

Tuition Preschool



Our Preschool Mission:

Queen Creek Unified School District Preschool provides a safe and nurturing environment that builds the foundation for lifelong learning and a love of education.

Our Preschool Vision:

Providing the stepping stones and building blocks for students' future success.

Our Preschool Philosophy:

In all QCUSD Preschool Programs, we emphasize supporting the growth and development of the “whole” child. Our certified teaching staff uses the Arizona Early Learning Standards to design developmentally appropriate lessons that provide direct instruction and experience in the following areas: social-emotional development, physical development, language and literacy, mathematics, science, and arts/creative expression. These learning experiences support social/emotional skill development, build knowledge and confidence, and create a strong pre-academic foundation for a smooth transition to kindergarten.

Our preschool classrooms are staffed with a teacher holding a valid teaching certificate with the Arizona Department of Education and a trained para-educator in every classroom.

Benefits of QCUSD Preschool Programs:

- **We are affordable:** Our programs are quality-based and are both flexible and affordable.
- **Your child's safety is our priority:** All preschool staff hold a valid Fingerprint Clearance Card through the Arizona Department of Public Safety. In addition, all Tuition Preschool staff are CPR/First Aid certified and TB tested. Staff members participate in formal ongoing training throughout the school year and are supported by the Building Principal.
- **Low child-to-staff ratio:** QCUSD Preschool classrooms maintain staff-to-student ratios that are below the Department of Health Services licensing guidelines. See class enrollment information for your specific staff-to-student ratio.

- **We offer a variety of activities:** Students enrolled in QCUSD Preschool classrooms participate in well planned and intentional learning opportunities that help students grow and expand in the following ways:
 - ❑ Increased social and self-awareness
 - ❑ Communication and vocabulary development
 - ❑ Increased self-help and organizational skills
 - ❑ STEM activities that spark exploration
 - ❑ Cognitive skill growth
 - ❑ Creative expression
 - ❑ Physical development
 - ❑ Recreational activities and experiences
- **Highlight healthy lifestyle choices:** Our programs follow the Department of Health Services meal and snack guidelines to promote healthy food choices. Recess is an important part of our day and students are encouraged to enjoy physical activity to increase coordination and motor development.
- **We are licensed:** Each site is licensed through the Arizona Department of Health Services.
- **WE LOVE WORKING WITH YOUR CHILDREN!** At the core of this exciting and fun program is the well-being of the total child. Our staff engage with and supervise children in a variety of activities designed to meet their interests and needs.

Arizona DHS Licensing

Our sites are licensed and inspected by the Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS). Facility inspection reports are available for public viewing at the Arizona Department of Health Services, 150 N. 18th Ave, Phoenix Arizona 85007. The AZDHS phone number is 602-364-2539. DHS inspection reports are also available on-site at our tuition preschool sites.

Before and Aftercare:

QCUSD offers before and aftercare for preschool-age students enrolled in Full-Day tuition preschool at Queen Creek Elementary, Gateway Polytechnic Academy, and Katherine Mechem Barney Elementary for an additional fee. **Full-Day Students** can attend before and aftercare by completing a separate contract for enrollment in Eleyo. In order to participate in before and aftercare, students must have an approved contract in the Eleyo Online Enrollment Portal for both preschool and before/aftercare. ***Before and aftercare programs are contingent upon enrollment at each site. If minimum enrollment is not reached, we will contact you regarding other available preschool/extended care options.

Registration and Acceptance Policies:

- Preschool registration is a 2-step process.
 - **First**, students are registered using the Eleyo Online Enrollment Portal - <https://qcusd.ce.eleyo.com/>. All information must be filled in completely and accurately to prevent delayed entry into the program.

- **Second**, parents are required to register at the school of attendance once the contract is approved and the enrollment fee is paid. The following documents must be presented to the registrar at the elementary school site: original birth certificate, immunization records, proof of residence, and a photo ID.
- Only the parent/legal guardian may register the child for a preschool class.
- Space is limited and early registration is recommended. Confirmation emails are sent once your child has been approved.
- The district is required to have a copy of your child's immunization record provided by the parent/guardian at the time of enrollment.
- If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the document must be made available to the Director of Community Education for review prior to the child being approved for services. This is a requirement of the State of Arizona.
- Parents/legal guardians must agree to read and respond to emails as needed. This is our main form of communication. Please note that all preschool invoices are sent to parents via email. Please ensure that the email address provided is correct.

School Age Requirements:

- Students must be at least 3 years old by 8/31/2025 and fully potty trained to enroll
- Students cannot be older than 5 at the time of enrollment

Preschool Schedules by Elementary School Location:

Gateway Polytechnic Academy:

Coyote Pups 3-Day:	Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am-11:30 am & Friday 12:30 pm-3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 3-Day AM:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:30 am -11:30 am
Kinder-Prep 3-Day PM:	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 12:30 pm -3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 4-Day PM:	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 12:30 - 3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 5-Day AM:	Monday - Friday from 8:30 am -11:30 am (Wed. Early Release 8:30 - 10:00)
Full-Day Kinder-Prep:	Monday - Friday 8:30 am -3:15 pm
Full-Day Before Care:	Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 8:30 am
Full-Day Aftercare:	Monday - Friday 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Stepping Stones:	Session A- Monday, Wednesday and Friday Morning 8:50-11:20 am
Session B	-Tuesday and Thursday Morning from 8:50 to 11:20 a.m. and Friday Afternoon 1:10 to 3:40 p.m.
Session C-	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1:10-3:40

Silver Valley Elementary:

Coyote Pups 3-Day:	Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am - 11:30 am & Friday 12:30 pm -3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 3-Day AM:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Kinder-Prep 3-Day PM:	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Full-Day Kinder-Prep:	Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:15 pm

Katherine Mecham Barney Elementary:

Coyote Pups 3-Day: Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am - 11:30 am & Friday 12:30 pm -3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 3-Day AM: Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Kinder-Prep 3-Day PM: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 4-Day PM: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 12:30 - 3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 5-Day AM: Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am (Wed. