

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS 2019-2020

**Foothills Creative Beginnings Preschool and E.C.S.
Association**

Suite 2208, 120-5th Avenue West, Cochrane AB



www.creativebeginnings.ca

403-851-5534

Preschool Director	Anne Johnson anne.johnson@foothillscreative.org
Kindergarten Principal	Maxine Mendritzki maxine.mendritzki@foothillscreative.org
Early Interventions	Jane McKeown jane.mckeown@foothillscreative.org

“Thus a child learns, by wiggling skills through his fingers, and into himself by soaking up habits and attitudes of those around him, by pushing and pulling his own world. Thus a child learns, more through trial than error, more through pleasure than pain, more through experience than suggestion and telling, and more through suggestion than direction.

And thus a child learns through affection, through love, through patience, through understanding through belonging, through doing, and through being.

Day by day the child comes to know a little bit of what you know, a little bit more of what you think and understand. That which you dream and believe are in truth what is becoming that child. As you perceive dully or clearly, as you think fuzzily or sharply, as you believe foolishly or wisely, as you dream drably or goldenly, as you bear false witness or tell the truth, thus a child learns.”

By Frederick Moffett, New York Department of Education

THREES and FOURS

Mon & Wed 9:00 – 11:30 am

Tues & Thurs 9:00 – 11:30 am

Mon & Wed 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Tues & Thurs 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Friday AM or PM may be added for a 3 session program

Our classes are mixed-age groups which support children's social emotional learning. Older/more mature children take on leadership roles, supporting younger less capable peers while building their own self confidence. Play is often more complex as older children extend younger children's ideas. Children also have the choice to play with peers of similar abilities and interests. Language development is fostered. Children must be Three before 2020 to start in September 2019.

Cost:

Registration Fee:

\$40.00 per family (non-refundable)

Tuition:

\$180.00 per month for 2 days

\$240.00 per month for 3 days

\$320.00 per month for 4 days

KINDERGARTEN

For children five years old before Mar.1st, 2020.

Authorized and funded by

Alberta Education.

Our small group program offers your child an opportunity to gain confidence through practical application of letters and numbers, early writing and reading both in study and play. Experiences in art, music, science, cooking, gym and French enrich our program.

Our field trip program offers an extended view of community. The interests and views of the parents are an important element in our learning situation.

Morning Class:

Mon – Fri 8:50 – 11:40 am

Afternoon Class:

Mon – Fri 12:45–3:35 pm

Cost:

Registration Fee: \$100

Enrichment Fee: \$400/ or \$40 per mo.

OUR PRESCHOOL

The preschool is a non-profit society licensed by Calgary Area Child and Family Services. We are an independent, non-sectarian program.

TEACHERS Our teachers are experienced and qualified through university degree programs or community college Early Childhood programs. Our program is not dependent on volunteer parents.

CLASSES There are normally 12 children per class. A teachers and a teaching assistant supervise the activities. We reserve one space in each class for a child with special needs.

OUR PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

FREE PLAY Children are naturally active and play is essential to their social and intellectual growth. Through play children express their unique interests as they choose their own activities. Art materials allow for aesthetic pleasure and individual expression. STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) projects are part of our daily activities. The Block, Water, Sand and House centers provide opportunities for discovery, planning, experimentation and organization as children try out ideas and feelings about their world.

SHARING LITERATURE We read a story every day and use art, music, drama and activities to enhance and explore the ideas contained in the story. Literature provides a basis for discussion; enriches children's language; provides children with vicarious experiences both real and imaginary; provides models for story-telling and writing; and provides a pleasurable experience, which helps children see reading as desirable and worthwhile.

ART Art is much more than a pleasant experience for the child. A picture is not as important to look at, as it is to create. Art is an interaction between the child and his/her environment which allows the child to develop a sense of who he or she is. The child's first permanent record takes the form of a "scribble". It is the beginning of expression, which leads not only to drawing and painting but to reading and writing and conversation.

