



# SAINT PASCHAL BAYLON

## Kindergarten Handbook

# *Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School Kindergarten*

WELCOME! It is indeed a pleasure to be able to share with you the beginning of the formal education of your child. Kindergarten is a big step for you and your child. We hope to make your child's transition into school an easy and pleasant one.

To help bridge the gap between the home and school and establish a cooperative relationship is the goal of this handbook. We hope it will answer any questions you may have, but if not, please feel free to contact any of the staff. You may reach us through the school office at 440-442-6766 or by email.

## **OUR MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY**

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*The Eucharistic community of Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School focuses on Christ-centered values and develops the unique potential of each student through a rigorous and engaging curriculum.*

The philosophy and goals of our kindergarten program are in accord with the philosophy and goals of Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic School and the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. Our program encourages growth in physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development. It is designed to provide a creative learning environment for the young child, and an opportunity for association with other children through play and learning activities.

In order to stay in accordance with the Mayfield School District as well as state regulations, a child must be 5 years old before August 1st to be eligible to participate in a kindergarten program.

## **GOALS OF SAINT PASCHAL KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM**

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The student should:

- Develop a rudimentary awareness, sense of wonder, and joy through a relationship with God and the universe.
- Build a positive self-concept by experiencing success, encouragement, and reinforcement as well as accept failure without giving up.
- Develop the ability to coordinate his or her body and behavior with greater skill and respect.
- Have the opportunity to adjust socially and emotionally to a group living at home and school.
- Participate in activities that build greater responsibility in caring for self, others, and personal belongings.
- Grow in the ability to make choices, participate actively in learning, and accept the consequences.
- Have opportunities for learning the basic skills of communication.
- Have many opportunities for development in music, rhythm, and in the aesthetic arts.

## CURRICULUM

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Our kindergarten curriculum consists of work in the following areas:

Religion  
Science  
Reading  
Music  
Language Arts  
Art

Math  
Physical Education  
Health and Safety  
Technology  
Social Studies  
Library

We have a lot to cover in one short year! Your child will master letter recognition and sounds, basic sight words, writing skills, journaling, retelling stories, speaking and listening skills, and so much more. We will continue to explore our world around us through our study of science and social studies, numbers, shapes, colors, counting, drawing, life skills, fine motor skills, and gross motor skills. Most importantly, we will teach your child to love, know, and serve God. It is our goal not only to teach your child these foundational educational skills but to help them grow in our Catholic faith and traditions.

All of our standards, content, skills, and learning experiences are given to us by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education standards. This is what makes Catholic education so unique and special.

## COMMUNICATION

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Communication between home and school is essential to a successful Kindergarten experience. If you have a specific concern, please feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher.

A "Take Home Folder" will be sent home daily. Any of your child's work as well as important information will be sent home in these folders. Please put any notes or envelopes in the folder, and we will check the folders each morning.

The children will receive a progress report at the end of the first quarter and a report card in January, March and June. There are specific conference times scheduled for the fall, however, you may make arrangements for a conference whenever you feel it is necessary. A monthly newsletter will be sent home at the beginning of each month. Announcements and homework will be posted on Gradelink.

## HOURS OF ATTENDANCE

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Kindergarten-Full Day Session: 8:05 AM - 2:30 PM

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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Children who ride the bus will be dropped off between the convent and school. They will go directly down the hall to the kindergarten rooms. If your child is a car rider, please drop off your child no earlier than 7:45 AM.

If you are picking up your child after school, please use the rear parking lot behind the school and park there. Car riders will be dismissed after the bus riders. If you are late for any reason, your child will be with the Extended Day children, and you will be billed for the service. You must enroll your child in our Extended Day program before he/she may attend. Whenever you change your child's normal dismissal routine, please send a note to the teacher.

## **CLOTHING**

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Please label all outside apparel with your child's name. This includes coats, jackets, both gloves, both boots, scarves, hats, etc. For easy hanging in the lockers, all coats and jackets should have a loop or hook on them. The kindergarten children do wear uniforms. Children in kindergarten have the option of wearing school shoes or **ATHLETIC SHOES WITH VELCRO CLOSURES ONLY**.

On gym day, the children are to come to school dressed in their gym uniforms. On cooler days, the children may wear gym uniform sweatpants to school instead of their uniform gym shorts. From October 1 to May 1, gym uniform sweatpants are worn over their uniform gym shorts.

## **SAFETY**

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Our program and facilities are designed to ensure the physical and emotional safety of each child. If your child should have an accident or become ill at school, we will make every effort to contact you. If we are unable to reach the parents/guardians, the emergency numbers will be called.

## **HEALTH REGULATIONS**

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The State of Ohio requires that all children present a doctor-completed medical form. Parents/guardians are asked to protect their own children and the health of others by keeping a child home if he or she has symptoms of a cold or contagious disease, especially COVID-19. Please notify the school immediately if your child becomes ill with a communicable disease. This will enable us to notify all other parents of what their child has been exposed to and what signs to look for.

## **ATTENDANCE**

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If your child will be absent, you are asked to call the school office attendance line at 440-442-6766 before 8:30 AM. Your message will be recorded and checked by the school office at 8:30 AM to be sure that all children are accounted for. When the child returns to school, he or she must bring a note explaining the absence. If your child has been diagnosed with COVID-19, strep throat, chickenpox, or any communicable disease, please indicate this when you make your call so we may notify other parents. If your child comes to school after 8:05 AM, YOU MUST accompany your child to the office, sign him/her in, and get a tardy slip before they may be admitted to the classroom.

## **SUPPLIES/FEES**

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Your child should have some type of book bag large enough to hold a folder. No book bags with wheels, please.

There is a \$25.00 Craft Fee to help cover specific activities in these areas. This also covers a weekly issue of Scholastic- Let's Find Out weekly reader magazine. Please send cash in an envelope with your child's name printed on it. If you prefer to send a check, please make it payable to "CASH".

## **SNACKS**

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Please pack a healthy snack for your child DAILY. We follow the school policy which outlines healthy choices of fruits, vegetables, yogurt, and cheese. No nuts. Please send a non-messy snack that is easy to open and eat! We will wash hands prior to snack. Please do not send in yogurt with candy toppings.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

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Birthdays are very special occasions in a child's life. At school, we celebrate with a birthday crown and a small gift. We will acknowledge birthdays in class, but students may only bring in a non-edible treat. Thank you for your cooperation.