

Hilliard City School District Application Process for Peer Program in the Special Needs Preschool Program

The preschool classes consist of both morning and afternoon sessions. The preschool calendar coincides with the Hilliard City School calendar, except for ending one week early at the end of the school year.

Enrollment is open to children of district residents and staff of Hilliard City School (HCSD) **who are also district residents**. The district's preschool program is primarily designed for children with disabilities; however, typically developing children who enjoy a well-rounded, developmentally appropriate preschool class also may enroll to serve as peer role models for the students with disabilities.

Each classroom has a licensed/certified Pre-Kindergarten Teacher (Intervention Specialist) and trained teacher assistants. Classrooms have a maximum of 16 students, eight of whom have identified disabilities and 4-8 who are typically developing peers.

Hilliard City School District Preschool Program is organized to facilitate children's development in six major areas: cognition, communication, self-help, motor skills, social and play skills, and emotional development. Curriculum objectives are met in a literacy rich, developmentally appropriate environment.

Parents of peers must provide transportation to and from school. Peers must be at least 3 years old, possess age appropriate communication, play, and socialization skills. Plus, the child must be completely toilet trained by the first day of school.

Hilliard City School District Preschool Program is a four-day a week program located at 2874 Alton Darby Creek Road. Morning hours are arrival at 8:55-9:05 and dismissal at 11:35 (Tues.-Fri.) Afternoon hours are arrival at 12:50-1:00 and dismissal at 3:30. (Tues.– Fri.)

Peer applications are accepted throughout the school year.

Parents of typically developing preschoolers who are interested in enrolling their child as a peer model in the preschool program may pick up an application at the Preschool Office or download the application from the preschool website. Completed applications should be returned to the secretary at HCSD Preschool (2874 Alton Darby Creek Rd.). The application will be dated the day it is received. All applications stay the order of the date received. It is the date stamp on the application that determines where the child is placed on the application list.

*****Effective September 1, 2013, peer applicants will only be accepted for children who are at least two years old at the date of the submission of the application.*****

Effective the 2015-16 school year: Tuition is \$120 per month.

The preschool has the following age policy for peers:

Three-Four Year Old Classrooms:

All peers in the three-four year old classrooms must be 3 and 4 years old. Children with a summer birthday (June, July, August, and September) who are eligible for kindergarten the *following* school year will be placed in a three-four year old classroom. All three and four year old peers returning the following school year will be placed in transition classes.

Transition Classrooms:

All peers in the transition classes must be 5 years old when school begins or turn 5 during the school year. Peers in transition classrooms may *not* return for another school year.

Skill Expectations for Peer Program HCSD Preschool Program

****PEERS MUST BE COMPLETELY TOILET TRAINED****

- Play cooperatively with peers
- Take turns with minimal assistance
- Speak in clear English sentences and is able answer and comprehend questions in English
- Participate in an activity when invited by a peer or an adult
- Verbally interact with peers in play situations
- Speech is clear and understandable by unfamiliar adults
- Can follow simple directions and some multiple step directions
- Respond to simple questions
- Can work and attend in small group for at least 10 minutes
- Use toys and classroom materials appropriately
- Listen attentively to a story and can make comments or answer age appropriate questions about a story
- Separate easily from parent
- Help with simple task when asked, (e.g., clean up time...)
- Follow safety rules when reminded
- Eat and drink independently
- Remove small articles of clothing
- Dress self except shoes
- Use bathroom independently
- Independently pick up small toys
- Use toys and objects appropriately (e.g., pushes truck, rocks baby..)
- Will share toys and cooperate in play
- Take turns in simple games (e.g., Duck, Duck, Goose; The Farmer in the Dell)

APPLICATION FOR HILLIARD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRESCHOOL PEER PROGRAM

Child's Name: _____ Gender: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

City, Zip Code _____ **(It is a requirement that peers are residents of HCSD)**

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Parent's Native Language: _____ Child's Native Language: _____

Has your child been evaluated previously by HCSD Preschool? YES/NO If so, when? _____

Are there any medical issues of which the preschool team should be aware of? _____

I realize I will need to provide transportation to and from school: _____ (initial)

I have viewed the HCSD Preschool Website and read the "frequently ask questions" section. _____ (initial)

Please fill out the application for your child and send to the preschool office. The application will be dated the day it is received. It is the date stamp that determines where the child is placed on the application list. The peer applications are filed in chronological order based on the date the application was received. The peer observation is ½ hour. The preschool staff will contact peer applicants who will be 3 years old or older during the Fall and Spring peer observation dates.

**Effective September 1, 2013, the child must be at least 2 years old in order to turn in a peer application.
Effective the 2015-16 school year: Tuition is \$120 per month.**

Return completed application to: HCSD Preschool, 2874 Alton Darby Creek Rd., Hilliard, OH 43026 Attn: Peer Program

- Applications will be accepted throughout the school year.
- Children must be 3 yrs. old to participate in the peer observation process.
- All applicants must participate in the peer observation process.
- All applicants must be able to separate independently from their caregiver to participate in the peer observation.
- All peers must be completely toilet trained in order to attend the preschool.
- At anytime during the peer process, parents who choose to have their child participate in a Kindergarten screening, register for Kindergarten, or apply an/or complete the early entrant Kindergarten application, will lose their peer spot for the following school year.