



# Preschool Program Overview



**Creating a Positive Foundation for Early Learners**



## Program Highlights

- ◆ Integrated program that encompasses Special Education Students and Peer Role Models in a nurturing learning environment where cooperative and creative play is encouraged.
- ◆ Direct instruction that enhances appropriate readiness skills.
- ◆ Staff who are responsive to student's needs and work collaboratively to educate the whole child.
- ◆ Curriculum that adheres to the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CT ELDS).
- ◆ Developmentally appropriate activities that assist in cultivating gross and fine motor skills.



◆ **Full Day  
Preschool  
Program**

◆ **Transportation  
Provided**

◆ **Before and After  
Care Available**



# WPS Preschool Program

The Waterford Public Schools' Preschool Program is designed to provide a nurturing and productive learning environment to support students at the beginning of their educational journey. Our program will provide a seamless transition to kindergarten at one of our three elementary schools. The Early Learning Centers are located at Great Neck Elementary School, Oswegatchie Elementary School, and Quaker Hill Elementary School, and are open to all Waterford three- and four-year old special education students and a limited number of general education students selected through a lottery system. Students participate in developmentally appropriate activities that aim to build independence and enhance socialization, language and readiness skills as well as gross and fine motor development.

To fully support your child's growth and development, our program is in alignment with Connecticut's Early Learning and Development Standards (CT ELDS) and our curriculum is developed into high interest theme units. Preschool students participate in weekly specialized instruction in the areas of **physical education, art, and music**. Our comprehensive approach to learning and development includes access to **Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech and Language Services** according to a student's individualized education program.

## A WORD ON THE WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS' PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FROM OUR PARENTS ...

*"The Early Childhood Center has been an incredible experience for my son. As a special education student, attending this all-day program has been beneficial to his growth and development in speech and sensory abilities. Interacting with peers and teachers allows him to practice and apply his skills on a daily basis. As a parent, it is reassuring to know we made the right decision on the preschool program we enrolled our son in."*

*"Not a doubt in my mind that Waterford Pre-K has really benefitted my daughter. She was a preemie and has delayed speech. In just 3 short months, she has gone from 2 word utterances to singing me full lullabies and telling stories. She can now identify colors and count to 10 with not much help from adults. I never thought I would see this before 1st grade. The Waterford staff has truly been a blessing to our family and my daughter's development."*

*"My daughter wakes up every morning excited to go to school. She is excited to tell me what she has done at the end of the day. Thanks to the daily emails, I know exactly the questions to ask about her day. She is developing such a love of learning!"*



## The Early Learning Centers

Great Neck Elementary School

165 Great Neck Road

Waterford, CT 06385

Phone: 860-442-2593

Oswegatchie Elementary School

470 Boston Post Road

Waterford, CT 06385

Phone: 860-442-4331

Quaker Hill Elementary School

285 Bloomingdale Road

Quaker Hill, CT 06375

Phone: 860-442-1095

## Staff

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ◆ <u>Early Childhood Liaison</u>           | ◆ <u>Speech/Language Pathologist</u>      |
| ◆ <u>Special Education/Autism Teachers</u> | ◆ <u>School Psychologist</u>              |
| ◆ <u>Board Certified Behavior Analysts</u> | ◆ <u>Physical/Occupational Therapists</u> |
|  | ◆ <u>School Social Worker</u>             |

## Program Contact Information

To learn more about the **Waterford Public Schools' Preschool Program**, please contact **Director of Special Services Ms. Gina M. Wygonik** at 860-444-5802 or **Early Childhood Liaison Ms. D.J. Camillucci**, at 860-442-2593. Information can also be found on our website at [www.waterfordschools.org](http://www.waterfordschools.org).