

Knox County Schools
Blended Preschool Program
2021-22

Full Time Sites

Amherst Elementary
Bonny Kate Elementary
Brickey McCloud Elementary
Cedar Bluff Preschool
Christenberry Elementary
Copper Ridge Elementary
Dogwood Elementary
East Knox Elementary
Fair Garden Family Center
Fort Sanders Educational Development Center

Gibbs Elementary
Halls Elementary
Karns Elementary
Northshore Elementary
Sam E. Hill Primary
Sunnyview Primary
West Haven Elementary
West Hills Elementary

Part Time Site (2 days per week for 2.5 hours each day)

Fort Sanders Educational Development Center

After School Care

Please contact the school directly for more information about after school care. All after school care enrollments are handled through each after school company.

After school care options are currently available for an additional rate at the following schools:

Fort Sanders Educational Development Center-SHADES of Development
East Knox Elementary- Kid's Place
Karns Elementary (4 year olds only)- SHADES of Development
Fair Garden Community Center- SHADES of Development
Sam E. Hill- SHADES of Development
Sunnyview- SHADES of Development

Completed applications must be submitted by Friday, March 26, 2021 to be considered for the first round of enrollment via email at blendedpreschool@knoxschools.org. Faxed or mailed applications will NOT be accepted.

Children of Knox County Schools employees and those currently enrolled in the program will be given first priority if applying before March 26, 2021. Parents will be notified via email if their child is selected to participate by May 21, 2021. Students who do not get an initial slot will be placed on a waiting list. All current students must reapply to be considered for the 2021-22 school year.

Knox County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender, creed, color, or ethnicity.

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS BLENDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Knox County Blended Preschool Program is available at 18 sites across the district. These classes are inclusive/blended education classes for children ages 3-5. Up to eight peer models will be enrolled at each site to serve as peer models to students with disabilities. The blended preschool classroom is a structured teaching environment where students with disabilities and peer models learn together in a classroom staffed with one special education teacher and at least one educational assistant. The Knox County Schools Blended Preschool Program is a high-quality program offering preschoolers, with and without disabilities, challenging experiences and opportunities to develop skills and abilities in a nurturing environment. All Knox County Schools preschool classrooms follow the Connect 4 Learning curriculum, a language rich curriculum focusing on science and math with literacy and social/emotional components embedded throughout. More information about the Connect 4 Learning curriculum can be found at <https://www.kaplanco.com/c4l/>.

The peer model application process is not intended for students already identified with an educational disability.

To be accepted as a peer model, the following criteria must be met:

Children must be at least 3 years of age, but not yet 6 by August 15, 2021 to be considered. Children who are 6 by August 15, 2021 are required to enroll in Kindergarten, therefore ineligible for the Blended Preschool Program.

- Children must be completely toilet trained to be considered as a peer model.
- Children should be easily understood in order to model appropriate speech and language.
- Children should demonstrate consistent, excellent behavior and developmentally appropriate social interactions.
- Regular attendance is required.
- Parents must have their children at the program on time and pick them up at the designated time.
- Enrollment packet should be completed by August 6, 2020 if accepted into the program. Enrollment packets are available at, and specific, to each school site.
- The Tennessee Health Record Form is required for all children documenting their immunization history.
- A copy of a certified birth certificate is required.
- Proof of Knox County residency is required.

Cost: Tuition for the Blended Preschool Classroom Program is \$175 per month (5 days/week programs) or \$85 (2 day per week/part time program at Fort Sanders only) due by the first of each month. Failure to pay tuition on time may result in dismissal from the program. Parents will be responsible for paying for their child's breakfast and lunch each day, or the child can bring his/her own breakfast/lunch. Tuition funds are used to purchase materials for the classroom, consumables, furniture, rugs, professional development, preschool staffing, and other expenditures approved by program administration that will directly impact preschool students.

Hours: School begins at 7:45AM and ends at 1:15PM at all locations (slight changes may be made to this schedule based on arrival and dismissal procedures at each site). Times for breakfast and lunch will be part of your child's daily routine. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from the program. Your child must arrive on time and be picked up at the designated time. Students are NOT permitted to stay on the school campus after preschool dismissal unless enrolled in an after school care program. Students enrolling in a full time program must attend regularly.

