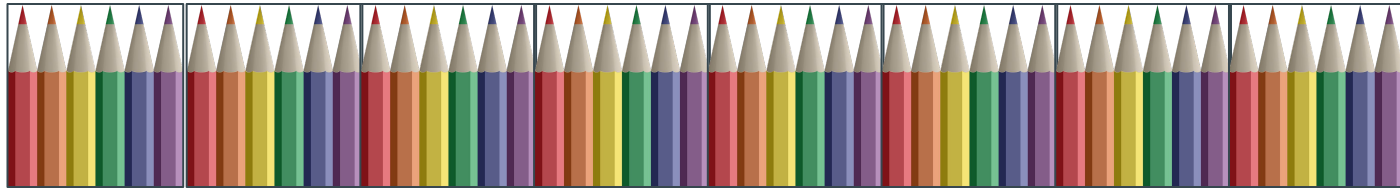


Bloomington
Beginners PreK
Parent Handbook

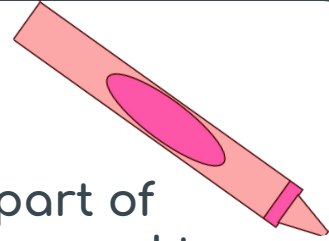


Welcome to our Program

Dear PreK Parents and Families,

Welcome to our free, full-day PreK program as part of Bloomingdale Public Schools. We are looking forward to working with you and your children this year and helping them achieve their full potential. Our days and weeks will be filled with many wonderful experiences and opportunities to learn and grow.

Throughout the school year, please use this handbook as a reference, as it will contain all of our program information to assist your family on the journey through the Bloomingdale Beginners PreK. We are excited to welcome you into our Bloomingdale Beginners family this school year.



Requirements for Enrollment

Bloomington Public Schools is pleased to have the opportunity to offer free preschool in our Bloomington Beginners PreK Program to selected applicants.

A student's age is determined by how old he or she is on October 1st of that school year. All students who are 3-years-old on or before October 1, 2022 and all students who are 4-year-old on or before October 1, 2022, will be enrolled in a preK class. Regardless of how old a student is at the end of that school year, all students will follow the sequence of classes for his or her age-level, unless otherwise specified. Any student who is enrolled as a 3-year-old will automatically roll-over to a 4-year-old class the following year, dependent upon residency.

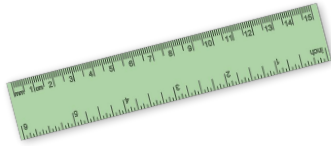
All students **MUST** reside in Bloomington, NJ to maintain enrollment in our program



Our Locations

Martha B. Day School
225 Rafkind Road, Bloomingdale NJ 07403
Phone: (973) 838-1311

Samuel R. Donald School
29 Captolene Ave, Bloomingdale NJ 07403
Phone: (973) 838-5353



Medical Reminders

Within the first few months of school, all PreK students will be screened for his or her height, weight, vision and hearing. Dental screening will also be made available to all students within the school year. Any required parental consent for these screenings will be shared and collected prior to screening.

Please keep your child home from school if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms:

- Illness during the night
- Fever is present 100 degrees or over
 - Child should be free from fever for 24 hrs prior to return to school
- Development of a rash on face and/or body
- Nausea, Vomiting, or Diarrhea
 - Child should be free from these symptoms 24 hrs prior to return to school
- Any other reason that may require medical attention

Immunizations



All students attending the Bloomingale PreK program need to comply with the immunization requirements (including flu vaccine) set forth in N.J.A.C 8:57-4. For more information, please reach out to the nurse.

The overall purpose of the New Jersey school immunization requirements are to protect individuals, schools, and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases.

NOTE: Preschool students will NOT be allowed to attend class after 12/31/22 if they do not send in written notification that their child has received the flu vaccine.

Administration of Medicine

As per BPS Policy #5310, the Board of Education disclaims any and all responsibility for the diagnosis and treatment of an illness of any student. However, in order for many students with chronic health conditions and disabilities to remain in school, medication may have to be administered during school hours. Parents are encouraged to administer medications to children at home whenever possible as the medication should be administered in school only when necessary for the health and safety of students. The Board will permit the administration of medication in school in accordance with applicable law.

