

The Office of Early Childhood's Mission

The Office of Early Childhood provides a quality education program for all Irvington residents between the ages of two and a half to five years old, including those with special needs.

The Office of Early Childhood recognizes the child's intellectual, social and physical needs, encouraging the use of developmentally appropriate, child centered, and active learning practices.

The Office of Early Childhood acknowledges the family as being the social matrix in which the child develops and thus will strive to work in partnership with families, stakeholders and other members of the community to ensure success.



Our Goals

The goals of the early education program are designed to provide developmentally appropriate active-learning opportunities that lead to the exposure and mastery of Core Content Standards of Quality as stated in the Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards. These opportunities are organized through small group instruction, large group instruction, individualized instruction and structured play. Our goals are as follows:

- ◆ To focus on individual success for all students;
- ◆ To provide child initiated learning experiences;
- ◆ To promote growth in cognitive, physical and social/emotional development;
- ◆ To provide planned environments where students interact with materials, peers and adults; where teachers plan and set intentional goals for students;
- ◆ To promote the development of student skills and understandings that will enable them to make sense of the world around them;
- ◆ To train teachers who help young children use the environment productively and see themselves as capable learners.

Irvington Public Schools Office of Early Childhood

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Irvington Public Schools Office of Early Childhood



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Welcome

Irvington Public School's Office of Early Childhood Free
Preschool 3 and 4 year old Program

◆ Central Preschool Registration

Children must be between the ages of 3 and 4 years old by October 1st of the current calendar year and be a resident of Irvington, New Jersey in order to be eligible for enrollment

◆ Preschool registration is located at 97 Augusta Street, Irvington NJ 07111

◆ Eligibility Requirements

Children who turn 3 years old on or before October 1st.
Children who turn 4 years old on or before October 1st.

What Documents to Bring (Original and Copies):

- ◆ Birth Certificate/Passport/Visa/Green Card
- ◆ Immunization Record (Must include Tuberculin Test with result, if applicable)
- ◆ Physical/Examination-Health
- ◆ Current Proof (1) of Residency (PSE&G bill, Cable bill, Homeowners Tax Bill, Mortgage, current year or month-to-month lease) or Notarized Letter with Proof of Residency
- ◆ Custody Papers (If Applicable)

Preschool Curriculum

The Irvington Public School's Office of Early Childhood is committed to maintaining a high quality preschool program. The Irvington Public School's Preschool program follows the Creative Curriculum's educational approach to preschool teaching and learning. The Creative Curriculum is one of four state approved curricula. The Creative Curriculum provides an opportunity for positive interaction, social/emotional competencies, constructive play and Teacher-Family interactions. The Creative Curriculum is a research-based curriculum provided in both English and Spanish, which supports Spanish speaking students. The curriculum is comprised of a comprehensive collection of daily practices and knowledge building learning experiences that promote intentional academic skills in early literacy, math, physical, cognitive and social/emotional development.

The curriculum supports students as they become independent, self-confident, inquisitive learners. The Creative Curriculum teaches students how to learn, not just in preschool, but throughout their lives. The curriculum allows scholars to learn at an individual pace and in ways that are best suited for them. The curriculum establishes a foundation that promotes good habits and attitudes in children that foster a positive sense of self as they progress through life.

The Creative Curriculum program is a research-based curriculum that addresses the entire range of experiences that students receive at school. According to the New Jersey State Department of Education Content Objectives and Learning Outcomes, "knowledge of child development, and careful observation of the needs and interests of individual children, must guide curriculum." Therefore, Irvington's Office of Early Childhood is committed to providing a program that will increase student achievement.

Preschool Assessment

The Office of Early Childhood uses Teaching Strategies GOLD to capture authentic, ongoing assessments of students in the program. It supports all preschool students emerging academic skills. The assessment tool is key to planning appropriate early childhood learning experiences and helps all students succeed.

A Commitment to Excellence

The Office of Early Childhood provides an inclusive educational program that builds on learning experiences which develop passionate lifelong learners who cooperatively, as well as independently, work to create, investigate, and solve problems.

The Office of Early Childhood implements an instructional program that accelerates learning for all students, builds on the strengths and interests of each student, involves students in ALL steps of the learning process and documents students' growth and development through authentic assessment.

In-District Locations

Augusta Preschool Academy
97 Augusta Street

Berkeley Terrace Elementary School
811 Grove Street

Grove Street Elementary School
602 Grove Street

Madison Avenue Elementary School
173 Madison Avenue

University Elementary School
1 University Place

Thurgood Marshall Elementary School
141-181 Montgomery Avenue



Community Provider Locations

Agape Children's Academy I 645 Chancellor Avenue
Agape Children's Academy II 830 Lyons Avenue
Christian I Pentecostal Preschool 971 Clinton Avenue
Christian II Pentecostal Preschool 717 Grove Street
Kiddie Quarters I Inc. 1174 Stuyvesant Avenue
Kiddie Quarters II Inc. 1730 Stuyvesant Avenue
Leaguers Inc. Head Start 100 Linden Avenue
Leaguers Inc. Head Start 10-12 Marshall Street
Traveling Tots Inc. 1397 & 1406A Springfield Avenue

Parent Participation

The Office of Early Childhood recognizes parents and families as valuable resources in each child's education. Parents are encouraged to be active in the educational process. They are invited to be involved in classroom activities and to conference with staff periodically and as needed. Communication is established by utilizing classroom notebooks, newsletters, phone contacts, and personal conversations. Regularly scheduled parent meetings are provided by staff and are intended to meet the needs of the families and students enrolled.

There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in the program.

