



**Brentwood High School
Preschool Program
3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227**

PROGRAM

It is the philosophy of the Brentwood High School Preschool focuses on early childhood as an important time in the development of a child. Preschool should be a time of fun, warmth, security, exploring and discovery. The purpose of the Brentwood High School Preschool program is to provide an atmosphere that encourages social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth and development of the child as a whole. Each day the BHS curriculum includes scheduled large group opportunities: story time, language arts, handwriting skills, circle time (games, music, finger plays, songs), prekindergarten skills, conversation and snack. Learning centers include art, math, science, social studies, or practical life activity. All areas of child's development: intellectual, social, emotional and physical are considered when planning activities and experiences. The areas of social development and intellectual growth are especially stressed.

The high school students working with your child are enrolled in the Child Development course as part of the Family and Consumer Sciences curriculum and have a special interest in children. Many are considering careers directly involving children. Classroom studies in all areas of development are thoroughly examined and studied with the purpose of providing the students with the knowledge needed to successfully nurture children.

Our goals for the children are:

- to provide an exciting first experience attending school
- to prepare for the transition to kindergarten
- to provide a quality preschool experience

We encourage the children to learn about themselves and the world around them through hands on experiences. We look forward to the exciting school year that is quickly approaching!

Sincerely,

Esther Aloia

Esther Aloia
Preschool Coordinator
Family Consumer Science Educator

DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION

The first semester of preschool is open from the end of September until January, then reopens the middle of February and closes the middle of May. Classes are scheduled every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00-11:00 with a *few exceptions*.

Please check your calendars carefully for specific breaks and changes!

Our preschool follows the public school yearly calendar, closing for the same holidays and vacations *with a few exceptions*.

SNOW DAYS/INCLEMENT WEATHER

We also follow the public school's emergency closing procedures. If the school district is on a delay, there will be **NO PRESCHOOL** that day. Please listen to KDKA, WTAE or WPXI for that information.

DELIVERY OF CHILDREN

You have permission to park in the circle during the drop off and pick of your child. Preschool begins promptly at 9:00. Please deliver your child on time. No child is to be brought to preschool more than 10 minutes before class begins.

All doors are locked at the senior high. Upon arrival, myself and the seniors will be waiting in the foyer for your arrival. Due to the new security procedures at the high school we are restricted to the amount of people permitted to enter the building. Please say your goodbyes to your child outside the school and a senior will greet you at the door to bring your child into the foyer. If you arrive late, please press the call button and take your child to the office. A high school student will then come to the office to assist your child to the preschool room. You will need your driver's license to enter the building.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Each child is required to have on file a health statement, which includes a record of up-to-date immunizations and the signature of the child's source of medical care. Immunization records **must** be received before the first day of school. The school nurse will keep medical forms on file.

As a consideration for others, please do not send your child to preschool if they are ill. Should a child become ill during the day, the parent is notified immediately.

Please notify me if your child is ill and will not be attending preschool. You may call me on my cell at (814) 312-7605 the night before or in school (412) 881-4940 ext. 2123 and leave a message on the schools voicemail.

A child will not be allowed to remain in school if he/she shows any sign of illness. In case of medical emergency during a preschool session, Mrs. Aloia or Mrs. Kaminski, the school nurse will administer first aid. The parent or authorized adult will be notified as quickly as possible.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is very important for your child. Please make every effort to encourage consistent attendance to preschool. If an absence occurs please call or email me and be sure to state the reason of absence.

Excessive absences will result in removal of your child from the preschool roster and replacing your child's position with a child on the waiting list. Absence for three consecutive days with any reasoning may result in removal of your child in the preschool program.

DRESS

Children are encouraged to wear play clothes and tennis shoes. Daily activities include active and messy play, and the children should feel comfortable enough to enjoy themselves without worrying about their clothes. We do make every effort to protect clothing and use washable glue, paint, etc. The child's name should be placed on all outdoor clothing and other belongings to help ensure the return of all proper possessions and clothes.

If your child is newly toilet trained and may have an accident, please send a change of clothes in a plastic bags labeled with the child's name.

TOYS AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS

There will be an assigned a Tuesday of every month for show and tell. During circle time, children may participate in sharing. This gives the children an opportunity to use their communication skills. It is helpful if toys are labeled with the child's name. We encourage sharing items that support the theme for the day.

No violent toys are acceptable. We discourage action toys that would encourage "rough house" or violent play. Please use discretion when helping your child choose a sharing item to bring to preschool.

A **book bag** or tote is necessary for carrying all special projects, belongings, papers and special notices to and from school. Please be sure it is labeled with the child's name.

Be sure to look in your child's book bag when they come home from preschool! They have special projects and papers to share with you. Also, look for the "**What I Did Today?**" sheet. It will give you an idea of what your child did in preschool that day. You can click [here](#) to see what it looks like.

It is highly encouraged for you to have a change of clothes in the child's book bag in case of any accidents.

SNACKS

Parents are asked to bring in a snack for the sessions. Snacks can be used as a part of the curriculum, often related to the unit topic, and as an experience in tasting. A calendar will be distributed each month listing the days you are assigned.

With advance notice children may bring special treats for their birthday or any other time during the preschool year.

The school district encourages parents to serve nutritious snacks. For a listing of nutritious snacks ideas you can see the colored attachment.