Medication will only be administered to students in school by the school physician, a certified or non certified school nurse, a substitute school nurse employed by the district, the student's parent, a student who is approved to self-administer in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12;3 and 12.4, and school employees who have been trained or designated by the certified school nurse to administer epinephrine and glucagon in an emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:40-12.5, 12.6, 12.29 & 12.30

Continuation of Administration of Medicine

The school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the administration of epinephrine and glucagon to the student. However, the school nurse may designate, in consultation with the Board or the Superintendent, additional employees of the district who volunteer to be trained in the administration of epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism and the administration of glucagon using standardized training protocols established by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) in consultation with the Department of Health when the school nurse is not physically present at the scene.





School Day



The Bloomingdale Beginners PreK program provides free, full-day preschool to all enrolled students.

Our typical school day is a 6.5-hour day from Monday through Friday. We follow the school calendar for Bloomingdale Public Schools.

All changes in the Bloomingdale Public Schools schedule due to inclement weather or any other circumstance will apply to all Bloomingdale PreK classrooms.

Martha B Day School Hours: 7:40 AM-2:20 PM
Samuel R. Donald School Hours: 8:15 AM-2:50 PM

Daily Activities

A typical PreK school day will consist of all of the following activities:

Activity	Times
Breakfast	20 minutes
Morning Meeting	15 minutes
Academic Choice	1 hour 5 minutes in morning and afternoon
Large Group	15 minutes
Read Aloud	15 minutes
Lunch	25 minutes
Nap	1 hour
Closing circle	5 minutes

Arrival / Dismissal



Arrival

PreK students should arrive at their designated time. Please drop your child off at your classroom's designated entrance. Staff will walk your child into the school building. **After ten minutes, your child will be marked late.**

Dismissal

PreK students are dismissed through your classroom's designated exit. The names of all individuals who are allowed to pick up your child should be articulated to the main office at the start of the school year.

Any changes to your child's dismissal **MUST** also be communicated to your school's main office prior to dismissal.

District Calendar 2022-2023



September

6 First Day of School

October

6 Early Dismissal-Teachers PD

7 Early Dismissal

10 School Closed-Columbus Day

November

7 Early Dismissal-Parent Teacher Conferences

8 School Closed-Teacher AM PD-PM Conferences

9 Early Dismissal

10-11 School Closed NJEA Convention

23 Early Dismissal

24-25 School Closed-Thanksgiving

December

23 Early Dismissal

26-30 School Closed-Winter Break

January

2 School Closed

13 Early Dismissal-Teacher PD

16 School Closed-MLK Day

February

16 School Closed-Teacher PD

17-20 School Closed-Winter Break

March

10 Early Dismissal-Teacher PD

April

3-8 No School-Spring Break

May

26 Early Dismissal-Teacher PD

29 No School-Memorial Day

June

16-20 End of Year Early Dismissal

21-Last day of school



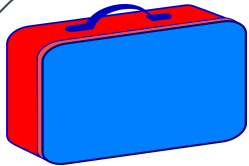
Overview of Student Absences

In the event that your child will not be attending school due to illness, please call the school and leave a message with the nurse.

To ensure that students receive the maximum benefit from the program the following attendance procedures will be enforced:

- Parents/Guardians must notify the school nurse whenever the student is absent for any reason prior to the beginning of the school day and;
- The Bloomingdale Beginners program monitors excessive absences and tardiness.
- Families who have a pattern of excessive absences or tardiness (ten minutes after start of day) will be referred to the Preschool Referral & Intervention Team, Community Parent Involvement Specialist, and/or PreK administrative team for mediation.





Breakfast and Lunch Procedures

All students will receive a free healthy breakfast upon arrival. This is provided by the Bloomingdale Public Schools.

Forms will be distributed regarding the Bloomingdale Public School Lunch Program. If you do not wish to participate, please provide a healthy lunch and snack for your child daily in a lunch box.

NOTE: Be sure that your child's lunch is prepared to be readily eaten. Classroom staff cannot heat or refrigerate lunches for all students. We recommend putting an ice pack for food that needs to remain cold or a thermos for food that needs to remain hot.



Rest/ Quiet Activities

Having rest time encourages preschoolers to slow down and relax in order to better process what they have learned that day. All students are encouraged to nap. If he/she prefers not to rest, quiet table-top activities will be provided for him/her.

Students will be provided with a cot and fitted sheet in the classroom. If you would like to, you can also send in a crib-size blanket and pillow. Any items you send in will be returned home weekly for washing.



Student Dress Code

Student clothing should be weather-appropriate and comfortable to play in! Sneakers are encouraged for daily outdoor play. Due to safety concerns we will not allow students on equipment in open toed shoes.

