

# Plainville Public Schools Preschool Information Guide



**2022 - 2023**

Dear Families of Preschool Students:

On behalf of the School Committee, the Superintendent Mrs. Parson and the preschool teachers, I welcome you and your child to the Anna Ware Jackson School! Your child is entering into an outstanding school district and the preschool team is honored to be the launch pad for your child's next 8 years in the Plainville Public Schools.

We have prepared this information guide as an overview of important procedures you need to be aware of as well as general information about school life for your child.

Whether you are new to Jackson School or have been a part of our family for a while in our preschool program or with older siblings, please take some time to review this information carefully.

Finally, please know that Wendy Moriarty, Administrative Assistant, and I are here to support you and your child. If you have any questions, please reach out. We can be reached at 508-699-1309 or via email at [wmoriarty@plainville.k12.ma.us](mailto:wmoriarty@plainville.k12.ma.us) or [adargon@plainville.k12.ma.us](mailto:adargon@plainville.k12.ma.us).

Warmly,

Ann Dargon, Ed.D  
Student Services Administrator

Preschool Teachers:

Elizabeth Foley  
Dina Franco  
Jennifer Kubinski  
Rosalie Antolini

## Jackson School Procedures

### Absences

If your child is going to be absent or late, please call the school at 508-699-1304 to let us know. If a student is absent and the school is not notified, the school will telephone the student's parents or guardians. It is important to account for the whereabouts of all the students in our school system each day that school is in session.

### Guidelines for Students Being Driven to and Picked Up at School

Bus arrival at Jackson School is scheduled for 8:40 AM through 8:50 AM. NO CARS will be allowed to enter or exit the front driveway during this time.

Morning session hours are 8:50am-11:20am, afternoon sessions are 12:20pm-2:50pm. Peers attending the extended day program will be dismissed at 1:00pm. To drop off your child, please pull up into the line in the front lot of the Wood School, closest to the street. Once buses have completed unloading, the crossing guard will direct parents to pull up to the front of the school.

For the afternoon session, preschool parents will simply pull up to the front of the Jackson School. The preschool staff will assist your child/children out of the car and will bring them into the hallway. At pickup, we would appreciate it if you could park your car along the front of the building or in parking spaces, and wait outside the front doors. We will bring your child out to you. Please note that the buses are waiting for the preschool dismissal to finish before they line up at the front doors. Please try to pull out of the lot as quickly as possible, so that we do not delay school bus dismissals.

If you arrive at school after drop off has completed, you will need to come into the front office to sign in your child.

### Changes to Dismissal Routine

If you need to make any changes to your child's normal dismissal routine, we need to have a note from you, the parent or guardian. We will not dismiss your child to an unfamiliar person based on a child's verbal report. Please note that when someone unfamiliar is picking up your child, they will need to provide identification before your child will be dismissed. Additionally, if you know your child needs to be dismissed early or you know in advance that they will be absent, please send a note to the school with this information.

### Preschool Session Times

AM Session:	8:50-11:20am
PM Session:	12:20-2:50pm
Full Day Students:	8:50am-2:50pm
Extended Day Students:	8:50am-1:00pm

### Medication Policy

The Plainville Public Schools medication policy requires that a signed Parent/Guardian Consent for Medication Administration form and a signed Medication Order form must be on file in your child's health record before any medication can be given at school. It is recommended that you contact Nurse Angela Lesure(508-699-1321 x6110) to alert her that your child will require medication at school. Only medication considered absolutely necessary by the prescribing physician will be administered during the school hours. Whenever possible, the medication schedule should be arranged so that medicine may be taken at home.

### Preschool Routines

#### Clothing

All clothing to be removed in school (i.e. coats, mittens, etc) should be labeled with the student's name. Since outdoor play is an integral part of our preschool program, students should be dressed according to the weather for the day. Since students do not play in the snow in the winter, snow pants and snow boots will not be necessary.

When purchasing sneakers for physical education classes, please purchase shoes with non-marking soles (clearly marked on the sneaker and/or the box). This will prevent our wooden gym floor from getting marked. Thank you for your cooperation.

We encourage independence in dressing skills in preschool. A typically developing four-year-old should be able to dress him/herself barring any complicated clasps or fasteners. Teachers and paraprofessionals are available to provide support with these self-help skills; however, we encourage you to teach your child how to put on their coat, mittens, and hats on their own. Please remember preschooler's love to get messy so sending them in comfortable and washable clothes is encouraged.