Part Time Program Hours: Part time enrollment is available at Fort Sanders Educational Development Center only. Attendance options include either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday from 7:45-10:15 or from 10:45-1:15. Students enrolled in the morning sessions will have breakfast, and students enrolled in the afternoon sessions will have lunch.

What can my child gain from participating in the Blended Preschool Program?

In addition to participation in a high-quality, language rich classroom with a vetted early childhood curriculum, there are many benefits to including typically developing peers and students with disabilities. Below are just a few of the benefits according to the Policy Statement on Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Programs (9/2014):

- Typically developing children can show positive developmental, social and attitudinal outcomes from inclusive experiences.
- They are capable of demonstrating greater compassion and empathy.
- They have a more positive perception of children with disabilities.
- They can develop a better understanding of diversity and disability.
- There are benefits from working with developmental specialists who can identify and address student needs that may not otherwise be identified.

Next Steps: If your child meets criteria for our program, please complete the attached application. Please do not submit additional documentation (birth certificate, shot record, etc) at this time. If your child is accepted to the Blended Preschool Program, you will submit these documents to your child's school with a completed enrollment packet.

Applications should be submitted to blendedpreschool@knoxschools.org. All correspondence regarding acceptance into the program will be via email. Enrollment is NOT solely based on a "first come, first serve" system. Many factors go into creating a well-balanced classroom.

Questions? Contact us via email at blendedpreschool@knoxschools.org or by phone at 865-594-5035.

**KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS BLENDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM APPLICATION
2021-2022**

Date Received: _____
Enrolled: YES NO WAITLI!
School: _____
Aspen: _____
School Contacted : _____

*** Only complete and legible applications will be considered.**

Child's Full Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Sex: BOY or GIRL _____

(Must be 3 by August 15, 2021)

Ethnicity: HISPANIC or NON-HISPANIC

Race (circle all that apply): ASIAN BLACK AMERICAN INDIAN

PACIFIC ISLANDER WHITE _____

(Used for student data entry purposes only.)

Is your child currently enrolled in a blended preschool classroom as a peer model? YES or NO

If yes, please list teacher and school: _____

What does your child like to be called? _____

FAMILY:

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Street Address _____

Street Address _____

City/Zip _____

City/Zip _____

Employer _____

Employer _____

Home Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

*Must provide a valid email address.

What is the first language this child learned to speak? _____

What language does this child speak most often outside of school? _____

What language do people usually speak in this child's home? _____

How did you hear about our program? _____

Have you ever been referred to or evaluated by Child Find? YES or NO

If yes, what were the results?

Is there any special medical or developmental information we should be aware of?

PRESCHOOL SITE PREFERENCE:

Please rank the order of the sites you would like your child to attend (1-18). Please place an X on any sites you would not be able to attend.

- _____ Amherst Elementary
- _____ Bonny Kate Elementary
- _____ Brickey McCloud Elementary
- _____ Cedar Bluff Elementary
- _____ Christenberry Elementary*
- _____ Copper Ridge Elementary
- _____ Dogwood Elementary*
- _____ East Knox Elementary
- _____ Fair Garden Family Center*
- _____ Fort Sanders Educational Development Center (5 day program)
- _____ Gibbs Elementary
- _____ Halls Elementary
- _____ Karns Elementary
- _____ Northshore Elementary
- _____ Sam E. Hill Primary School*
- _____ Sunnyview Primary*
- _____ West Haven Elementary*
- _____ West Hills Elementary
- _____ Fort Sanders Educational Development Center (2 day program)*

*Some scholarships may be awarded at these schools if there are still openings after the initial enrollment.

PRESCHOOL CHECKLIST

Read each item and think about your child’s present behavior. Please place a check in the column that best fits your child’s behavior. THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS.