MUSIC Our active music program uses melody, rhythm, movement and speech to involve the whole child. Gaining rhythmic sureness by chanting words or rhymes, by singing little songs, by clapping or walking to the beat of the music, is a pre-condition to success in reading, writing and learning. Through movement the child discovers how he moves, and how to control his body in the environment. Music helps in the development of speech through auditory awareness and listening skills. Music teaches concepts such as color, animal sounds, counting, sequencing etc. Music can give the joy of creation. The music session on Mondays and Thursdays is led by a music specialist.

GYM TIME Gym time allows for experimentation and exploration with a variety of equipment--balls, hoops, beanbags, balloons, parachute, etc. Attention is given to cooperation, self-control, listening skills, and playing within the rules.

FOOD EXPERIENCES Working with food provides many opportunities: to see change in materials; to foster awareness of sight, sound, touch, smell, taste, to use of small and large muscle skills, to enrich literature and language; to foster self-esteem through self-help, to foster early math and science experiences; to develop cooperation.

Some Preschool Policies:

Classroom Visits: You are always welcome in the classroom during free play time. To arrange a longer visit, please chat with your child's teacher.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- **POST-DATED CHEQUES** Please make payments with post-dated cheques, September through June. These cheques are required on or before the first day of school to secure your child's space in the program. If you will be away during these two days, please mail your cheques and completed Student Information form ahead of time to Anne Johnson, 179 Valley Stream Circle NW T3B 5W1, Calgary AB.
- **E-TRANSFER** to fcbdonna@telus.net
- **CASH** to the teacher (a temporary receipt can be issued)

Toilet training: It is expected that children who come to preschool are toilet trained (special needs children excepted).

Clothing: Play clothes and non-slip shoes such as runners are a necessity at school for comfort and safety.

Discipline: Discipline is an on-going process. We provide lots of equipment and activities to engage the children. We redirect, and we encourage the children to generate their own solutions. If this is unsuccessful, the teacher may remove the child from the activity for a short time to allow the child a chance to calm and assess the situation. You, as a parent, would be informed so that together, with the child, we can work towards a solution.

OUR KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

An Alberta Education Program

Our kindergarten program is operated as a non-profit society, authorized and funded by Alberta Education. We offer your child an intimate class grouping with a very low pupil/teacher ratio.

To enroll, a child must turn five before March 2017.

Times: Monday-Friday 8:50 - 11:40 A.M.
12:45 - 3:35 P.M.

Kindergarten Principal Maxine Mendritzki 403-239-5291

Kindergarten Teachers: Eniko Tomlinson -morning session, also teaches French
Maxine Mendritzki -afternoon session

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

LANGUAGE ARTS Our program is designed to help the child express wants, needs, fantasies and theories about how the world works through written words and artistic self-expression. Language art experiences are closely tied to social studies, science and mathematics.

Early Reading The kindergarten child will become acquainted with beginning consonant sounds and rhymes. The child will join with classmates to 'read' charts, poems, graphs, finger plays. The children learn to match individual words. They will also print individual words and labels. They learn left to right reading progression and also recognize the spacing between printed words. After the Christmas break the children will bring home early readers to be shared with parents. Parents will help the child learn to discriminate meaning by reading the pictures that provide word clues in the early readers. Memorization gives way to word recognition at differing stages for each child. The focus for bringing early readers home is to enjoy the time spent together exploring books.

Early Writing The kindergarten child will practice forming letters and numbers. They learn to recognize both upper case and lower case letters. Parents are provided with information regarding each letter or number formation so that the school and home program are consistent. Specific rhymes or word clues which help the child form letters are also provided for parents.

Early writing also refers to helping children compose stories, paragraphs and sentences. This experience is practiced weekly as the children dictate stories to accompany their artistic expressions.

EARLY MATH Many children can rote count to 10 or beyond as they enter Kindergarten. The Kindergarten program focus is upon helping the child relate the number symbol to the number quantity; one to ten. Graphing experiences are part of this process as are counting, categorizing and patterning. Early addition and subtraction with concrete objects fall easily into a growing appreciation of the value of each number symbol. Rote counting to 100, by ones, twos, fives, and tens is addressed. The children will also learn to articulate their phone number and address.

SOCIAL STUDIES The world is an immensely interesting place and the Kindergarten child longs to know and understand it in factual ways. This delving for information regarding their world often leads to the 'project approach' e.g. combining simple construction with directed dramatic play, free play, literature and research.

