

Lydell Preschool  
**Whitefish Bay Recreation and Community Education Department**  
Whitefish Bay School District  
5205 N. Lydell Ave.  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

**Philosophy**

Lydell Preschool's high quality staff will challenge students to reach their potential, while providing an environment that is balanced between recreation, socialization and academics. Lydell Preschool believes that children are unique, creative individuals that have the ability to influence their own learning. Our environment allows children to experience the excitement of learning while developing self-confidence, social skills, and independent thinking.

**Curriculum**

As an affiliate program of the Whitefish Bay School District, our curriculum is based on frameworks developed by the Wisconsin Early Learning Standards, Whitefish Bay School District and current child development theory. Integrated into the program are elements of the Reggio Emilia Approach. The Reggio Approach strives to create an environment where the child is viewed as a creative, unique individual who guides the lessons and the learning that takes place.

Parents are vital components of the classroom working together with the teachers in small group activities. The classroom environment is filled with rich color and materials to encourage the child to use his or her imagination and creativity. As an extension of the classroom, the children will take full advantage of the Lydell Community Center art room, gymnasium and playground. In collaboration with the Whitefish Bay School District, the preschool children will interact and participate in cooperative learning activities with the district's elementary, middle and high school students.

The program activities are dynamic and may change with the children's interest and abilities. The approach will allow for in-depth, long-range curriculum projects on subjects ranging from insects to animals to the study of neighborhoods. Photographs, observations and journals will often be created as part of the child's learning experience and will be displayed in order to demonstrate to the parents the learning that has taken place in their child's classroom. The Lydell Preschool program is unique in that children, teachers and parents work together to create a dynamic learning experience.

The following components are integrated throughout the curriculum:

**Art** - Children will have the use of the Lydell Community Center art room to do group and free art activities. Experiences will be provided using crayons, markers, pencils, scissors and many different types of paper and textiles.

**General Music** - Children will have the opportunity to use songs throughout the day as a fun way to learn. Children will have the opportunity to participate using a wide variety of traditional and untraditional musical instruments.

**Math** - Children will begin to explore preschool appropriate activities such as patterning, sorting, counting, graphing, problem solving, basic money and time concepts.

**Motor Skills** - Children will have the opportunity to practice using large and small muscles in the Lydell Community Center gym. Children will practice hopping, skipping, jumping, running, throwing, catching, kicking and rolling, etc. The use of fine motor skills will be integrated into science, math and art through the use of manipulatives and supplies.

**Language Arts** - Children will engage in activities which will develop and strengthen early writing and reading skills. Activities will include being read to one-on-one and in a large group, rhyming, beginning sounds and alphabet activities.

**Science and Social Studies** - Children will learn by exploring the world around them and learning the ways in which he/she is unique. Children will learn about animals, the change of seasons and human behavior. They will begin to look at themselves, the roles of family and the community in which they live.

### **Preschool Daily Schedule**

The teachers will outline ideas for enjoyable and educational experiences and will provide the following learning environments.

Large Group - promotes social interaction through creative play, music, song and finger play.

Small Group - includes the use of constructive toys, manipulatives.

Story Time - promotes good listening skills, encourages imagination, exposes children to appropriate literature and builds vocabulary.

Snack Time - promotes healthy eating habits and manners and encourages social interaction.

Clean up – activities encourage self esteem and self-image by promoting good self-care and care for surroundings.

Among these many opportunities, the preschool children will take part in value added learning experiences such as field trips and interactive projects with the Whitefish Bay Public School children and community.

### **Family Involvement**

Families are always welcome at Lydell Preschool and are a crucial component of the preschool program. Family members may visit the classroom at any time, no appointment necessary. In addition, parents/guardians will be invited to observe and record observations of their child at various points throughout the year. There will be parent conferences scheduled twice during the school year and parents are welcome to initiate a conference should they feel there is a need. Parents are encouraged to call the teacher before or after class to communicate concerns or to help solve problems that may occur. All families will receive newsletters and flyers as a means to communicate preschool

news and events. Parents and families are encouraged to share any and all talents with the preschool program. Parent involvement is a great way for parents to familiarize themselves with the program and show they care about their child's education.

### **Volunteers**

The Lydell Preschool welcomes parents, grandparents or community members to volunteer. Activities might include the following: preparing classroom materials, helping in the classroom with various activities or assisting in field trips or classroom parties. Please let the Preschool teacher know if you are interested in volunteering.

### **Arrival and Dismissal Time**

M-W-F                      9:00am – 11:30 am

The Lydell Preschool follows the yearly school calendar. The Preschool will be closed on days there is no scheduled school due to emergency snow days, in-service, holiday, or vacation breaks.

### **Safe Arrival**

Children will enter Lydell Community Center through the front or back doors of the building. Parents/guardian or authorized person must escort their children into the classroom and sign in on the daily sign-in sheets. The teacher must be present in room before the parent may leave.

