



Vicki Trzcinski
Director of Special Services
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March 27, 2018

Dear parent/guardian,

Please find attached a copy of our newly developed eligibility guidelines for the District preschool and kindergarten programs. Based on these guidelines we are not accepting children who will be 5 by December 31, 2018 into our preschool program unless they have documented developmental delays through our developmental screening process.

We understand that this change in policy may impact your plans for your child for the fall. As described in the attached policy, when children should start kindergarten is a parental choice. If you choose to delay your child's start to kindergarten, we will be glad to enroll them into kindergarten when you decide the time is right. Our policy also lists other preschool programs in Plainville that will accept 5 year olds and resources for parents to locate other childcare and preschool programs in the area.

If you have any concerns about your child's development and would like them to participate in the district screening, please call the special services office at 860-793-3214 to schedule an appointment.

Best wishes to you and your child!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Trzcinski".

Vicki Trzcinski
Director of Special Services
(860) 793-3214



2018 -2019

PRESCHOOL and KINDERGARTEN ELIGIBILITY

The Plainville Community Schools is committed to the development and implementation of high quality early childhood education programs to prepare all children for a successful educational experience. Our preschool and kindergarten programs are for children who reside with their parents or guardians in Plainville. Proof of residency and original birth certificate are required to register any child in our schools.

Making the decision to send a child to kindergarten at age 5 is a parental choice. By law, parents have the option to withhold their children from a formal education program until age 7.* However, our in-district preschool program is designed to prepare children for transition to kindergarten at age 5, which is aligned with the current recommendations of the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood.

Preschool Eligibility Requirements**:

- Children must be born between 1/1/14 and 12/31/14
- Parents must agree to pay \$2,000 per year to attend (sliding scale available based on income)
- Requests to allow students without documented disabilities to remain a second year in our program or to start in our program when they will be 5 by 12/31/18 will be considered on a case by case basis based on the results of the district developmental screening process

Kindergarten Eligibility Requirements**:

- Children who are age 5 by 12/31/18
- No cost to parents
- According to state law, parents are allowed to withhold their children from a formal education program at age 5 for one year and then again at age 6 for one year. The child must be enrolled in an education program by age 7.
- The law requires that parents who wish to hold their age 5 or age 6 child from school must go to the Board of Education office in person and sign an option form exempting their child from attendance at school. Parents of 5-or 6-year old children who are not attending school are urged to contact the Board of Education.

Parents who opt to not send their children to kindergarten at age 5 and are not eligible to attend the Plainville Community Preschool program, but would like their child to participate in a preschool program, can contact **Connecticut 2-1-1 Child Care** at <http://www.211childcare.org/>. 2-1-1 Child Care is Connecticut's statewide child care resource and referral agency. 2-1-1 Child Care provides free, confidential referrals to child care and early education programs. They can also be reached by phone by dialing 211.

Other Plainville preschool options include the Wheeler Regional YMCA, the Plainville Early Learning Center, and Great Beginnings. For more information, contact the Special Services office at 860-793-3214.

**Some eligibility requirements may be waived for children with documented disabilities who require an IEP