



NEWTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
3 Primrose Street • Newtown, CT 06470

December 1, 2022

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 role models, play partners, for students with disabilities. Therefore, it is important for the preschool team to meet applicants to observe their presentation of language skills, cognitive skills, social and play skills, self-help skills and motor skills.

If you are interested in having your child participate as a Play Partner, please complete the [Play Partner Questionnaire \(LINK\)](#) by January 11, 2023. Following submission of your questionnaire, the preschool team will contact you to invite your child to participate in a small group activity scheduled for the afternoon of Friday, January 13, 2023 with a snow date of Friday, February 17, 2023 at Head O' Meadow School. A preschool staff member will email you prior to the play session to confirm the details of the group activity. Only one adult may accompany the child for the play activity. There will be an informational overview of the program for parents/guardians, while the children play in the classroom.

You will receive a mailed letter by March 27, 2023 regarding your child's Play Partner status. Confirmation of Play Partner participation will be due on April 22, 2023. Play Partners are required to be three years of age on/by July 15, 2023 and be toilet trained before they are admitted to the program. You are still encouraged to complete the questionnaire if your child turns three shortly after July 15, 2023. We accept play partners throughout the year, accordingly. Children five years of age by December 31 are kindergarten eligible and will not be considered for participation as Play Partners. Kindergarten eligible children may not remain enrolled as a student in the Newtown Preschool Program.

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 (typically for 3 year olds)
Afternoon sessions run from 12:45 to 3:30 (typically for 4 year olds)

Location: Sandy Hook School

Rate: \$2,400.00 for a four half day program

If you, a caregiver or an educator have any questions or concerns about your child's development in any of the aforementioned developmental 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 Dr. Sarah Martin, PsyD, School Psychologist, at (203) 426-7683, if you have any questions about your child's development.

Best Regards,

Sonia L. Raquel
Supervisor of Special Education