



**NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**3 Primrose Street • Newtown, CT 06470**

January 3, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Thank you for your interest in the Newtown Public Schools Preschool Program. The program offers quality educational services to children who have disabilities and to typically developing peers, referred to as Play Partners. Play Partners are role models to their disabled peers and benefit from instruction aligned to Connecticut Early Learning Development Standards.

The preschool program uses the Connecticut Early Learning Development Standards as a resource to identify those candidates who might serve as strong models, Play Partners, for disabled peers in the class. Therefore, it is important for the preschool team to screen applicants for the lottery to ensure they consistently demonstrate age appropriate language skills, cognitive skills, social and play skills, self-help skills and motor skills appropriate for the child's age.

An open house will be held on Friday, February 14, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. at Sandy Hook School to provide information and a tour for parents interested in learning about our program. If you are interested in applying for your child to be a Play Partner, please complete the [Play Partner Questionnaire](#) by February 17, 2020 that can be found on the Newtown Public School District website under Announcements. Following submission of your questionnaire, the preschool team will contact you to invite your child to participate in a forty five minute group activity scheduled for the morning of Friday, February 28, 2020 with a snow date of Friday, March 6, 2020 at Sandy Hook Elementary School. A preschool staff member will call you prior to the play session to confirm the date and time of the group activity.

The lottery results will be provided to parents in letters mailed by April 6, 2020. Play Partners are also required to be three years of age on/by July 15, 2020 and be toilet trained before they are admitted to the program. Children who will be five years of age by December 31, 2020 are kindergarten eligible and will not be considered as Play Partners.

**Newtown Public Schools Preschool Program Details** are as follows:

**Program Days:** Mondays through Thursdays

**Program Hours:** Morning sessions run from 9:00 to 11:45; *or*  
Afternoon sessions run from 12:45 to 3:30

**Location:** Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown

**2020 – 2021 Rate:** \$2,400.00 for a four half day program

If you or the preschool team have any questions or concerns about your child's development in any of the above domains, rather than moving your child's application forward as a Play Partner, it may be more appropriate to discuss your concerns and provide you with specific information regarding early childhood development, or consider an evaluation.

Please feel free to call Lauren Offutt, School Psychologist, at (203) 426-7683, if you have any questions.

Warmest Regards,

Sonia L. Raquel  
Supervisor Pupil Services

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