DISCIPLINE

Acceptable behavior is encouraged by giving positive verbal rewards. This reinforces a child's good feeling about his/her behavior and serves as an example to the other children to act in such a way as to receive this praise. Asking a child to stop and think about his/her unpleasant behavior enables that child to work at self-control.

For a child not cooperating in a group listening situation, the child is seated by the teacher and reminded of acceptable behavior.

Removal from the group for a period of time-out is the next tactic used for a child who continually demonstrates unacceptable behavior. This time-out is not a punishment, but approached as a time when the child may calm down, remember what behavior the teacher is asking for, and decide for him or herself when he/she is ready to rejoin the group with appropriate behavior.

If behavior problems persist, the parent is asked to a conference to discuss what may be helpful in motivating the child to behave in an acceptable way. Discipline is approached as a form of

teaching. All attempts are made to preserve the child's self-concept by using prosocial and positive guidance techniques.

DEPARTURE

Parents are asked to arrive on time for prompt pick-up at **11:00**. We are working with time constraints as high school students are scheduled to attend other classes.

If your child is to leave with someone other than anyone on the pickup list please notify me in writing as to the change (that person will also need to show identification). Arrivals and departures must be between the times designated.

Please note that preschool ends at 11:00. Please be there no later than 11:00 to pick up your child.

COMMUNICATIONS

Please check your child's book bag each day. Special notices will be placed in each child's bag as a way of communicating. To ensure the special notices and projects arrive to and from school it is best to have a folder. In this folder be sure to look for the "What I Did Today?" sheet and use it to talk with your child about their day in preschool. By discussing the activities with your child you will be reinforcing the information he/she has learned that day.

If you have a need or concern at any time, please contact me:

School: (412) 881-4940 Best time to call is between 7:30-7:45 & 2:45-3:15 ext. 2123

Email: millere@brentwoodpgh.k12.pa.us

Home: (814) 312-7605 Anytime between 6:00pm – 9:00pm

WITHDRAWAL

If a child needs to be withdrawn from preschool, two weeks notice is required so that another child can fill the vacancy. Should more notice be possible, it would be appreciated.

Description of Daily Activities

Arrival: Parents will wait outside the school building until the teacher signals. The children will be escorted to the preschool room from the foyer by the high school teachers. Keep your good-byes brief and remind your child that you will be returning for them when school is over. As a reminder parents are not permitted to enter the building.

Opening: We will learn the Pledge of Allegiance; review the calendar including the days of the week, month and year, and weather. Each day we will have a helper to hold the flag and put the number on the calendar. This will also be where the theme will be introduced to the children.

Story Time: Children will listen to an age appropriate story that goes along with the theme of the day. The story will be accompanied by an activity all chosen by the high school students.

Music: Time is set aside each day to sing songs, do finger plays or other music related activities.

Large Muscle Activities: Weather permitting they will play large muscle games outside on the school grounds or in the park. In the winter months children will play in the high school gym.

Snack: Children will be given a snack and drink every day. Children will only be drinking water or milk so please provide accordingly. Please advise the teacher if there are any food allergies. A notice will be sent home to all parents of allergies to the children so you can plan snacks accordingly.

Free Play: This is time provided to the children each day to move about the room to play and socialize. Activities are overseen by the high school teachers and all activities are supervised by the instructor.

Art: Each day the children will be making a craft that they can take home.

Learning Centers: During this time students will be given worksheets that review/practice printing, the alphabet, counting and numbers, or theme. We encourage parents to review these worksheets each evening and provide positive feedback to the child for their work. These learning centers also focus on many hands on activities including science experiments and practical life lessons (tying shoes, zippering coats, etc). Exploration and questions will be encouraged during our labs.

Dismissal: Children will be dismissed one by one from the foyer as parents arrive. Parking is permitted in the circle for arrival and dismissal. All adults who are allowed to pick up your child must be on our list. Any changes will need to be provided in writing. This is a safety issue and will be strictly followed.

The following page contains a copy of the schedule that is conducted at preschool every day.

Week 1 Rotation

Preschool Lesson Plans

Time (Approx.)	General Activity	Activity Description	Person in Charge
9:00	Meet Children	Take attendance	
9:00-9:10	Opening Exercise	Good Morning! Pledge of Allegiance Weather/Calendar Introduction to Theme and Sharing	
9:10-9:20	Story Time (Plan an intro and a conclusion.)	Name of book Author General Idea Activity (Fingerplay, prop, sequence activity)	
9:20-9:30	Writing	Worksheets for students to practice writing (Should relate to theme)	
9:30-9:40	Free play or choice time	Begins when activities are completed	Everyone
9:45-10:10	Large Group Activity -Outside &/or Inside	Outdoor Activity -Supplies needed Indoor Activity -Supplies Needed	
10:10-10:20	Bathroom	Line Up	
10:20-10:35	Snack --needs to be on the table before children wash their hands.	Food Beverage	
10:35-10:40	Free play or choice time	Begins after snack is completed	Everyone
10:40-10:55	Learning Centers: Three learning centers will be available each day.	<i>Art Project:</i> Supplies Needed <i>Math or Science:</i> Supplies Needed <i>Social Studies or Practical Life:</i> Supplies Needed	
10:55-11:00	Free play or choice time	Begins when activities are completed	Everyone
11:00	Meet Parents		Everyone

Teacher Comments:

Bulletin Board: _____

Sensory Center: _____