



Blessed Sacrament School

Parent / Student Preschool Handbook

2019-2020

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

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PROVIDENCE, RI. 02908

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ALL persons in Rhode Island are required by law (RIGL 40-11-3) to report known or suspected cases of child abuse and/or neglect to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families within 24 hours of becoming aware of such abuse/neglect.
Call the Hotline at 1-800-RI-CHILD (1-800-742-4453) to report child abuse and/or neglect!

MISSION

The mission of Blessed Sacrament School, a Catholic school and ministry of Blessed Sacrament Parish, is to educate preschool through grade eight students in a safe, nurturing and academically challenging environment that instills the knowledge of God's great love for us. We empower students to become well-rounded individuals who are lifelong learners and joyful witnesses to Christ's teachings.

PHILOSOPHY

Blessed Sacrament School is a community of students, parents, faculty and staff unified by mutual trust and respect in its goal of developing well-rounded individuals. We provide a holistic education -intellectual, cultural, social and spiritual. In a nurturing environment, each child can discover his or her own self-worth and potential. We encourage sensitivity toward human relationships and respect for the abilities, values and attitudes of others. At Blessed Sacrament School, we teach our students to serve as Jesus served; with knowledge, commitment and excellence.

ADMISSIONS

Blessed Sacrament School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin. The age for the preschool child is stated as being between 3 and 5 years of age. A child may be considered for admission to the school when the following conditions are met:

1. The child will have attained the age of three (3) years by September 1st, of the year in which admission is sought. In accordance with Rhode Island State Law, a child must be 5 years old by September 1st of the year in which he/she enters kindergarten.
2. The child must also be toilet-trained. The term "toilet-trained" is defined as the ability to control bladder and bowel functions, and be able to use the bathroom unassisted for all sanitary needs. The child must be able to take total responsibility for his/her personal needs in the bathroom. Assistance will be given with buttons, zippers, buckles and snaps. However, if an occasional bathroom accident (wetting or soiling oneself) occurs, the following procedure will be followed by the school:
 - **Wetting:** If the child has a clean set of clothing at school, he/she must be able to change into them independently. If a change of clothes is not available, a parent will be called to bring clothing to school or bring the child home to change.
 - **Soiling:** When this happens, parents will be phoned. Even if a clean set of clothing is available at school, teachers or staff will not be able to change a child in this situation. A parent, or person designated by a parent, will need to clean and change the child at school or bring the child home to change.

We realize that even when a child is "toilet-trained", bathroom accidents do occasionally happen at this age. The principal, teachers and staff are very sensitive to this issue in the preschool setting, and will do their best to be mindful of the child's feelings in the classroom environment. However, it is the policy of Blessed Sacrament School not to change or undress a student under any circumstances. This policy is one that must be abided by without exception if your child is to remain in the program.

The State of Rhode Island requires pre-school children to have all necessary inoculations, health and immunization forms filled out by your physician before entering school

SCHOOL HOURS

The school year runs from late August to June. Our day begins at 8:15AM and ends at 2:30PM. Before-school care is available from 7:00AM -8:15AM and after-school care from 2:30PM - 5:30PM. School begins promptly at 8:15AM. Excessive tardiness causes great disruption to the program. Families with more than six tardies in a trimester must meet with the teacher. Excessive tardiness is not acceptable and may result in your child being terminated from the program.

SICKNESS AND ABSENCE

Our health policy is designed to protect all of the children and the staff of our school. We will adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Any child with a temperature of 100 will be sent home and may return once they are without a fever for 24 hours.
2. Any child who vomits will be sent home.
3. Any child who has diarrhea two times during the day will be sent home and may return once the diarrhea has stopped.
4. Common cold symptoms such as sneezing, runny nose and coughing will be tolerated unless accompanied by a temperature, or if symptoms worsen, making the child uncomfortable.
5. Any child with symptoms of Conjunctivitis or Pink Eye, including crusty lashes, reddened eyes or inner lids, and/or discharge leaking from the eyes will need to leave and seek medical attention. A child must be treated with antibiotics for at least 24 hours before returning to the center.
6. Any child with a skin rash will be sent home and must seek medical attention before returning.
7. Childhood communicable diseases such as: Strep Throat, Head lice, Chicken Pox, Impetigo, Ringworm, etc. will require that the child leave the school until the child is under the care of a physician, The length of time will vary for each childhood disease.
8. If a child is on antibiotics, they must be treated for at least 24 hours and be feeling better before returning to the school.
9. **Please keep your children home if they are ill!!!**

If on a given day, your child is absent due to illness or will be late, please notify the school as soon as possible.

