

SST Full-Day Pre-K Program



“Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning.” -Mr. Rogers

Why Choose SST Pre-K Program?

While many continue to study the lasting effects of academics of a full-day pre-K program compared to half-day pre-k program, we believe that most research already indicates that an extended-day program of good quality has a dramatic effect on a child’s learning across a wide range of knowledge and skills. We realize that many families need full-day programs in order to accommodate parent work schedules, therefore it is important to SST that we invest and offer a program that can meet child care needs and nurture the development of a child in every aspect. Our class sizes will never exceed more than 22 students with a staff child ratio of 1-11. Supervision will be maintained during all hours of operation by SST Pre-K Teacher and Instructional Assistant, including indoor and outdoor time.

SST Pre-K School hours are 7:45 am – 3:00 pm, except on early release days when students get out at 12:35 pm.

SST Pre-K students WORK hard at playing!

If the definition of work is the feeling of sustained physical or mental effort to overcome obstacles and achieve a result is what we call work, then play is the work of children. The teachers at SST recognize that guidelines and standards are an endpoint, not a curriculum. We use an integrated and play based curriculum in order to design thoughtful instruction. In play, children will learn to negotiate, problem solve, build empathy, develop creativity and a growth mindset. Play allows multiple opportunities and modes to reach various standards. Research has shown social emotional skills to be a better predictor of long term success than academic skills.

SST Eligibility Requirements for Pre-Kindergarten

In order to be eligible for the Pre-Kindergarten Program, state law (Texas Education Code §29.153) requires that children must be 4 years old on or before September 1st and (one of the following):

- Unable to speak or comprehend the English language (speak another language other than English) OR
- Educationally disadvantaged (eligible to participate in the National School Lunch Program) OR
- Homeless OR
- The child of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority OR
- The child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty OR
- Have been in the conservatorship (foster care) of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) (foster care) following an adversary hearing. OR
- Be the child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Awards as: a peace officer under Section 3106.002, Government Code; a firefighter under Section 3106.003, Government Code; or an emergency medical first responder under Section 3106.004, Government Code.

SST Pre-K Attendance Policy

The preschool years can be the most productive learning years in a child's life. The long term effects of early education on a child's social and emotional development may be the most important outcome of a high-quality preschool education. Good attendance leads to better grades, fewer discipline problems, and an increased chance the child will graduate high school and likely attend college.

Tips for Good Attendance:

- ❖ Make a commitment to have your child attend SST Pre-K every day on time. School hours are 7:45 am – 3:00 pm, except on early release days when students get out at 12:35 pm.
- ❖ If your child is reluctant to come to school, be sure to communicate this to the teacher. Together, you can make plans to address the concerns of your child.
- ❖ Make sure your child has a daily predictable routine, including a routine for bedtime and waking up in the morning.
- ❖ Be sure to allow enough time for the routines so that you and your child do not feel rushed.
- ❖ Have your child get a good night's rest to make sure he/she has enough energy to participate in classroom activities.
- ❖ When talking with your child, be positive about pre-k and the school staff. Cultivate your child's interest in discovering new things and his or her love of learning
- ❖ Remember, by bringing your child to preschool every day, you are helping to ensure that he or she will live up to their full potential and become a successful lifelong learner.

SST Pre-K will be using an integrated and play based curriculum that is based on the Texas Pre-Kindergarten Guidelines.

I. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT DOMAIN

B. Self Regulation Skills

3. Control of Attention

I.B.3.a. Child sustains attention to personally chosen or routine (teacher directed) tasks until completed.

II. LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION DOMAIN

A. Listening Comprehension Skills

II.A.2. Child shows understanding by following two-step oral directions and usually follows three step directions.

ELL: Child shows understanding by following one to two-step oral directions in English.

D. Vocabulary Skills

II.D.1. Child uses a wide variety of words to label and describe people, places, things, and actions.

II.E.7. ELL: Child uses single words and simple phrases to communicate meaning in social situations.

III. EMERGENT LITERACY: READING DOMAIN

B. Phonological Awareness Skills

III.B.6. Child can recognize rhyming words.

III.B.7. Child can produce a word that begins with the same sound as a given pair of words

C. Alphabet Knowledge Skills

III.C.1. Child names at least 20 upper and at least 20 lower case letters in the language of instruction.

III.C.2. Child recognizes at least 20 distinct letter sounds in the language of instruction.

D. Comprehension of Text Read Aloud Skills

III.D.3. Child asks and responds to questions relevant to the text read aloud.

IV. EMERGENT LITERACY WRITING DOMAIN

A. Motivation to Write Skills

IV.A.1. Child intentionally uses marks, letters, or symbols to record language and verbally shares meaning

C. Conventions in Writing

IV.C.1. Child writes own name (first name or frequent nickname) using legible letters in proper sequence

V. MATHEMATICS DOMAIN

A. Counting Skills

V.A.2. Child uses words to rote count from 1 to 30.

V.A.5. Child counts up to 10 items and demonstrates that the last count indicates how many items were counted.

V.A.8. Child verbally identifies, without counting, the number of objects from 1 to 5.
V.A.9. Child recognizes one-digit numerals, 0–9.

B. Adding To/Taking Away Skills

V.B.1. Child uses concrete objects, creates pictorial models and shares a verbal word problem for adding up to 5 objects.

V.B.2. Child uses concrete models or makes a verbal word problem for subtracting 0–5 objects.

C. Geometry and Spatial Sense Skills

V.C.1. Child names common shapes.

V.C.3. Child demonstrates use of location words (such as “over,” “under,” “above,” “on,” “beside,” “next to,” “between,” “in front of,” “near,” “far,” etc.).

D. Measurement Skills

V.D.1. Child recognizes and compares heights or lengths of people or objects.

V.D.3. Child informally recognizes and compares weights of objects or people.

E. Classification and Patterns Skills

V.E.1. Child sorts objects that are the same and different into groups and uses language to describe how the groups are similar and different.

V.E.3. Child recognizes and creates patterns.

VI. SCIENCE DOMAIN

A. Physical Science Skills.

VI.A.1. Child observes, investigates describes, and discusses properties and characteristics of common objects

B. Life Sciences Skills

VI.B.1. Child observes, investigates, describes and discusses the characteristics of organisms

VII. SOCIAL STUDIES DOMAIN

A. People, Past and Present Skills

VII.A.2. Child identifies similarities and differences in characteristics of families.

B. Economic Skills

VII.B.1. Child demonstrates that all people need food, clothing, and shelter.

D. Citizenship Skills

VII.D.1. Child identifies flags of the United States and Texas.

VII.D.2. Child recites the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the state flag and observes a moment of silence*

Click here for a detailed version of the complete [Texas Pre-Kindergarten Guidelines](#).

SST Pre-Kindergarten Assessment

An Educational Commissioner approved monitoring system will be used for Pre-K assessment and is aligned with the Pre-Kindergarten Curriculum Guidelines. Students are assessed on the following content areas: Social & Emotional, Language, Literacy, Communication, and Mathematics.