

Pre-K at Augustine



Augustine School

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Welcome to Pre-K at Augustine School! Whether you are already a part of the Augustine School family or you are visiting us for the first time, I am glad you are interested in the Pre-Kindergarten program. I know from experience that choosing the right Pre-K program for your child can be a stressful and trying experience. I hope by reading this booklet, you will not only gain information about our Pre-K program, but you will discover the excellent educational quality and distinctive characteristics of Augustine School.

I will jump right in and tell you a little about myself. I have a passion for learning and education, and I am often asked "Why did you choose to teach Pre-K?" I firmly believe God has equipped me with the ability to lead and teach young children. My education, research, and past classroom experience has taught me to more fully understand the social and educational needs of young children and how to communicate with them better. My belief is that preschoolers greatly benefit from exposure to literature, and they learn best through direct experience. My instructional approach is a combination of teacher lead group activities, center-based learning, and one-on-one teaching. I strive to create an effective classroom environment and curriculum to the glory of God. My goal is to partner with parents to not only prepare young students for Kindergarten, but to teach them that learning is a gift from God.

While challenging at times, working with preschoolers is fun! The best way to describe a preschooler is "A LOT OF ENERGY!" They use their boundless energy to continuously learn and explore. For many four and five year olds, Pre-K is essential for school readiness. In addition to learning basic language, literature, art, and math skills, the Pre-K classroom setting is the best opportunity for young children to learn the social, behavioral, and emotional standards needed for Kindergarten learning.

Again, thank you for your interest in Pre-K at Augustine School. I hope you find the information in this booklet helpful. I am available for any questions that you may have so please do not hesitate to ask me.

Cathy Windham, M.A.Ed
Pre-K Director & Teacher

Augustine School

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Augustine School Mission and Purpose

Augustine School seeks to form wise, virtuous young men and women who have learned to submit all things to the universal lordship of Christ, by offering an education to the glory of God that is Christ-centered, college preparatory, and classically informed.

Augustine School Pre-K Program Goals

The goals of the Pre-K Program at Augustine School are:

- To provide a warm and nurturing environment where a young child can grow in wisdom and virtue under the lordship of Christ.
- To stimulate the young child's learning through activities in areas of language, literature, art, music, math, and science.
- To encourage the young child's respect for others through positive social interaction.

Pre-Kindergarten learning activities will include:

- Affirmation of the truthfulness and infallibility of Holy Scripture
- Development of communication skills and exposure to literature
- Letter recognition, writing, and phonics
- Memorization of scripture and poetry
- Participation in group discussion, games, and projects
- Developing a recognition of the numeric system from 0-100
- Developing a recognition of basic colors and shapes
- Development of fine and large motor skills
- Dramatic play, art, and music activities
- Science and mathematical experiences

Pre-Kindergarten Information

1. Age Requirement

Students admitted to the pre-k program must be four years old by September 31st of the current school year.

2. Program Days and Hours

Core Curriculum

There are two program options in our core curriculum for Pre-K students: five days per week (M-F) or three days per week (M, T, W). The core curriculum is taught from 7:55 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. daily. Parents have the option of retrieving their students at 12:30 p.m. or choosing to have them participate in the extended day program 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm.

Extended Day (optional)

Augustine offers an extended day option from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily for Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grades, this is included in the tuition paid for the core curriculum. For Pre-Kindergarten, this two hour period will include lunch, nap time (as required by state regulations for Pre-K students), structured play, and story time. Please contact the school office for options and additional information.

3. Arrival and Dismissal

Students arrive between 7:35 and 7:50 a.m. and are dismissed from the core curriculum class at 12:30 p.m. (See #2 above for details.). A tardy will be issued to those students who arrive after 7:55 a.m.

4. Clothing and Shoes

Pre-K students wear the required school uniform. Please send an extra change of clothing for your child including a shirt, pants/skirt, socks, and underwear. This extra clothing does not have to be a uniform. Please label everything! Pre-K students need to wear shoes without ties or buckles.

5. Snack

Pre-K students will need to bring a lunch box with a snack and drink. Please only pack healthy foods that your child can open by themselves and does not require heating. Students will be encouraged to clean up their trash and snack area each day.

6. Birthdays

Pre-K students love to celebrate birthdays. If you would like to bring a special snack or treat on your child's birthday, please let the teacher know at least one week in advance.

7. P.E.

Pre-K students will have thirty minutes of playtime each day. This playtime will be spent outdoors or in the gym, depending on the weather.

8. Kindermusik Class

Students will attend a weekly Kindermusik class. The class is taught by trained and certified instructor.

9. Illness

If your child shows signs of illness or has a temperature, please keep your child at home. While at school, symptomatic children will be removed from the group until parents are contacted and health issues are resolved. Any signs of illness will be reported to the parent. Please do not send your child to school if they have the following symptoms:

Fever within last 24 hours	Respiratory Infection
Sore Throat	Pink Eye
Cold	Scabies or lice
Ear Ache	Diarrhea within last 24 hours
Severe cough and running nose	Vomiting within last 24 hours

10. Medication

As stated in the Parent & Student Handbook, medication should be given at home. No medication of any kind is administered at school except by parents or legal guardians. Students may not carry any medication with them while at school. Parents of students with potentially life-threatening conditions may make arrangements with the administrator for the giving of emergency medications. In the case of life-threatening conditions, the parents will need to provide written instructions using the form provided by the Pre-School Director.

11. Discipline

We believe that all Pre-K students can behave appropriately in the classroom. Students are expected to be obedient and respectful to teachers and staff and respectful to one another. No student shall engage in behavior that is not in his/her best interest or the best interests of others.

The Pre-K Behavior Guide is 1) helping hands, 2) listening ears, 3) quiet voice, 4) looking eyes, 5) walking feet. Students and parents should familiarize themselves with Augustine School's Code of Conduct and Expectations. Recognition is given for attentiveness, following directions, positive behavior and the acceptance of responsibility.

The first time a child exhibits a behavior that is inconsistent with the class expectations; he/she will be reminded of the appropriate behavior or rule and redirected if possible. If a child continues to misbehave after being reminded by the teacher, he/she will sit in time out for one minute per their age. If the child continues in the misbehavior after having a time out, a Yellow Card will be issued. Instances of misbehavior such as temper tantrums, hurting others, or willful disobedience will result in immediately receiving a Yellow Card.

12. Communication

Pre-K students will be issued a Communication Notebook and are required to bring it to school each day. The Communication Notebook will be a line of communication between the teacher and parent. Parents should check their child's notebook daily for any work, notes, and information. A Pre-K newsletter will be sent home each Monday. The weekly newsletter will include information regarding curriculum, special events and activities, and other relevant news.

13. Bathroom

There is a bathroom located in the Pre-K classroom(s). Pre-K students must attend to their own toileting needs. The parent will be notified immediately if their child has a BM accident.

14. Toys

Please do not allow your child to bring toys or personal items to school, except for Show-N-Tell days. If students bring a toy or personal item into the classroom, they will be asked to leave it in their backpacks.

15. Visitors

All outside doors to the school building will remain locked during and after school hours. All visitors must enter through the main school doors where there is a door bell. Visitors must sign-in at the school office.

16. Dis-enrollment

Every effort will be made on the part of the Augustine School faculty and staff to care for and educate those students enrolled in the Pre-K program. Parents should notify the administration and the Pre-K Director in advance if they should need to dis-enroll their child from Augustine School.