



PARENT HANDBOOK



2023-2024

“Our mission is to provide child-focused experiences that enable children to reach their full potential.”

Nannette Barnes, Director
Preschool Services

385-646-4672
www.graniteschools.org/preschool

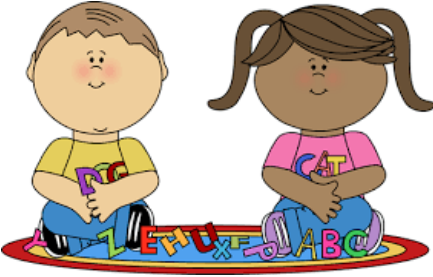
Teacher Name

Phone #

Email

It is Granite School District policy that no person shall be excluded from participation based on race, religion, color, sex, national origin, or disability.

THE CURRICULUM AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Granite School District (GSD) Preschool has adopted the *We Can!* Management System as the foundation for our classrooms – teaching in ways that match the way children develop and learn. The preschool day is comprised of whole group and small groups for explicit teaching of skills. Interest areas also provide opportunities for children to explore, experiment, discover, share, learn and practice newly acquired skills.

In keeping with Granite School Board resolutions for all district classrooms, the preschool day will include focus on pre-reading and early math activities. In addition, emphasis will be placed on the social skills, physical, intellectual, and language development of each child.

The preschool classrooms are designed to minimize behavioral challenges as children are taught the classroom routines and expectations. If any serious behavior problems arise, the parent will be involved in determining needed interventions.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Your child's teachers will promptly discuss any concerns about your child. Teachers and other school staff members will work with you to develop strategies to meet your child's needs. Depending on the need, support is available from the special education teacher, preschool nurse, social worker, psychologist, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, and coordinator. Speech, hearing, and vision screening will be available for children enrolled in the program. If you suspect that your child may have a delay in development of speech, language, social, motor, learning skills, and/or self-care, talk to your child's teacher about options for evaluation or call 385-646-4672.



FIELD TRIPS

1. Parents will be notified well in advance of times and places of any walking field trips.
3. A permission slip showing the location and time must be signed for each field trip.
4. Prior arrangements will be made for children with medical or mobility needs.

DRESSING FOR PRESCHOOL

1. Select comfortable clothing for your child. Clothes should be washable. Some of our favorite activities are messy!
2. We go outside so please send coats or sweaters that the child can manage him/herself.
3. Provide clothing suitable to weather changes. This means boots, mittens or gloves, hats, etc. Be sure boots are large enough so that your child can handle them independently.
4. Please label all coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, mittens, boots, and backpacks with your child's name.
5. Send a change of clothing and diapers and wipes (if applicable) in your child's backpack. Please inform your teacher if your child has toileting needs.
6. Please provide appropriate shoes for outdoor activities and gym time. Flip flops are not recommended.



FOOD EXPERIENCES (SNACK)

Some schools participate in a food program that serves breakfast or lunch to our preschoolers. If your child's school does not participate, a healthy snack will be provided. Parents are welcome to provide snack for the class; however, due to Health Department regulations, all food must be store bought. All Granite District Preschool classrooms are "nut aware." Please ask your child's teacher for appropriate snack donation suggestions.

BRINGING AND PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

Please **be considerate** of your teacher's time. She/he is not required to be available before or after class to watch your child. Your teacher will let you know the starting and ending times for your preschool. Please bring your child on time so he/she can feel like he/she is a part of the group. You must pick up your child on time. It is very upsetting to your child to be left at school when everyone else has gone home.

Preschool Services has a strict policy concerning parents who are late picking up their children after class. Parents are allowed 10 minutes to pick up their child after preschool is over. If a parent is late, the following will occur:

- **First Offense:** Parents will be given a **verbal warning** from the Preschool teacher. A note will be kept on file in the child's record documenting the warning.
- **Second Offense:** Parents will receive a **written warning** from the Preschool teacher.
- **Third Offense:** Child and parent will be **dismissed** from the Preschool Program. For children on an IEP, the team will reconvene to discuss options.



In an emergency, please notify your child's teacher by phone if you are going to be late picking up. If you are unable to contact the teacher by phone, please call the elementary school office.

The teacher will call emergency contact phone numbers if your child has not been picked up within 10 minutes of class ending. **If your child has not been picked up within 30 minutes, Child Protective Services or the Granite Police Department may be notified.**

Children will only be released to individuals listed on the "authorized pick-up" list. Prior arrangements can also be made with your teacher to have someone else, with proper identification, pick up your child. Each child must have an authorized person sign them in and sign them out. If any person is prohibited from picking up your child, please provide proof with a copy of the court document.

UPDATED STUDENT INFORMATION

It is very important that we have current information about your child. Changes may include: home address, parents' phone numbers, emergency phone numbers, daycare phone number or address, authorized individuals to pick up your child, or health information. Please notify the office and your teacher of any changes during the year.