### Lunch

All full day and extended day students eat lunch at school. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is providing free lunch for all students, regardless of income, through the 2022-2023 school year. The school lunch menu can be found on the school website. If your child will be having school lunch, please let your teacher know in advance via SeeSaw.

### Peanut/Nut Aware Procedure

In the past few years, we have had an increasing number of students in our school diagnosed with life-threatening food allergies. We have instituted a "peanut/nut aware" procedure which means that we do not serve peanut/nut products in our cafeteria. **All classrooms are identified as peanut/nut aware learning spaces.** Strict avoidance of peanut/nut products in all classrooms is the only way to prevent a life threatening reaction. Therefore, students may NOT bring food items made with peanuts or nuts for snack and lunch, which are eaten in the classroom. Please read all labels to ensure that no snack item label states: "may contain trace amounts of nuts/peanuts."

To assist you in finding peanut/tree nut free snack items, you may wish to visit

<http://snacksafely.com/>

In light of the Plainville Public Schools' Wellness Policy, celebrations involving food will be limited. Food items intended to be shared with other students should not be sent into school without prior approval from the classroom teacher, who will seek guidance from the school nurse and principal. If a food item is brought in without prior approval, it will be brought to the office and you will be called to pick it up.

### Snacks

Please send your child to school each day with a small healthy snack and plenty of drinks from home. Full day students should bring two snacks each day. Please consider what your child is able to eat in about 10 minutes while socializing with friends.

### Materials Needed

Preschool students should bring a backpack to school that is large enough to carry their snack/lunch and papers to and from school. However, please do not purchase large backpacks or backpacks with wheels, since they can be difficult for young students to maneuver. Please put your child's name on all backpacks, bags, and lunchboxes (inside is fine). Your child will need at least one change of clothes that will be stored in his/her backpack. Please place clothing in a large ziploc bag that is labeled with his/her name. Student folders will be provided and should be sent to school each day.

Our classrooms are filled with fun and engaging toys. Students are not allowed to bring toys of any kind to school because they may be lost or broken. They can also lead to peer conflict and/or distract children from learning.

### Tuition Payments for **Role Model students**

All tuition payments must be made online. Please do not send a check to school with your child. All tuition related questions should be directed to the office of student services and not your child's teacher.

The cost of our preschool programs is the following:

HALF DAY AM/PM	\$3440.00	\$344.00 per month over a 10 month payment plan
EXTENDED DAY	\$5230.00	\$523.00 per month over a 10 month payment plan
FULL DAY	\$6500.00	\$650.00 per month over a 10 month payment plan

Payments should be made ONLINE ONLY by the 15th day of the preceding month to avoid late payments and the possibility of losing your child's slot in the preschool.

Here is the link to make the payment: City Hall Systems - eBilling ePayment

<https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/>

Please understand that we do have a waiting list and would have to fill the slot immediately if payments are not made on time.

### **Ways to Help Your Child Get Ready for Preschool**

1. Read to your child every day. Put books all around your home to encourage your child's enjoyment in reading.
2. Play games, including number games, guessing games, rhyming games, and word games.
3. Visit interesting places such as museums, zoos, libraries, and parks.
4. Help him/her develop small motor skills by using coloring books, simple puzzles, and by cutting with child-safe scissors.
5. Help him/her develop large motor skills by playing simple running games, catching and throwing a ball, and climbing play equipment.
6. Give your child opportunities to play with other children.

7. Create opportunities for your child to think, reflect and discuss things around them. Life-long learners start at a very young age.
8. Take advantage of your child's natural inclination for imaginative play. Invite them to the "play school" with you. Roleplay what it is like to sit on the rug and listen to a story or how to sit for 20 minutes and eat lunch while carrying on a conversation with you.
9. Throw some common social challenges at your child to develop their ability to problem solve. For example, pretend you are a young child and steal a toy away from them. See how they react and prompt them with strategies that help solve the problem, rather than make it worse. Saying, "I was playing with that. Please give it back," or getting help from a grown-up is better than screaming, crying, hitting, or grabbing the toy back. If you suspect your child might be the one to do the grabbing, show them how to ask politely for a toy and how to wait patiently for a turn.
10. Practice activities of daily living, including using the bathroom independently and washing/drying hands independently.

### **Books that Can Help Your Child Get Ready for Preschool**

#### **Will I Have a Friend?**

By: Miriam Cohen

#### **When Dinosaurs Go to School**

By: Linda Martin

#### **Arthur Goes to School**

By: Marc Brown

#### **Wemberly Worried**

By: Kevin Henkes

#### **Llama, Llama Misses Mama**

By: Anna Dewdney