



Purpose of the Early Childhood Education Programs

Brevard Christian School offers high quality Prekindergarten programs to our school community for three and four year old children. The purpose is to provide them with a safe, nurturing, stimulating introduction to school life. The programs are designed to instill a love of learning in each child by meeting each student's cognitive, language, social, physical, emotional, creative and spiritual needs and thus to provide an excellent foundation for the formal learning experiences that are ahead.

Brevard Christian Preschool respects parents as the primary and most important providers of care, nurturing and education for their children. "Raise up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." [Proverbs 22:6] The programs provide opportunities for parents and teachers to develop strong relationships that will positively impact the child's care and education.

The programs are predicated on the belief that children learn best when they grow both in academic and social-emotional skills. Brevard Christian Preschool creates learning experiences that invite students to construct knowledge and make meaning of their world. Students construct their knowledge through movement, exploration, use of a variety of materials, collaboration with others, and opportunities to make connections to something they already know. The vibrant Brevard Christian Preschool's educational environment acknowledges that foundational to learning are the experiences and knowledge that children bring to school in combination with their natural sense of curiosity, a sense of wonder and joyful exuberance.

The curriculum provides age-appropriate, high quality academics based on standards derived from national standards documents, the Florida Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, current research on brain-based learning, and Florida Sunshine State Standards in all content areas. The teachers have enumerated and refined these benchmarks and have integrated all areas with a Christian worldview. The curriculum provides meaningful, engaged, effective learning. It is well planned and organized with instructional strategies to support, to challenge, to link current learning to experience and previous learning, and to extend children's abilities and skills. The curriculum is rich in opportunities to solve problems, use language, develop new vocabulary and engage in intellectual activities. A multi-disciplinary approach to learning allows all classroom experiences, learning centers and activities which enable children to make connections and construct knowledge.



Early Childhood Education Philosophy

The philosophy of the preschool is based upon the fact that, "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a real blessing" [Psalm 127:3]. The program encourages the development of social, emotional, intellectual, and physical skills, as well as spiritual growth in order to prepare each student for the formal learning experience.

Children at this age need opportunities to choose from a variety of interesting developmentally and age-appropriate activities. Brevard Christian Preschool's objective is to help children realize their potential while meeting their developmental needs. The program acknowledges each child as having unique experiences, interests, and cultural values that must be recognized and respected. The program structure is based on the assumption that all children have preparedness, potential, curiosity, and interest in engaging in social interaction, establishing relationships, constructing their learning, and negotiating with everyone the environment brings to them. Opportunities are provided for children to expand their learning and experiences through interactions with other children, interactions with a loving Christian teacher, explorations with manipulatives, and engagement in creative dramatics, and large motor development.



Prekindergarten 3 and Prekindergarten 4 VPK

The half day Prekindergarten programs offer a wonderful beginning to a child's education. Children are provided opportunities to expand their learning and experiences through interactions with other children, interactions with loving Christian teachers, explorations with manipulatives, creative dramatics and large and small motor development. The objective of this program is to help children realize their potential while meeting their developmental needs which assures a smooth transition on to the next academic year. Children must be three or four years old by September 1 in order to be considered for placement into these programs.

The preschool classroom contains a rich variety of materials and resources for students to experience:

- Finest children's literature
- Creative, natural, and manipulative materials
- Language through day-to-day conversations, books, poetry, creative dramatics and writing
- Variety of music and art activities
- Quiet and active playtime
- Learning centers
- Large group, small group, and individual instruction
- Indoor and outdoor play areas

Christian Studies

Bible stories provide examples of biblical heroes, and students learn the importance of developing Godly character. Students practice prayer as a simple conversation with God. The steps to salvation are introduced and biblical principles are integrated into all subject areas, helping students see how God relates to everything. Students participate in service projects to grow their faith. Students regularly memorize Scripture.



Language Arts

Teachers model and invite students into the love of reading through introducing quality literature. Students learn to associate letters with sounds, providing the foundation for reading. Teachers use phonemic awareness to help students associate letters with sounds, providing the foundation for reading. Students learn print conventions, sequencing, and story patterns leading to reading readiness. Reading Group becomes the interaction of the reader and the text and allows students to find meaning in print. Students write in daily journals and practice letters and letter-sound relationships. Students express thoughts and feelings using age-appropriate sentences and vocabulary as well as learn to listen respectfully to others.

Math

Instruction includes developing in students' number sense, concepts of one-to-one correspondence, and ideas of groupings and comparisons. Concepts of patterns, sequences, less-than, and more-than are introduced. Instruction is grounded in manipulatives, problem-solving, collaborative work and ties to language.

Social Studies

Students begin to acquire an awareness and understanding of the world, starting with who God made them to be. A respect for cultural diversity is developed as the uniqueness of each individual is celebrated. Students begin to develop a sense of the chronology of time through studying their own lives.



Science

Science is founded upon the design of its Creator and students are introduced to God's creation at the earliest level. Students explore properties of materials through hands-on activities and personal investigations. Students daily review the weather, observe the changes of the seasons in nature, and explore many aspects of God's creation.



Preschool 3 year old Schedule

8:00-8:30	Welcome/free center time
8:30-9:00	Pledges and Worship Meeting
9:00-9:20	Morning Meeting focused on letter or number
9:20-9:30	Whole group activity focusing on letter or number
9:30-9:45	Snack
9:45-10:20	Recess
10:20-11:00	Language Development Meeting including art skill
11:00-11:30	Lunch
11:30-12:00	Free Time in Enrichment Room
12:00-12:30	Dismissal
12:00-12:30	Aftercare restroom and nap preparation
12:30-2:30	Naptime
2:30-3:00	Restroom and Snack time
3:00-3:30	Free center time



Preschool 4 year old VPK Schedule

8:00-8:30	Welcome/Skills Development
8:30-9:00	Pledges and Worship Meeting
9:00-9:30	Free Center Time in Enrichment Room
9:30-10:00	Reading Meeting
10:00-10:15	Whole group lesson focusing on phonics or writing skills
10:15-10:30	Snack
10:30-10:50	Enrichment Activity
10:50-11:10	Language Development Meeting
11:10-11:30	Recess
11:30-11:45	Math Meeting
11:45-12:00	Whole group lesson focusing on math skills
12:00-12:30	Dismissal
12:00-12:30	Aftercare restroom and nap preparation
12:30-2:30	Naptime
2:30-3:00	Restroom and Snack time
3:00-3:30	Free center time