

BEACHWOOD NURSERY SCHOOL & EARLY LEARNING CENTER-1014 Pinewald Rd.Beachwood,NJ 08722

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. What is the difference between “Nursery School” and a Day Care Center?

Nursery School is the traditional name for Pre-Schools for children ages 3 to 5 years of age who participate in a program with staff trained in Early Childhood Education & who implement a State approved curriculum such as High Scope.

About The High Scope Curriculum:

The High Scope Curriculum meets early learning standards and NAEYC developmentally appropriate practice guidelines. “The Key Developmental Indicators form the curriculum content and define the knowledge children are acquiring as they actively choose experiences with materials, people, ideas, and events.” Teachers support and extend children’s learning with their interactions, integrating academic areas and providing daily opportunities to practice skills.

Infants, Toddlers & Twos

To meet the expectations of parents that want more than “day care” for their younger children, High Scope developed curriculum to include the Birth to 3 age group. The curriculum enhances the daily care routines for Infants & Toddlers & Twos by providing a consistent, warm setting, that is flexible enough to respond to children’s individual needs and interests. Child centered activities stimulate all the senses, encourages language, develops both fine and gross motor skills as well as visual and spatial perception.

COR Advantage

Our observation-based assessments are conducted in the classroom producing results that are valid, reliable & meaningful. The teachers observe what children do in self-initiated activities as well as planned teacher activities. After an initial **screening**, teachers monitor each child’s progress throughout the year and provide activities to expand on skills already acquired based on many observations (anecdotes). A Scoring Guide enables our teachers to score a child’s anecdotes accurately, using an objective eight-level scoring scale that allows teachers to pinpoint the developmental changes measured by each COR item.

2. What programs are available?

We offer 2, 3, or 5 day programs for children 2 ½ to 5 years for a 2 ½ hour session mornings and afternoons. Children can come for lunch or stay for before school care or after school care for an additional discounted hourly fee when used on a regular basis. Parents may choose a school day 9:00AM to 3:00PM or an extended 9 hour day between the hours of 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Our Infant/Toddler program schedules are for an extended day only.

3. Who is eligible to attend school?

We enroll children ages 8 weeks to 5 years & provide limited care for siblings ages 6 to 8 for families currently enrolled.

4. What calendar do you follow?

We follow the **Toms River Schools’ Calendar** of 42 weeks observing the same holidays and vacation weeks. However, we provide 14 additional days when Toms River Schools are closed and we are open for per diem child care. We offer an 8 week summer program also for year round child care. Please ask for a custom 12 month rate. We are closed for one week between Christmas and New Year’s Day and the last week of August.

5. How do you handle school closings and delayed openings?

We follow Toms River Schools’ decisions on school closings, delays and weather related early dismissals. Information is posted on the BNS Facebook Page or you can subscribe to the teacher’s Remind Code for Text messaging. Information is also announced on WOBBM or posted on their web site: www.wobbm.com under Ocean Co. Storm Watch. If Toms River Schools has a delayed opening, our half day and school day sessions will begin at 9:00 AM and we will open at 8:00 AM for childcare.

6. Does my child have to be toilet trained?

We do not expect children under 3 years to be completely toilet trained, but showing an interest by 30 months. We provide a Junior Pre-School class (must be 2 by April 1st.) for children that are not completely toilet trained, but are not in diapers. We do not accept children in the Preschool Pre-Kindergarten program that are not toilet-trained.

7. Does my child have to take a nap?

Children who are in our care more than 4 hours must be provided a rest time according to NJ licensing requirements. Children rest after lunch for 30 minutes on their assigned mats. If children fall asleep, we allow them to sleep up to 1 ½ hours so as not to interfere with their evening bedtime. As children awaken, they have a drink, toilet and play with quiet activities or go outside until the other children are awake. Infants and young toddlers rest and sleep according to their own individual needs.

8. Who provides lunch and snacks for my child?

Parents are expected to provide nutritious food items for their child, but in age-appropriate portions, so as not to waste food. Please cut sandwiches in half and place each half in a separate zip-lock bag. Snack portions should be labeled AM & PM. We are required to throw out any uneaten food unless a parent has requested otherwise. We recommend parents purchase a good thermos for hot foods as we are not allowed to use micro-waves in the classroom. We suggest an ice-pack be included in the lunch box to maintain the temperature for cold foods. Children should come to school each day with a water bottle. We ask that juice is kept to a minimum. According to the USDA, no more than 6oz. of juice is allowed for this age group per day. We will provide additional water to drink throughout the day indoors and outdoors. We will serve milk during lunch to children attending the Twos – PreK age group. We ask parents to assist in our milk program by donating a gallon of milk to their child's classroom. Each classroom will post a Milk Donation Calendar to indicate what days milk may be needed. We do provide snacks after 4:00 PM for children we still have in our care. FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF THREE, food items must be cut up in small pieces to prevent choking. For example: grapes must be **cut in half** or carrots for toddlers must be cut lengthwise and **pre-cooked**. Do **not** give peanut butter sandwiches to children under 2 ½ years as this is considered a choking hazard. We will provide USDA Dietary Guidelines & other information for children to assist parents with snack and meal planning. **If a child is refusing to eat**, we will call you to let you know.

9. Do I have to pay for days my child is ill or on vacation?

Yes! The school maintains the continuous cost of teacher salaries and program expenses regardless of a child's absences or vacation. Your tuition is based on actual school days in the calendar: 180 days for a 5 day program, 105 days for a M/W/F program, 75 days for a T/Th program or an average # of days for enrollment on other days. Parents do not pay for holidays or vacation days that are usually figured into a weekly childcare rate. To maintain a class placement when a child will be absent for an extended period of time, parents are required to pay 50 % of the monthly tuition.

10. What does the Registration Fee cover?

The on-line COR cost associated with the High Scope Curriculum for the school year is \$20.00 per child.

The per-child cost for secondary insurance coverage for accidental injury is \$7.00 per child.

The annual cost for our NAEYC Accreditation: \$10.00 per child w/ annual increases.

Special In-House Activities: \$10

Music Program & Administration costs: \$80

Data Entry/Admin Fee: \$23.00

WAIT LIST POLICY

In order to be placed on the wait list for a future opening at Beachwood Nursery School & ELC, a family will be asked to complete an enrollment form and then submit a non-refundable \$150.00 Wait List Fee. The wait List fee insures the family's commitment to the school. When the school calls to notify a family of an available opening, the family may accept or reject the opening. If the opening is rejected, the family will be placed at the bottom of the wait list with the date of the rejection. If a family is offered an opening a second time and again rejects the opening, the family will be removed from the wait list and forfeits the registration fee.

If you are currently expecting a child, please put the expected birth date & anticipated start date on the enrollment form but no later than December 1st. We will only hold an infant opening for a maximum of 12 weeks of family leave. If your child does not start the school year by December 1st, you will be required to pay 50% tuition per month after 12 weeks to continue holding your child's class placement. You may choose to withdraw forfeiting the registration fee. If you choose to Register at a later date, you will be required to pay another registration fee.