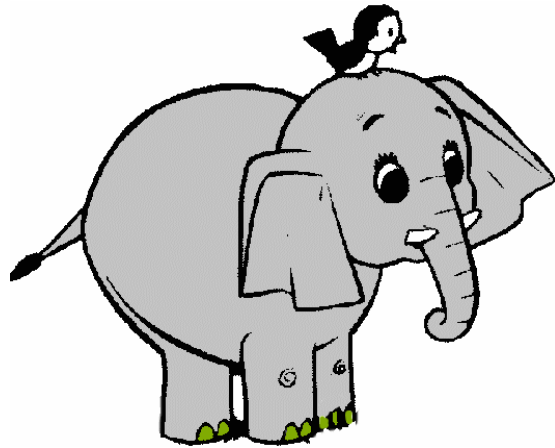


New Hackensack Nursery School Handbook



**New Hackensack Nursery School
Located at New Hackensack Reformed Church
1580 Route 376
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
462-0810, Option 3**

www.newhackensacknurseryschool.org

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The New Hackensack Nursery School, a non-sectarian, non-profit organization, is sponsored by the New Hackensack Reformed Church. The Nursery School Board is overseen by the Consistory of the Church and is the governing body of the Nursery School. The Nursery School Board is made up of Church and Community volunteers.

A Little History

The New Hackensack Nursery School was established as a four year old program in 1965 by a group of mothers who felt that the four year old child was a very special individual and required a special kind of nursery school: one that allowed a child freedom to develop independence and creativity, one that afforded the companionship and adventure a child eagerly desired. We believe that four year olds learn best by exploring, investigating and interacting in a friendly and challenging environment. By presenting a wide variety of experiences and materials, we encourage children to make their own discoveries and learn to put these discoveries into words. By providing a safe and loving atmosphere, we encourage them to become confident and competent as they move on to kindergarten.

The New Hackensack Nursery School program for three year olds was established in 1971 in response to popular demand by parents. Our present-day style of living brings earlier maturity of our young children. This three-year-old nursery school experience will give the child an opportunity to play with children of his/her own age in a setting where toys, equipment and routine are arranged to suit the child's level of maturity. It will also give the child a life of his/her own where home is no longer the sole focus, and allow the child to grow under the direction of loving, qualified teachers.

CURRICULUM

Our sessions provide opportunities for:

1. Independent and group work and play
2. Daily nutritional snacks, many of which the children prepare
3. A balanced schedule of activities that include outdoor and indoor, active and quiet, structured and unstructured play
4. Imaginative and creative self-expression through clay, paints, music, movement, drama, art and language
5. Independence in caring for personal needs, taking responsibility for personal and group possessions, encouragement regarding dressing themselves and taking care of toileting and hand washing
6. Exploration of the environment through seeing, hearing, touching, tasting and smelling
7. Making friends, learning to share equipment and attention, learning to be sensitive to the needs and feeling of others
8. Learning to communicate thoughts and feelings, ideas, and information, and to listen to the expressions of others
9. Enjoying stories, music, rhythms and poetry
10. Practicing skills in thinking, discovering, generalizing, classifying and problem solving
11. Extending their interests and broadening their knowledge about the world
12. Special guests - firefighters, police officers, etc.
13. Field trips - please note that there will be a small additional fee to cover costs
14. Living happily and productively with their peers
15. Developing an enthusiastic and positive attitude toward school and the experience of learning

A BRIEF CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND DATES

FALL/WINTER (Prior to enrollment)

- ~ Discuss program with Registrar
- ~ Request information and be put on mailing list for registration information packet

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- ~ Registration information packet is mailed to those on registrar's mailing list

FEBRUARY

- ~ Registration for 3 and 4 year old programs

JULY

- ~ First tuition payment is due

AUGUST

- ~ Medical report form, permission forms and orientation schedule are mailed to registered students

SEPTEMBER

- ~ School opens - **ALL** forms are due on the first day of orientation

GENERAL INFORMATION

Morning sessions meet: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Afternoon sessions meet: 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

An orientation period begins the school year, during which your child will be introduced to a small group of classmates and become familiar with the teachers and the nursery school equipment.

REGISTRATION

For the 3's: Your child must be three years of age by December 1st
(Two years before kindergarten)

For the 4's: Your child must be four years of age by December 1st
(One year before kindergarten)

The following must be included with your application:

1. Registration fee

~ For those enrolled, the registration fee is non-refundable.

~ For those remaining on the waiting list, but not yet in the program, the registration fee is refundable upon request until September 30th.

2. Photocopy of the child's birth certificate

3. Signed Financial Commitment form

TUITION

Tuition payments will be payable July 15, October 15, January 15 and April 15 unless your child is withdrawn prior to these dates. **If payments are not received within two weeks after the due date without sufficient reason given to the Tuition Treasurer, your child may be removed from the program. Late payments are subject to a \$50 late fee per child.**

Checks should be made payable to:

NEW HACKENSACK NURSERY SCHOOL

Refund Policy: A full tuition refund will be issued if the student is withdrawn prior to August 25th. An 80% refund will be issued if withdrawn between August 25th and the first day of school. A partial, prorated refund will be issued after school has begun.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. If your child experiences a fever over 100 degrees AND ONE of these symptoms:
 - ; Cough, sore throat, and/or runny nose
 - ; Severe headache
 - ; Body aches or pains
 - ; Fatigue
 - ; Stomachache/diarrhea

They must stay home from the nursery school for **7 days after the symptoms begin AND not return to school until they have been symptom-free (without medication) for 24 hours.**

2. A medical report must be submitted to the registrar on the first day of school. The report must include a record of up-to-date immunizations, and be signed by the physician.
3. Students must be toilet-trained (no diapers or pull-ups).
4. Children under the age of 8 must ride in a car seat on all field trips.
5. Your child must always be accompanied to and from the nursery school room.
6. Please enter and exit the building through the back door of the Education Center only.
7. At all times, one teacher will be in attendance for every eight students.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

1. If you intend to withdraw your child, **please notify the registrar**, so plans may be made to admit another student. We do have a waiting list.
2. The NHNS reserves the right to refuse admission to, or participation in, any class when in the opinion of the teachers and/or the board, a child does not or cannot integrate into the classroom setting.
3. **3's ONLY**: On the first day of school, please provide your child with a photo (3" X 5") of him/herself.
4. **4's ONLY**: The “Margaret V. Babinsky Memorial Scholarship” is available on a financial need basis. For information, call the NHNS Board Chairperson.