It is advised to provide your child with 2 FULL changes of extra clothing on the first day of school. Each item should have his/her name on the tags. If soiled clothes are sent home, please remember to send in another change of clothes on the following school day.

If your child uses pull-ups, please send in pull-ups and baby wipes weekly.





Creative Curriculum



The Creative Curriculum® System for Preschool is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum system designed to help educators at all levels of experience plan and implement a developmentally appropriate, content-rich program for children with diverse backgrounds and skill levels.

The System presents knowledge-building and daily practice resources in tandem, to create a cohesive system that supports teachers throughout the year. The knowledge-building curriculum volumes offer insight into the most current research and best practices for early childhood education. The daily practice resources contain step-by-step guidance to help teachers organize and manage every moment of the day, intentionally and effectively.

Based on objectives for development and learning that are predictive of school success and aligned with state early learning standards, The Creative Curriculum® System for Preschool helps teachers ensure that they are focusing on what matters most for children at every age. The System components also include: built-in support for all learners, with specific sections of guidance for working with English- and dual-language learners, advanced learners, and children with disabilities.



PreK 3 & 4 Study Topics

Beginning of the Year

Buildings

Roads

Simple Machines

Exercise

Study of Choice

Insects

Gardening

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Insects

Camera/Lights

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Early Screening Inventory (ESI-R)



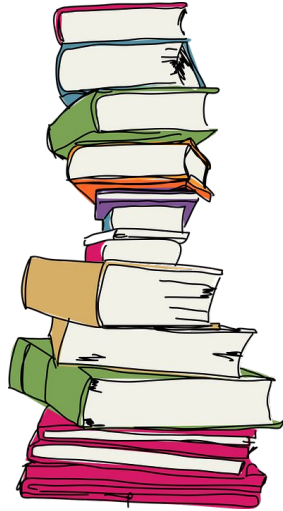
The NJ Division of Early Childhood Education requires using the ESI-R (Early Screening Inventory-Revised).

The screening is a 15 minute assessment administered by the teacher designed to identify children who might be at risk for a possible learning problem or developmental delay.

This screening tool will be administered within the first six weeks of school. More information regarding the ESI-R will be provided during the first weeks of school.



Family Communication through *Teaching Strategies*



All families are encouraged to download the *MyTeachingStrategies Family* app to have the best access to curricular resources and your classroom teacher. Through *MyTeachingStrategies Family*, teachers and administrators can share with you photos, notes, daily reports, and more!

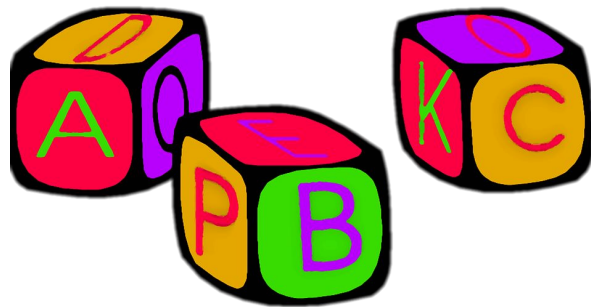
The *MyTeachingStrategies Family* app is available in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

For more information, please click below: [How-To Guide for Families](#)

Report Cards

Report cards will be based on the GOLD Assessment. *Teaching Strategies GOLD* is an ongoing, observation-based assessment for preschool students. Teachers observe children in the context of their everyday experiences to determine what they know and can do, as well as their strengths, needs and interests within 6 areas of development:

- Social Emotional
- Physical
- Language
- Cognitive
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- English Language Acquisition



Report Cards will be distributed in alignment with the Elementary School trimester schedule.

PreK Supply List

- Extra Clothes -labeled
- Blanket, No Pillow please
- Diapers and wipes
- Backpack and lunchbox
- 1 snack, 2 drinks and lunch if needed



Contact Information

Principal: khusser@bloomingdaleschools.org
Ms. Karen Husser

Secretary: aalbrecht@bloomingdaleschools.org
Mrs. Andrea Albrecht

Nurse: kbarile@bloomingdaleschools.org
Mrs. Krista Barile

Master Teacher and PIRS:
Mrs. Francisco efrancisco@bloomingdaleschools.org

Teacher

Teacher Mrs. Bethon: lbethon@bloomingdaleschools.org

Teacher Mrs. Vaccaro: kvaccaro@bloomingdaleschools.org

Teacher

Teacher

Teacher