EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

www.stamfordpublicschools.org
OUR PHILOSOPHY...

The APPLES Early Childhood Educational Center provides high quality early childhood education to ALL children. The program enables children with disabilities to learn alongside their non-disabled peers in a safe, nurturing environment. All children are appropriately challenged through intentionally planned learning experiences, aimed at developing their cognitive, physical, creative and social skills. The APPLES Early Childhood Educational Center prepares each and every student for higher education and success in the 21st century.
YOUR CHILD IS THE APPLE OF OUR EYES.

The APPLES {Age-Appropriate Peers Playing Learning and Exploring in School} Program located in the Early Childhood Educational Center at Rippowam Preschool is an integrated preschool program that offers a nurturing and enriching first school experience by providing the following:

1. Typical Peers Program
2. School Readiness Programs
3. Special Education Program

Our mission is to provide a consistently challenging learning environment to help each preschooler reach his or her full potential. To that end, we create customized learning experiences aimed at developing cognitive, physical, creative and social skills. Our program enables all children to learn in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment. We believe this integrated approach provides educational benefits for all.
EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES

Children learn through play, and we work hard at creating classrooms that facilitate exploration, learning and fun.

Our staff of highly qualified, state certified experienced teachers offers all preschoolers the advantage of their advanced training in childhood development. Paraprofessionals work closely with classroom teachers to ensure all children’s needs are met. In addition, our program offers the services of various specialists including: speech language pathologists, school psychologists, physical and occupational therapists, social workers, behavioral therapists, and a school nurse through an in class support model and are an integral part of classroom instruction. They are equally committed to your child’s education, health and safety.
ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS
Various enrichment programs are offered to enhance the curriculum and educational experience including:

- Daily use of IPads and other state-of-the-art educational tools
- Special Class Events: including visits from Animal Embassy, Bartlett Arboretum, Bricks & Motors, Fire truck visit, Music Together and Book mobile
- Cooking

We are constantly challenging ourselves to come up with new ways to open children’s’ eyes to the excitement of learning. Preschoolers are extremely receptive to learning new languages and movement, so we are also offering classes in Mandarin Chinese and yoga!

Enrollment
To take advantage of these programs, please contact us at 203-977-5094.
TYPICAL PEER PROGRAM

Students are selected for the program through a lottery. All parents must fill out an application for each child entering the lottery.

The lottery process

The lottery criteria will be as follows:
1. Stamford Public School employees, or central office employees who are residents of Stamford.
2. City of Stamford residents.
3. Stamford Public School employees who are non-Stamford residents.

A lottery drawing will be held in February of the year preceding entry to the program.

What is the cost?

The fee schedule is as follows:

1. Income less than $65,000 per year. Annual tuition $5,000 per student (no discounts for multiple student households).
2. Income greater than $65,000 but less than $90,000. Annual tuition $7,500 per student.
3. Annual income greater than $90,000. Annual tuition $10,000 per student.
Program Calendar and Hours

The APPLES Early Childhood Educational Center follows the Stamford Public Schools Calendar and does not operate during school holidays or vacations. Classes meet Monday through Friday from 8:10 AM to 2:40 PM with the option of an extended day—7:30 AM to 4:30 PM—at no additional cost.

SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

Students who are four (4) years old are selected for this program and must meet the following criteria:

1. Student must be a resident of Stamford.
2. Student must be 4 years old on or before January 1.
3. Student must meet School Readiness Grant Eligibility guidelines.
4. Students who have not been enrolled in previous preschool programs are given priority.

What is the Cost?

The cost for the school year is based on the family’s size and income as determined by the Connecticut’s State Office of Early Childhood Fee Schedule.

Program Calendar and Hours

The APPLES Early Childhood Educational Center follows the Stamford Public Schools Calendar and does not operate during school holidays or vacations. Classes meet Monday through Friday from 8:10 AM to 2:40 PM.
SPECIAL EDUCATION PEERS

Students who are three (3) and four (4) years old are enrolled in this program after being evaluated by the Preschool Assessment Team and an Individual Education Plan (IEP) is developed.

What is the Cost?

There are no fees for children identified as meeting the criteria for Special Education Services.

Program Calendar and Hours

The APPLES Early Childhood Educational Center follows the Stamford Public Schools Calendar and does not operate during school holidays or vacations. The program placement and hours are determined by the students Individual Education Plan (IEP).
SCHOOL READINESS

Students who are (4) years old and are selected for this program must meet the following criteria:

1. Students must be a resident of Stamford and districted in the schools attendance area.
2. Students must be 4 years old on or before January 1.
3. Students who have not been enrolled in previous Preschool programs are given priority.

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