Welcome to the Preschool Room!

Welcome! Meet Your Teachers!

In order to aid in a smooth transition to the Preschool Room, we have prepared this information to give you some insight to the changes you will experience now that your child is a Preschooler!

Please read through this booklet before your child transitions as a Preschooler. If you have any questions, please stop by and talk with the Preschool staff or the Director Brittany Anderson. We can also be reached via phone at 763.591.0681 or email: holynativitycccc@gmail.com.

Preschool Room Staff

Rachel Crane:

Rachel is a Preschool Teacher and has worked for us since September 2013. Rachel has her AA in Child Development. She and her husband, Jeff, live in Champlin with their dog, Lulu.

Kateri Galvin-Siebenaler:

Kate is a full time Preschool Teacher and has worked for us since September 2024. Kate has several years of college and Preschool teaching experience. She lives in Savage.

Hannah Ruiz:

Hannah is a full time Assistant Teacher and has worked for us since January 2025. She has an AA in Seminary. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Josh.

Elle Dalager:

Elle is a part time Floating Assistant Teacher and has worked for us since April 2024. She has a diploma in Biblical Studies. She resides in Plymouth.

Ava Talley:

Ava is a part time Aide and has worked for us since September 2024. She is currently a second-year student at Free Lutheran Bible College in Plymouth, but hails from Illinois.

Holy Nativity Christian Child Care Center

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Who are my teachers?
- ☺ What do I bring to school each day?
- ☺ What is included in the Preschool curriculum?
- ☺ What about my nap schedule?
- ☺ What do I eat every day?

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Changes from the Toddler Room to the Preschool Room

There are many changes that your child will be experiencing as they move to the Preschool Room. These include (but are not limited to):

- Highly structured, thematic approach to learning
- Great emphasis on skills needed for Kindergarten, focusing on all of the physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual areas of development
- A 1:10 ratio
- An increase in the time spent outside
- Soccer shots summer opportunity
- Greater encouragement for individual self-care and responsibility
- More chances for parent involvement in the classroom

If you have any concerns about these changes, please feel free to discuss them with the preschool staff or Director Brittany.

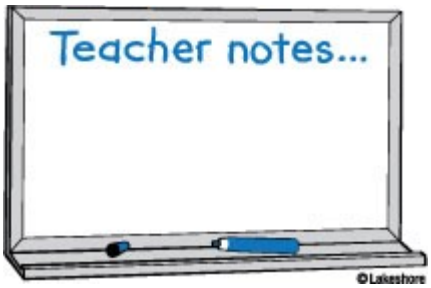
Preschool Curriculum

Your preschooler will experience a lot of learning in the Preschool Room! We will continue to teach the children social interaction skills and how to use their words with other children and adults. The preschoolers will also learn about classroom rules and respect for one another.

As a preschooler, your child will experience a more structured learning environment including a theme-based weekly curriculum. Your child will experience each of the following every day in their classroom:

- Circle Time: calendar, weather, alphabet, colors, shapes, stories, songs, patterning, sequencing, and a mini "lesson" about the weekly theme
- Jesus Time: We use the Enduring Faith religion curriculum from Concordia Publishing House
- Science: A science activity related to the theme, available for each child's own exploration
- Art: structured and free art
- Sensory: a different sensory experience relating to the theme weekly
- Outdoor Time: outdoor play twice a day
- Songs/Stories: including both theme-based and general activities

The activities and projects will change daily and weekly, and will correlate with the theme of the week. A weekly lesson plan is posted outside of the Preschool Room (and available via email), which gives a more detailed explanation of what your child will learn each week.



Parent-Teacher Communication

Each day the parent is responsible for signing their child in and out. The sign in sheet is located outside of the Preschool Room on the Parent Communication Center. We ask that you write any pertinent information in the blank space, as well as approximate pick up time that evening. Throughout the day, we will record any important happenings with your child (i.e. nap, accidents, "cool offs", etc.) and will verbally update you at pick-up time with this information. We desire to touch base with every parent at drop off and pick up.

We want to maintain open communication at all times with the parents of our enrolled children. We encourage you to give us feedback on our program and planned activities. At all times we hope you will feel free to speak with any of us about a concern or complaint. Please speak to the teachers directly in order to settle a situation or grievance. If you cannot find resolution at this point, please speak to the Director. We wish to serve you in the best way possible. Your input and needs are important to us as we try to provide the best possible care of your child. If at any time you wish to visit the Center to see your child, please feel that you are always welcome. Please feel free to call, message via Brightwheel, or email at any time to speak with the Director or your child's teacher. We will make every effort to notify you via phone, email, or written communication whenever a situation arises of which we feel you should be aware. Thank you!

Preschool Nap Schedule

As an alternative to noisy and involved activities, naps are an important part of the daily program.