PARENT - TEACHER COMMUNICATION



Parents are always welcome in the classroom. Concerns and celebrations about your child can be shared when the class is not in session. All parents of 4-year-olds who will be transitioning to kindergarten will be invited to a conference two times per year. Parents of 3-year-olds will receive a progress report two times per year. Parents will be notified of Parent Education Activities offered throughout the year. Watch for more information.

PARENT RESOURCES



<http://preschool.uen.org>

www.utahkidsreadytoread.org



www.kued.org/kids

www.graniteschools.org



Additional program information and updates can be found on Granite Preschool social media sites such as Facebook (Granite Preschool Services) and Instagram (GranitePreschool). Your elementary school may also have additional social media sites you can access.

SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

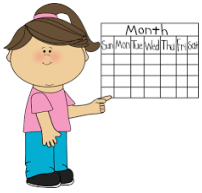
Register your Smith's Fresh Value Card online at www.smithsfoodanddrug.com and choose "Granite Special Education Preschool, Organization #83173" for the Earn and Learn program. You may also go to www.goodsearch.com and choose Granite School District Preschool Services as your charity. Then every time you search the web using the GoodSearch toolbar, they will donate to our program. Use Amazon Smile; select Granite Education Foundation before you begin shopping for the first time. We appreciate your support!

PARENT OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

There are many opportunities for volunteering time and support to the preschool classroom.

1. Parents are encouraged to participate in Parent Education Activities and parent-teacher conferences.
2. Parents may donate items for the classroom. Check the list provided by your child's teacher. Due to Health Department regulations, all food items must be packaged from the store.
3. Parents are invited to share special talents with the children in the classroom, such as music, storytelling, or hobbies of interest to preschoolers. These special talents provide excellent in-class "field trip" opportunities.
4. All parents are encouraged to volunteer. Parent involvement is an important part of any student's educational success and it helps to maintain a successful learning environment.
5. When helping in the classroom, it is important that you:
 - a. Have made prior arrangements with the teacher and are there on your scheduled day.
 - b. Arrive early to class – at least 10 minutes before the preschool begins.
 - c. Sign the volunteer log and read through the agreement.
 - d. Come prepared to give your full attention to preschool. Other children are not allowed in class with you.
 - e. Remember to turn your cell phone off. If you need to take a call, please step outside the class and keep your conversation short.
 - f. Allow the teaching staff to address any behavior issues.
 - g. A good rule: leave the classroom more orderly than you found it! A big THANKS for all you will do!!
6. Please make sure you have read the Preschool Student Privacy Rights sheet included in your orientation packet.
7. We are always looking for highly qualified substitutes. If interested, please ask your child's teacher.





CALENDAR

All GSD preschool classes will follow the preschool calendar for the school year. Classes will not be held on **Fridays, scheduled holidays, compensatory days, professional development days, or any day the school is closed.**

Be sure to review the teacher's monthly calendar for days children will not attend preschool and for early out days.

ATTENDANCE

If your child is absent 40% of the month (8 days for 4 year olds; 4 days for 3 year olds), without teacher notification, your child will be withdrawn from the program unless they are on an IEP.

PROPER HYGIENE

Good hygiene is a critical component of a healthy environment in the classroom. In order to provide the best learning environment possible for all children, we ask parents to take an active role.

Please make sure your child comes to school each day:

- With hands and face washed and hair brushed daily
- Wearing clean clothes and underwear
- With freshly brushed teeth
- Bathed and with regularly shampooed hair

If your child wears a diaper, it should always be clean and dry when he/she comes to school.

Help your child learn how to take part in their hygiene habits. These healthy habits will follow them throughout their lives. If you have questions, specific concerns, or needs, please contact your preschool nurse at 385-646-4672.



HEALTH

Utah State Law requires that all children must be current on all immunizations. A copy of the student's current immunization record must be filed with the preschool office at the time of registration to allow your student to attend class.

Reasons for keeping your child home from school:

- Fever above 100 degrees Fahrenheit (without fever reducing medication)
- Untreated pink eye – yellow discharge or crust
- Vomiting or diarrhea two or more times within a 24-hour time period
- Unexplained body rash, especially if accompanied with fever or swollen glands
- Untreated head lice
- Uncovered infected wounds with discharge
- Influenza
- Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease
- Upper respiratory symptoms such as uncontrolled asthma or wheezing with difficulty breathing, persistent cough, acute cold
- Unusually tired, pale, difficult to wake, irritable, lack of appetite



Children who are ill with the following communicable diseases must be kept home until cleared by a family physician:

Chicken Pox
Ringworm
Rubella
Influenza

Fifth Disease (Slap Cheek)
Hand Foot & Mouth Disease
Rashes of unknown origin
Whooping Cough/Pertussis

Scabies
Scarlet Fever
Strep Throat
Impetigo

For signs/symptoms related to COVID-19, please refer to the Utah Department of Health and the Granite School District website for the most current guidelines and exclusion criteria.