

Preschool

Structure of the Preschool

Our Preschool program includes 8 Pre-K, 8 KG1 and 8 KG2 classes; Arabic and English classrooms consist of a teacher and a teacher assistant. Music and Physical Education classes are provided by specialists during the week. Student visits to the Atelier for discovery and exploration are being offered once a week for KG and twice a week for Pre-K students. Class size is set at 25 for KG1 and KG2.

In Preschool, the school day timings are from 7:00 to 2:50 for teachers and from 7:30 to 12:30 for students. The day is comprised of blocks of English and Arabic instruction that is equally divided, as well as a mid-day break for children to eat snack and enjoy recess.

The KG Program:

Language Arts

The Language Arts curriculum is the Ontario (Canada) Kindergarten program 2011. This curriculum has been broken down across the preschool with standards being assigned to each grade level from Pre-K to KG2, with topics of inquiry and language based exploration inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy to early childhood learning.

Science

The Science curriculum is built upon an inquiry discovery model with great emphasis placed on hands-on activities. Our current program is evenly balanced amongst the strands of Earth/Space, Life and Physical Science. Science investigations are conducted through an integrated approach to learning, together with Reggio inspired activities.

Art and Technology

Art and Technology are integrated within the centers of instruction for Literacy and Science skills. We have a Preschool Technology Integration Specialist who provides assistance and training to build capacity of the instructional staff, for the integration of technology to support student achievement.

Assessment

Assessments in Preschool are always on-going and are comprised of various forms of formative and summative assessments. Each grade level team develops common criteria. Report cards are issued three times a year with interim parent/teacher conferences in the fall and spring. We are following the Ontario Kindergarten report card model.

Counseling and Nurse's Station

Preschool has two on-site counselors to support children's social and emotional needs; one Pre-K counselor and a counselor for KG1 and KG2. Two campus nurses oversee the physical well-being of both children and staff members. They are always available to help children, teachers and families who have any concerns.