### **Pick up Time**

Parents/Guardian or authorized person will come to the classroom to pick up their child. Your child will only be released to authorized individuals. Initial authorization must be made on the enrollment form. Please inform all authorized individuals that they will need to show a photo ID when picking up your child. In order to authorize any additional persons, you must inform the teacher and update your authorized list. Notify the teacher if you want a person removed from the list. If an unauthorized person should arrive at school to pick up your child, you will be contacted immediately and your child will not be released. It is the responsibility of the parent to keep the authorized list of individuals allowed to pick up a child current and accurate. For safety reasons, authorized individual must walk in and sign children out of the program.

### **Attendance and Illness**

Please call the Recreation Department if your child will not be attending preschool for illness or other reasons.

Please keep your child at home if he/she shows any of the following symptoms which maybe early signs of respiratory infections or contagious disease: unusual crankiness or fatigue, fever within the past 24 hours, loss of appetite, rash of any kind, runny nose,

sneezing or coughing. If your child becomes ill during the program, such as having a fever over 100 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea, or contracting a contagious disease, you will be required to pick up your child within one hour of notification. If your child has a contagious disease, please notify us immediately so that we can let all parents know that their child may have been exposed.

### **Snacks**

Children will take turns bringing the daily snack to school. A snack schedule will be sent home the first week. As a reminder, a note will be sent home the day before it is your child's turn. Please exchange snack days with another family if your child will be absent or for some other reason you cannot bring snack on his/her designated day.

### **Clothing**

Please dress your child appropriately for the weather. We will, at times, go outside if the weather permits. Send a change of clothing for your child to be kept at school and label all clothing, including coats, hats, mittens, gloves, boots and shoes, with your child's name.

### **School Bag**

Your child must have a large tote bag to carry home artwork, notes, etc. Please clearly label the outside of the bag with your child's name.

### **Registration**

Lydell Preschool is for children ages 3 to 4 years old. You may register your child throughout the year through the Whitefish Bay Recreation and Community Education Department providing there are openings in the program. All children must be toilet trained.

Registration packets can be picked up at the Recreation and Community Education office located in the Lydell Community Center at 5205 N. Lydell Ave or downloaded off the Recreation and Community Education website [www.wfbschools.com](http://www.wfbschools.com).

No child will be discriminated by race, color, sex, national origin, creed, or special needs.

Tuition Payment: Tuition is pre-paid. Fifty percent of the tuition fee must be paid at the time of registration. The remaining balance must be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup> of the upcoming year.

**Non-refundable enrollment fee \$135.00**

**September-June \$1900 a year/\$950.00 per semester**

### **Waiting List**

If your child is not accepted through the registration process because the program is at capacity, your child will be placed on a waiting list. Parents or guardians will be contacted in the order in which the names were received, when space becomes available.

### **Legal Custody**

If you are experiencing custody difficulties, we strongly urge you to keep the Preschool staff fully advised of circumstances which might affect your child. Unless legal documentation is submitted to the contrary, we will assume that parents share equal rights to drop off or pick up a child.

### **Child Abuse or Neglect**

We are required by law to report any suspected abuse or neglect to Protective Services. Please communicate if you have any concerns regarding your child's well being.

### **Cancellations due to Weather**

When the Whitefish Bay School District is closed or cancelled due to weather, the Preschool Program will be cancelled. School closing announcements are made over stations WTMJ-620, WISN-1130 and WOKY-920. Closings are also announced on TV stations 4, 6, 12 and 58.

### **Special Dietary Needs**

If your child has specific needs and/or allergies, please inform the teacher on the registration form.

### **Special Needs**

If your child has any type of special needs, please make sure that you provide us with information regarding these needs on the enrollment form. Every effort will be made to provide reasonable accommodations.

### **Discipline Policy**

The Lydell Preschool Students are encouraged to treat each other with respect and compassion. The program will emphasize each child's ability to actively participate in his/her own learning.

Preschool staff is to attempt to avoid discipline problems by:

1. Making rules clear and simple.
2. Being consistent.
3. Making children aware of the consequences of the broken rules.

Specific techniques to be used by all staff members for discipline will be:

- Speaking to the child at his/her level while maintaining eye contact and using a calm voice.
- Listening to the child's explanation of his/her behavior.
- Reminding the child of classroom rules.
- Speaking to the child in positive, not negative terms.
- Removing the child from the group for a short time.

Aggressive behavior will be handled immediately and in the manners described above. No verbal abuse, shame or physical punishment shall be used.

If staff experiences consistent behaviors that are inappropriate the following steps will be taken:

- Parent will receive a verbal warning regarding the behaviors and will be informed that the next step will be a written warning.
- Staff will document and communicate the behaviors to the child, parent/guardian, and Director of Recreation and Community Education.
- The staff will work with the parents through parent/staff conferences, observation and documentation, referrals and outside resources.

In the event that the parents and staff are unable to come to a mutually satisfying course of action, the Director reserves the right to ask the parents to find alternative arrangements.

