, and learning together.

MISSION STATEMENT

First Pres Preschool provides an enriched Christian learning environment that encourages cognitive, social, and emotional development as children discover and explore the world around them. Our goal is to nurture a foundation that promotes independence and confidence as an introduction to lifelong learning.

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum encourages growth and learning through play and 'hands on' activities. Our program is committed to providing an innovative and developmentally appropriate curriculum to encourage discovery and growth.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday & Wednesday: 9:15am - 11:15am

or

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:15am - 11:15am

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

It is our goal to guide our terrific twos through the process of moving from relating the world entirely to their selves to relating to a world outside of their selves that includes peers, teachers, and older children.

- Promote social skills such as respect, kindness, and empathy.
- Enhance self-esteem through individual accomplishment.
- Learn how to value another person's rights by teaching respect for others.
- Encourage cognitive development and reasoning skills.
- Develop an appropriate pattern of dependence and independence.
- Foster a sense of continuity between school and the outside world.
- Create a place of community, teamwork, and friendship.
- Explore creativity and self-expression.

PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of our program is to provide an opportunity for young children to explore their world as they develop a new sense of independence in a safe

nurturing environment. Our number one goal for this age group is to create a healthy and happy classroom experience. We strive to nurture growth in the following areas:

- Language and vocabulary skills
- Early math and patterning skills
- Self-awareness and self-expression
- Eye/hand coordination
- Large muscle development
- Social awareness: sharing & getting along with others
- Curiosity and awareness of the world

TEACHING STAFF

All teachers are college graduates; trained and experienced in Early Childhood Education. Our teachers have specialized instruction in various areas including Child Development, Reading, Special Education, and Elementary Education. The staff participates yearly in continuing education by attending early education workshops and seminars, observing in other early education programs and Kindergarten classrooms, and CPR certification.

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the next school year opens to current families/alumni and church families in January. Open enrollment for the public begins in late January. Please email: preschool@firstpreswheaton.org with enrollment inquiries.

Children entering the Terrific Twos must be $2 \frac{1}{2}$ years of age by September 1st to be eligible for enrollment in this program.

If your child does not meet the age requirement, you are eligible to roll into the program during the school year (if there is space available) when your child turns 2 1/2 years of age. Children are placed into the Terrific Twos based on birthdate order not on a first come first serve basis to protect the integrity of the program and to ensure that children are ready for a structured preschool experience. Contact Melissa Coyne, First Pres Preschool Director (preschool@firstpreswheaton.org or 630-668-5147 x133 for more information or to set up a classroom visit.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Orientation for all preschool classes is held during the week of Labor Day. The preschool school year ends the week before Memorial Day. The preschool follows the Wheaton District 200 Academic calendar for holidays, in-service days, and snow days. We also observe Easter Monday each year and there is no preschool on this day.

TRANSPORTATION

Parents are responsible for bringing their child to and picking their child up from the classroom. Parking is available in the parking lot on Harrison and Jefferson.

TOILET TRAINING

Children do not need to be toilet trained to participate in the program. Children may wear pull-ups to class. If a child needs a clean pull-up, a parent or caregiver will be called to come into the classroom and change the diaper if possible.

POLICY

The preschool is licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services of Illinois (DCFS). It is in compliance with health and safety standards established by DCFS and the Board of Health. Further policies are set by the Preschool Staff with the approval of the Session of First Presbyterian Church.

RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS

First Pres Preschool observes Christian holidays, sings a prayer before snack time, and fosters the kindness and community of Christian living. Please reach out to Melissa Coyne if you would like more information on becoming a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton.

Email: preschool@firstpreswheaton.org

melissa coyhe, director

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www.firstpreswheaton.org