SCIENCE Many of the science projects come from the spoken interest of the children or the experiments may relate closely to social studies. In the past the children have studied temperature, magnets, and habitat. Projects and experiments have covered a wide range of topics.

FRENCH Mrs. Tomlinson, teaches French, on a weekly basis, in both the morning and afternoon sessions, beginning in November. Her program stimulates learning through games, movement, music and puppetry.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION In our program movement activities are incorporated into the classroom on a daily basis. There are two scheduled gym sessions per week for one half hour in duration.

MUSIC Our music program is active, engaging and addresses all areas of child development- social, physical, intellectual (including language and math), creative and emotional. The children develop musical skills in the areas of beat, rhythm, pitch and musical knowledge. The Kindergarten children enjoy this structured experience twice weekly for 30 minutes per session.

COOKING The bi-weekly cooking session is a highlight of the week for many children. It promotes self help, reading, printing and mathematical skills. Children experience and observe changes in foods as applications of baking, cooling, stirring, kneading and mixing are applied.

FREE PLAY...offers a time for planning, experimentation, organization, cooperation and socializing as the children work out ideas and feelings about their world.

FUNDS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

By virtue of our operation of a kindergarten program under the aegis of Alberta Education we are able to access money for children with special needs.

Role of Foothills Creative Beginnings:

- To administer the funds for PUF and MILD/MODERATE programs.
- To develop and Individualized Program Plan for each child.
- To provide assurance to Alberta Education of the quality of the program and financial accountability.

PROGRAM UNIT FUNDING (PUF)

PUF is a generously conceived provincial program. The total funds made available depend on the needs of the child, although there is an upper limit.

PUF seeks to provide for the needs of children with disabilities requiring additional support above that offered in a regular preschool or kindergarten program. The PUF program we administer is designed to provide families with as much participation as possible in their child's program.

To qualify for PUF Funding:

- Assessment/diagnosis from appropriate professional(s) is required prior to submitting an application. This is imperative for an initial application and it is very helpful if these assessments can be completed before September.
- The child must be at least 2 years 6 months and less than 6 years of age on September 1 of years when PUF is accessed. PUF is available for a maximum of three years. Care should be taken in deciding when to start PUF.
- The child must be registered in and attend a preschool or kindergarten program.

PUF funds provide for:

- Therapies including Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Psychology as needed.
- A classroom assistant.
- An Individual Program Plan (IPP) with developmentally appropriate goals developed in consultation with teachers, therapists, parents and teaching assistants. The parents must be actively involved in this process.

MILD / MODERATE FUNDING

This level of funding provides for children with mild to moderate delays in one area such as speech or motor development. These funds provide for regular visits to a professional therapist during the school year. Mild/Moderate funding is available for two years only, one of which must be the kindergarten year.

To qualify for mild/moderate funds:

- The child must be at least 3 years 6 months and less than 6 years on September 1 of the program year to qualify. Children may receive one year of mild moderate funding before their kindergarten year.
- The child must be registered with Foothills Creative Beginnings by September 30 of the year when this funding is accessed.
- The initial request for therapy can be based on opinions of the parents and FCB personnel or a referral from a speech clinic or Children's Hospital. This will then be confirmed by one of our therapists.
- If a child's needs in the classroom become apparent as the year progresses we may suggest getting the child assessed and approved for funding, either mild/moderate or PUF.

Family Support for Children with Disabilities:

This is a department of Alberta Social Services which provides funds and program for children with special needs and is complementary to PUF funding. For information about FSCD please call 403-297-6022.

For more information please contact:

**Jane McKeown 403-478-8618 jane.mckeown@foothillscreative.org
Supervisor, Early Intervention Programs, Foothills Creative Beginnings**



**Foothills Creative Beginnings Preschool/Kindergarten
Registration 2019-2020**

Child's Information	Parent/Guardian's Information
Surname: First name: Middle Name: Birth date: Gender: Citizenship: Class Preference:	Mother's Name: Father's Name: Address: Postal Code: Home Phone: Cell Phone: Primary contact e-mail:
Registration Fee: \$40.00 per family Paid by : cash: Cheque #: e-transfer: Class Placement:	Notes: