



# Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center

Preparing Ann Arbor's children for future success





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*Children learn at many different rates, in many different ways, and through many different processes. At the Ann Arbor Preschool & Family Center (AAPFC), our primary responsibility is to provide a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment in which children, from birth to age 5, can thrive as they “learn” to learn.*

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## LEARNING IS A LIFELONG PROCESS

The Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center offers a continuum of education and support for children and families from birth to age 5. We understand that during the first years of life, children are forming the basis of lifelong learning and success – and that their families play an integral role in their progress. Our youngest learners deserve all the best.

## ENVIRONMENT EQUALS OPPORTUNITY

Exposure to academically solid programming and services promote positive social interaction, self expression, emotional development, curiosity, and independence necessary for lifelong love of learning.

AAPFC implements best practices derived from a host of early childhood developmental theories and curriculum models. In doing so, we create an exciting classroom environment that combines foundational skills in reading, writing and arithmetic – with hands-on learning and constructive play to enhance social, emotional, physical, and creative skills.

While individual AAPFC programs have distinctive characteristics, they share common goals:

- Helping children build the skills to enable school success
- ▲ Fostering the love of learning
- Facilitating the transition from preschool to kindergarten

For specific times, fees and scheduling options at each site, go to [www.aaps.k12.mi.us](http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us) or pick up printed information at: Balas I (2555 S. State Street), Allen Elementary, Thurston Elementary or the Preschool Family Center.

*“Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children.”*

– Walt Disney



## A COORDINATED, TEAM APPROACH

More than 70 highly qualified and experienced teachers and professional support staff, with multiple degrees in early childhood development, guide students through enriched curricula supported by Everyday Math for Preschoolers, Dialogic Reading, Second Step Social Skills Development, and Handwriting without Tears, specifically developed for preschool students.

Classroom activities and access to the media center, gymnasium, and outdoor recreation areas – are designed to inspire, challenge, and strengthen young minds and bodies. For this reason, every aspect of your preschooler’s early education is carefully planned, implemented, and evaluated to maximize growth and developmental potential. When necessary, modifications – such as home visits or one-on-one classroom support from auxiliary personnel – may be recommended.

*“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”*

– Mark Van Doren, U. S. poet and writer

## Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center TUITION PRESCHOOL INTEREST FORM

Yes, I’d like to learn more about your innovative approach to early childhood education!

I’m interested in the tuition preschool program at:

Allen Elementary School at 2560 Towner Blvd.

Thurston Elementary School at 2300 Prairie

Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center at 2725 Boardwalk

Please send me:

An enrollment packet

More information about the program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child’s name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child’s birthdate: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEETING THE NEEDS OF EVERY CHILD...

AAPFC recognizes the needs of the individual child, and developmental challenges. To ensure that each child has the opportunity to be successful, AAPFC makes available a full range of special programming to address circumstances that stand in the way of typical learning and development.

## ...AND EVERY FAMILY

AAPFC believes that a supportive and collaborative relationship with families is essential to the continued success of their children. Parent education and family involvement activities are an important component of the early childhood preschool program.

## PREPARING FOR A LIFETIME OF LEARNING

AAPFC is pleased to offer early childhood education programs to all Ann Arbor Public Schools families at our new state-of-the art facility at 2725 Boardwalk, as well as in satellite locations at Allen Elementary School, 2560 Towner Blvd., and Thurston Elementary School, 2300 Prairie.

In addition to the benefits outlined above, participating families will enjoy:

- Scheduling flexibility: Half-day, full-day, partial week and full week sessions are available.
- ▲ Convenient drop off/pick up: Our facilities and parking lots are designed for safe and efficient arrivals and departures.
- Food service: Nutritious hot lunch served family-style, and included in tuition.
- Enrollment: Ongoing preschool enrollment throughout the year for students as space permits.
- ▲ Community outreach: Programs ranging from parenting education seminars to developmental screening available free of charge to families in the AAPS district.
- Community special education: Speech, occupational or physical therapy and/or teacher consultant services outside AAPFC for non-eligible preschoolers.

To learn more about the Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center, please visit our website at [aaps.k12.mi.us](http://aaps.k12.mi.us). If you would like to schedule a personal tour of our new facility, please call 734-994-2234, or complete and mail the attached response card today!

*“Curiosity is the wick in the candle of learning.”*

– William A. Ward, U.S. college administrator

*The challenge for the 21st century is to bring together parents, the early education community, and schools so that every child acquires the foundation necessary to succeed in school and in life.”*

– Mary Jean LeTendre, U.S. educator and government official

<b>We Believe Children Learn Best:</b>	<b>We Provide:</b>
In small class sizes	Small class sizes with low child/teacher ratios
When given opportunities to work individually, in small groups, and in large groups	Individual attention along with small and large group activities
If they acquire knowledge at their own pace	A program with an emphasis on individual learning styles
When they are actively involved by using all their senses, manipulating and experimenting with a variety of materials and situations	Hands-on opportunities to create, manipulate, and explore in a sensory-rich environment
Through play to translate experience into understanding, by exploring, observing, imitating, and practicing	A flexible schedule that allows time to play, explore, observe, imitate, and practice
When they feel physically and emotionally safe and secure	A safe, trusting, and nurturing environment with positive role models and consistency of educated and trained teachers
When all areas of development are viewed as equally important and interrelated	Curriculum that includes experiences to enrich and enhance cognitive, language, social, emotional, physical, and creative development
When they feel a sense of achievement and self-worth	Developmentally appropriate curriculum with built-in successes and challenges
When engaged in self-initiated as well as teacher-directed activities and experiences	A balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities
When teachers use language to enhance critical thinking, communication and problem solving, and teach English as a second language	An emphasis on language development to enhance problem solving and critical thinking skills – through English and English as a second language
In a literacy and numeracy rich environment	Curriculum that enhances reading and math skills
When children have time to interact socially with peers	An environment sensitive to learners who are developing social skills
With regular parental support and participation	Opportunities for ongoing family involvement