

Little Irish 3 Year Old Preschool

Our Mission

To help children become happy, confident, and independent learners.

To provide a warm, accepting, and spiritual environment in which a child feels safe, respected, and loved.

To discipline by positive methods using choices and logical consequences in which a child develops self-discipline and personal strength.

To encourage children to use their creativity and explore the world around them.

Organization and Purpose

Little Irish Preschool strives to provide each child with an enjoyable educational experience that will prepare him/her for their educational career. Our preschool promotes the individual child's physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual growth. Little Irish has implemented Creative Curriculum for Preschool recommended by Iowa Quality Preschool Programming and is fully aligned with state standards. The emphasis is on sustaining a proper learning environment that seeks to help all children feel valued for their unique contributions to the classroom community and enable each child to explore and learn at an individual pace. The program seeks to utilize developmentally appropriate methods to result in a classroom of confident, secure children who are engaged in the joy of learning.

Goals and Expectations for Preschoolers

Preschoolers are encouraged to use their strengths and interests and natural curiosity to explore topics that are relevant to their everyday lives. Children will find answers to their questions through direct observation and experimentation. Their own questions, interests and developmental age and background information will serve as a foundation to guide teachers and students in developing vocabulary, skills and knowledge to create innovative experiences. The final goal is to help students build healthy social, emotional, cognitive and physical skills so that they can be actively engaged in the world around them.

Days and Hours

The 3 year old program operates on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Please listen to the radio for postponements or cancellations. Refer to the section entitled **Weather** for more information on postponements and cancellations.

Admission Policies

The following enrollment policies have been established to afford your child the maximum protection and to comply with state standards:

1. Immunization cards must be up-to-date and signed by both you and your doctor or public health nurse prior to being admitted to preschool the first day.
2. Parents must sign consent for medical care for use in emergencies.
3. Your child must be at least 3 years of age by September 15th.
4. Your child must be toilet trained by the start of preschool.
5. We have room for 14 children between the ages of 3 and 4.
6. Please see attached registration about acceptance and waiting list policies.
7. Families will be informed by May 1st if they are accepted or placed on a waiting list.

Discipline for Inappropriate Behavior

Every effort will be made to keep children safe from harming themselves or other children. The staff will use a Developmental Approach and ask the child to stop the inappropriate behavior. After a reminder, the child will be separated from other children. The child will be free to return when he/she is ready.

Discharge Policies

If your child is not yet ready for the group experiences, or if his/her needs are not best met in the group setting, we may ask for the removal of the child in a confidential conference with you. We do not believe that your child should remain in school unless he/she derives some benefit from the program.

Tuition

Tuition is \$120.00 per month. If paying monthly, tuition is due the first week of each month. If you have any questions or concerns about tuition, contact the office at 852-3464.

School Absence Policy

Parents are expected to pay the regular tuition fee when their child is absent. This policy is necessary since our operating costs continue and space is saved for your child. Please call the school (852-3464) and or contact the teacher if your child will be absent from preschool. This is important as we need to know when our group is complete each day. Please inform the teacher the reason for the absence.

Transportation, Arrival, and Dismissal

The preschool assumes no responsibility for transportation. You may drop you child off at the Preschool room anytime after 7:50 A.M. Please pick your child up at the Preschool room promptly at 12:00 P.M. If something happens and you may be delayed, please contact the teacher or call 852-3464 and let us know. Please drop off and pick up on the church driveway, for safety reasons.

Clothing

It is best if the children wear everyday clothing to preschool. Every effort is made to protect the children's clothing during crafts and activities, but it is important that they need not worry about their clothes getting soiled. When your child wears boots in the winter, please be sure to send shoes along in his/her book bag.

An extra set of clothing is to be left at school in the students cubby. In case of some bathroom accidents, spills in the cafeteria, or playground mishaps.

Supplies needed

Your child should bring a **book bag** each day he/she attends preschool, large enough to hold a folder. This should be labeled with his/her name. Usually a folder with a newsletter and your child's work will be sent home on every Thursday, but be sure to check your child's book bag after each day of preschool for important notes.

When you send a tuition check or drink ticket money, please place it in a sealed envelope and label the outside in bold print. It is best to place any correspondence in the folder when your child returns it to school on Tuesdays. Eventually, the children become responsible enough to remember to get the note out of their bag.

Your child will need **an economy pair of gym shoes**. They must not leave black marks on the gym floor. These shoes will be left at school for use in the gym. Velcro shoes are preferred as they are more preschooler friendly. Children will practice putting on their own shoes as well as coats, gloves, and hats.

A list of consumable supplies will be handed out at registration.

Weather

If school is cancelled or has a late start because of the weather conditions, there will also be late start for preschool. We will make up any cancelled days on Friday if possible or at a later date. The teacher will keep you informed.

Tornado and Fire Drills

Tornado and fire drills will be performed on a regular basis at preschool. Escape plans will be posted by each exit.

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Illness Policy

If your child is running a temperature, has diarrhea or has vomited before school, please DO NOT send the child. If the child gets sick during school we will call the parent to make arrangements to come get the sick child. **Keep your child home 24 hours after vomiting or high fever.**

Medications

NO medications (including over the counter drugs such as Tylenol) will be administered during preschool.

Class Schedule

8:00 - 8:20	Arrival, Check in, table work
8:20 - 8:30	Prayer and Pledge
8:30 - 8:45	Calendar and class meeting
8:45 - 9:00	Large Group Learning
9:00 - 9:30	Learning Centers
9:30 - 10:00	Bathroom Break and Recess
10:00 - 10:20	Snack
10:20 - 10:30	Story Time
10:30 - 11:00	Music and Movement
11:00 - 11:45	Small Groups
11:45 - 11:50	Clean-up
11:50 - 12:00	Prayers and Farewell Song

Centers

Reading Center: contains a library and educational props to act out stories.

Dramatic Play: items to encourage imaginative play to coincide with the theme of our lessons and everyday life.

Block Center: several sizes and shapes of blocks to help children master fine and gross motor skills.

Discovery Station: many science activities and items are offered so children can experiment and explore basic concepts.

Art Station: both student directed and teacher directed activities, are offered to encourage creative expression and facilitate mastery of fine motor exercises.

Sensory Table: students explore materials with hands on approach. Students' practice scooping, sorting, and using hands by strengthening grasp.

Table Games & Puzzles: children participate individually or in groups of two, in games that work on matching, sorting, and grouping. The classroom also has a variety of puzzles for children to use.

This schedule changes slightly due to weather. When we are inside for recess, we use the gym when it is available.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Emmetsburg Catholic School at 852-3464.

PLEASE SAVE THIS BOOKLET OF INFORMATION AS YOU MAY WANT TO REFER BACK TO IT LATER IN THE YEAR!!