Please be sure that contact phone numbers are current. Any changes must be reported to the teacher and office. **It is imperative that we are able to reach a parent if necessary.**

PROCEDURE

Refunds will not be given for inclement weather, if your child is sick, or for special family circumstances. Days may not be substituted if your child is absent from school due to illness, family circumstances or weather conditions including snow days.

HEALTH SERVICES

All medical information is to be sent to the school nurse. Physicals are required for all preschool students.

No medication, either prescription or over the counter medicines, may be administered to your child by teachers or staff at any time unless there is a doctor's form on file. Please stop in the office if a form is required.

This procedure is in effect to insure that continuing serious problems will not interfere with the well-being of others in the preschool program. Dismissal will be exercised when all other methods of treatment have been unsuccessful.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Birthday celebrations have been eliminated from the preschool through grade 8 classrooms. No treats or party items are allowed at school.

TOYS FROM HOME

We ask that toys from home not be brought to school for play. However, if you have a book that may be of interest during show and tell time, we appreciate this being shared with the class.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

In October, parent/teacher conferences will be held. You will be invited to visit the school and be given the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with his/her teacher. If at any time you wish to speak to the classroom teacher, please call the school so an appointment may be set up.

VACATION AND SNOW DAYS

We follow the school calendar for the regular holidays. Cancellation of school due to inclement weather will be forecast on the television stations 10 and 12. You may also log on to Turnto10.com. If there is no school in the City of Providence, Blessed Sacrament School will not be in session.

Should the opening of school be delayed in Providence, please note that the start of before school daycare will also be delayed. Example: If Providence Public School delays the opening of a school day by one hour, our regular school day will begin at 9:15AM instead of 8:15AM. Morning Daycare will be closed when there is a delayed opening.

For the safety of our students in and out of Providence, we do abide by the decision made by the Providence Public Schools administration.

We at Blessed Sacrament School trust that this information will answer most of the questions you have regarding the Preschool Program. Please feel free to bring any concerns to us. Let's work together to make your child's first school experience a happy and positive one.

6. **Art Center**

Objectives:

- to encourage individual expression and creativity
- to develop a sense of personal accomplishment
- to enhance fine and visual perception skills
- weekly class with art teacher

Materials:

- paints, scissors, pencils, markers, crayons, chalk, clay, playdough, sponges, brushes, cookie cutters, rubber stamps

7. **Library Center**

Objectives:

- to promote language and reading readiness skills
- to develop an appreciation of literature

Materials:

- books, cassette-book sets
- weekly visit with school librarian

8. **Math Center**

Objectives:

- for children to work individually or in small groups to reinforce specific concepts
- for children to work with materials to enhance math skills

Materials:

- counting bears, counting farm animals, counting dinosaurs, puzzles, pattern blocks, unifix cubes, patterning beads, links

9. **Science Center**

Objectives:

- for children to observe, classify, predict, and experiment

Materials:

- magnifying glasses, bucket balance, magnet kit, natural materials, sensory bottles, butterfly house

10. **ABC Center**

Objectives:

- Practice letter identification skills

Materials:

- Letter matching games, magnetic letters, alphabet puzzles, clip cards

11. **Writing Center**

Objectives:

- encourage children to communicate in written form
- learn importance of written communication

Materials:

- pencils, colored pencils, markers, crayons, letter stamps, lined paper, plain paper, hole punches, stickers, word cards

**Blessed Sacrament School
240 Regent Avenue Providence, RI 02908
(401) 831-3993**

I have read and am willing to be governed by this preschool handbook

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

This sheet is to be returned to the school and will become a part of the student's file.

The school retains the right to amend the handbook for just cause and parents will be promptly notified in writing if changes are made.