## **Medications**

Lydell Preschool staff can administer medication if the following guidelines are met:

1. Parent/guardian consent and written instructions on a completed Medical Permission Form. Medical Permission Forms may be obtained from the Recreation and Community Education office.
2. Prescription medication must be brought in a container with a current pharmacy label on it.
3. Medication must be brought to school by a parent/guardian or a parent/guardian may call the Recreation and Community Education office the day the student will bring the medication.
4. A written record of all medication administered to students by designated employees or volunteers shall be kept by Preschool staff.
5. Tylenol and other over the counter drugs will not be administered unless a written prescription by the physician is provided.

## **Immunization Policy**

An immunization record must be on file for each child within 30 school days (six weeks) of the child's first day of attendance at the program. This immunization history must indicate that the child has received at least DtaP, Polio, MMR, Varicella (if the child has not had chicken pox) and Hepatitis B, or that the immunization requirement is to be waived for that child by a compliance alternative.

Immunization requirements are waived upon signature of the parent that the child should not be immunized for personal or religious reasons. Immunization requirements may also be waived upon signature of a physician that the child should not be immunized for health reasons.

Children who have not received subsequent doses of vaccine appropriate to their age must receive such subsequent doses within one year of the first day of attendance and must notify the Preschool staff in writing, as each dose is received.

When children are in the process of being immunized (i.e., the child has received some DtaP and Polio doses but not all that are required for the child's age), the program will request a note from the child's health care provider that the child is on schedule for immunizations and the date for the next scheduled dose. The note will be attached to the child's immunization record. The Preschool staff will follow up on this schedule.

The child who fails to comply with immunization requirements will be excluded from the program until such time as immunization requirements are met. There will be no refund or prorating of registration fees if this should occur.

## **Personal Hygiene**

1. Children's hands will be washed with soap and running water before eating and after toileting. Hands and faces will be washed after snacks.
2. Preschool toileting – Staff will assist children in learning the habits of personal hygiene. Independence and development of self-help skills are encouraged. All children are accompanied to the bathroom by a teacher or parent helper.
3. In case of an accident, wet or soiled clothing will be changed promptly from an available supply of clean clothing and with two persons in attendance.

## **Injuries**

Treatment of children who are injured shall be planned for and carried out as follows:

Written permission from the parents to call the family physician or refer the child for medical care in case of injury shall be on file. Parents shall be contacted as soon as possible after the injury has occurred.

In case of a serious injury, Emergency 911 will be called and the child will be transported to a medical facility. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the teacher or teacher-aide will accompany the child.

The classroom shall have a supply of disposable gloves, bandages, tape and band-aids.

Minor injuries will be cleaned with soap and water and protected with a band-aid.

All injuries will be entered in a medical log and an incident report completed and filed.

Standard first-aid practices will be followed and teachers are required to wear disposable gloves when dealing with body fluids.

Parents will be advised of all injuries; no matter how minor.

## **Sanitation of Toys and Equipment**

Toys and equipment are washed down with a mixture of soap and water when soiled. Periodically, a cleaning with a district-approved sanitizer will be done during session breaks.

## **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

Lydell Community Center  
Emergency Plan

The following procedures are prepared to provide those who work in the Lydell Community Center with a set of guidelines to follow in case of various emergencies. Although no two situations are alike and it is hard to predict the unexpected, the following will serve as suggested steps to take in the event we experience the following emergencies: fire/evacuation, tornado, medical problem, bomb threat or stranger in the building.

### Fire/Evacuation Procedures

The head-teacher is responsible to follow the Lydell Community Center evacuation procedures in an event of a fire or evacuation.

Please note that the interior fire alarm switch boxes do not notify the fire or police departments; fire department should be called separately if Recreation Department is closed.

1. Locate the fire alarm switch box and activate.
2. Notify the Recreation Office if the fire occurs during regular business hours or the custodian in the evening or weekend providing the exact location of the fire.
3. The Recreation Department Staff will notify the fire department. If the Recreation Department is closed, the emergency red phone, located in hallway outside Recreation Office, can be used.
4. Fire/evacuation signal is a continuous ringing (buzzing) siren. If a fire/evacuation happens during regular office hours, recreation staff will attempt to contact all students and teachers in all occupied rooms for the need to evacuate the building. It is assumed that preschool staff will respond to fire alarm and evacuate students under their care. Teachers should instruct students which exit to use.
5. During routine fire drills, the preschool will proceed with evacuating the building.

In case of fire emergency, The Recreation and Community Education staff will attempt to notify all Lydell Community Center program participants to leave the building according to the following directions:

Room 15	Leave building using Exit 3
Rooms 17, 19, 22	Leave building using Exit 4
Rooms 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28	Leave building using Exit 5
Rooms 2, 3	Leave building using Exit 2
Gym classes	Leave building using Exit 8

### **Emergency Weather**

Tornado warning signal is a series of short blasts using an on-off pattern of the fire siren.

Storm warning maps are located in each classroom designating where people in each classroom should go. It is important to note that whenever possible, people should go to an interior hallway. Teachers will inform students where to move to according to the diagrams in each classroom.

The head teacher is responsible to check for the following;

- All doors and windows should be closed.
- When everyone arrives at their designated areas, they should assume the emergency position. Sit facing the wall with their heads between their knees and their hands covering their heads.
- Children are not sitting in front of classroom doors or windows.