Nap in the Preschool Room is after lunch, and can last from one to two hours, depending on how long each group sleeps on a particular day. We request that each child sleep on their cot or just enjoy the quiet. In the nap area, there is faint lighting and soft music playing, and children who need it will have their back patted as they fall asleep. We have found that most children need the rest and will easily fall asleep within one half-hour. If your child does not fall asleep after half an hour, they will be allowed to get up and do quiet activities on the other half of the classroom. Please make sure that your child has a blanket for naptime. These blankets are to be brought home to be laundered once a week. While no child likes a break from play, we ask that you help your child understand that naptime is a quiet time. Please help us by referring to it as rest time. This may help your child adjust to the transition from play.

Preschool Meals

Breakfast is served around 8:45 A.M. and is provided by HNCCCC. Breakfast consists of cereal or grain, hormone-free 1% milk, and fruit.

Lunch is served around 11:45 A.M. and is provided by our catering company, Catering with Care. According to nutritional guidelines, the children's lunch must have the following: protein (meat/meat alternate), a grain, a fruit, a vegetable, and milk.

Snack is served around 3:00 P.M. and is provided by HNCCCC. It includes milk and a nutritional snack that varies daily.

According to MN DHS, at least one whole grain item must be served every day. Those items are denoted as "WG/R" on the menu. Menus are sent out in advance of the month, along with the monthly newsletter.

HNCCCC is a peanut and tree nut free center, including items that are processed on equipment that processes nuts.

If you have any concerns about mealtimes or if your child has a food allergy, please let us know.

Cubbies

Your Preschooler will have two labeled cubbies: one in the Preschool Room and one in the Muscle Room. Items needed in the classroom (blankets, extra clothes, etc.) are to be stored in their classroom cubby. Items needed for outdoor play (snowpants, jackets, boots, mittens, hats, etc.) are to be kept in the Muscle Room cubby. We ask that ALL of your child's items be labeled with your child's first and last names to prevent items from being lost here at HNCCCC. We ask that parents clean out their child's cubbies as necessary to prevent an overflow of unnecessary items. Also, please be sure to keep the cubby stocked with extra clothes that are of the appropriate size and season. Preschoolers still have accidents from time to time and can get very messy with food, art and outdoor play, so there needs to be adequate extra clothing.

We like to display your child's artwork in the classroom, so their mailbox will store your child's artwork after it has been prominently displayed in the Preschool Room and they are ready to take home. These can be found outside the Preschool Room in the Parent Communication Center.

Please be sure ALL of your child's belongings are labeled with their first and last name!

Enrichment Classes

The Preschoolers partake in special enrichment activities most days of the week: Dancercise, Chapel, and Growing with Music.

We have Dancercise on Tuesdays during the school year. Miss Tessa teaches 30 minute classes on how to be healthy using games, stories, and music.

Chapel with Pastor Jason is on Wednesdays. Pastor leads us in kid-friendly worship and Bible lessons, with the goal of promoting a healthy spiritual life.

Our Growing with Music teacher is Michelle and it is on Thursdays. Growing with Music's primary objective is to "encourage and develop the young child's natural creativity and interest in music, while respecting their individual needs." (taken from the Growing with Music philosophy statement).

During the summer months, the Preschoolers have a special opportunity to partake in Soccer Shots at school. More information is sent out in the spring.

All of these opportunities are paid for by HNCCCC, as part of our extracurricular and field trip budget. Having on site programs means that all age children can participate, and we do not need to pay for school buses to drive us.

Holy Nativity Christian Child Care Center

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A Christian Learning Center

We're on the web!
www.hncccc.org

Mission Statement

This center is the ministry of the church, a way of meeting the needs of children and their families, including sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the center, the church commits itself to the social, physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual well-being of children. All the work of the center is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, whose name is proclaimed with love. The center commits itself to an inclusive ministry serving people regardless of their race, language, ethnicity, gender, social, or economic background. The center commits itself to fair and equitable employment practices, including non-discriminatory hiring, just compensation, and affirmative action. The center commits itself to strive toward the highest standards of excellence in this ministry.

What do I need to bring each day?

- At least THREE complete changes of season and size appropriate clothing (pants, shirts, socks, underwear, one pair shoes)
- A blanket and/or stuffed animal for naptime (no nuks)
- Winter gear, as seasonally appropriate (snowpants, winter jacket, boots, mittens, hat, etc.)
- Sunscreen, sun hat, and a reusable water bottle from May to September
- Reusable bag for dirty clothes (recommended: Alva Baby or Bumkins)
- A family picture for our board

Program Objectives

- To provide a warm, nurturing environment that encourages the development of the whole child
- To provide an environment that is based on successful experiences, which encourage all children to develop a healthy self-concept and positive self-esteem
- To offer an environment that encourages children to develop their capabilities and interests at their own pace and according to their individual needs
- To offer a program that recognizes the uniqueness of each and every child and provides positive encouragement for the child's continued growth
- To create an environment that provides the child with the opportunity to learn by doing and moving from hands-on experiences to more abstract concept development
- To provide opportunities for a lifetime of creative living and learning