Completed by: _____

Date: _____

	Please check how often?		
	Never	Sometimes	Very Often
Follows directions			
Participates in organized group activities			
Asks permission before using other’s property			
Responds appropriately when hit or pushed by other children			
Controls temper in conflict situations with parent or teacher			
Controls temper when conflict arises with other children			
Follows rules when playing with others			
Stays engaged with a task for an appropriate amount of time			
Shows interest in a variety of activities			
Engages with peers easily			
Puts away toys when asked			
Waits turn in games or other activities			
Joins group activities without being asked			
Communicates problems to you			
Speaks in an appropriate tone of voice			
Speech is easily understood by others			
Eats with a spoon and fork			
Is fully toilet trained			
Washes hands independently			
Drinks from an open cup			
Easily adapts to new situations			
Easily accepts separation from caregiver or parents			

Please give other information we should know about your child.

I have read the Blended Preschool Program Handbook and Tuition Agreement and understand the requirements of a peer model enrolled in the program. I understand this application does not guarantee enrollment in the Knox County Schools Blended Preschool Program. Students will be selected by May 21, 2021, giving first priority to currently enrolled students with a fully paid tuition balance and students of Knox County Schools employees.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Child's Full Name

Scholarship Positions Only

Some scholarships will be awarded after the initial enrollment if there are openings at the following schools:

- Christenberry Elementary
- Dogwood Elementary
- Fair Garden Family Center
- Sam E. Hill Primary
- Sunnyview Primary
- West Haven Elementary
- Fort Sanders Part Time Program (2 days per week)

Please complete below if you would like to ONLY be considered for a scholarship position. These positions will not be filled until after the initial round of enrollment (March 26, 2021). If positions are filled at these site with tuition paying families, your child will be placed on a waiting list.

_____ Yes, I would like to be considered for a scholarship position. I understand that these positions are limited, and only available if there are openings after the initial enrollment period.

Signature

Date

Print Name



KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS BLENDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Excellence for Every Child

YEARLY TUITION 2021 - 2022

OPTION 1 MONTHLY PAYMENTS

Tuition Payment is due on or before the first of every month
(August – May)

MONTHLY RATE	5 Days/Week	2 Days/Week
August (Adjusted due to fewer days)	\$90.00	\$40.00
September - May	\$175.00	\$85.00

OPTION 2 SEMESTER PAYMENTS

Tuition Payment #1 is due on or before August 1, 2021

Tuition Payment #2 is due on or before January 1, 2022

SEMESTER RATE	5 Days/Week Rate	2 Days/Week Rate
Semester #1 (Aug-Dec)	\$832.50	\$405.00
Semester #2 (Jan-May)	\$832.50	\$405.00

OPTION 3 YEARLY PAYMENT

Tuition Payment is due on or before August 1, 2021

YEARLY RATE	5 Days/Week Rate	2 Days/Week Rate
August – May	\$1665.00	\$810.00

*Information on how to submit tuition payments will be provided after acceptance into the program.

**KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS BLENDED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM
2021-22 TUITION AGREEMENT**

The tuition payment is due on or before the 1st of every month for a total of 10 payments (August-May). The monthly tuition for 5 days/week programs is \$175 and 2 days/week is \$85.

August tuition is adjusted since students are attending for fewer days. The August tuition for 5 days/week programs is \$90 and 2 days/week is \$40. This payment is due by August 1, 2021.

Payments may be made monthly, by semester, or for the entire year. Refer to the “Yearly Tuition 2021-22” reference sheet for details.

Deductions will not be made for days, weeks, or months that a student may be absent from school. Vacations, quarantines, or long illnesses will not be deducted from tuition. District wide school closures will also not impact tuition requirements. All payments made to Knox County Schools are non- refundable.

If payment is not received by the 1st of each month, a \$35.00 late charge penalty will be incurred. Furthermore, if tuition is not paid by the 5th day of the following month, the student will not be accepted in class and his/her enrollment may be terminated. We cannot hold checks.

The Blended Preschool tuition may be tax deductible. A W10 will be issued at the end of the calendar year upon request. You should save all your cancelled checks and/or receipts from tuition payments.

Compliance with district and school policies must be adhered to. Failure to do so could result in dismissal from the program. In such case, the current month’s tuition payment will not be refunded.

Any financial questions may be directed to the Business Services department at 865-594-1676.

I agree to the terms and conditions of the Knox County Schools Blended Preschool Program tuition agreement. I understand that failure to pay tuition according to these terms will result in termination from the Blended Preschool Program.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Child’s Name: _____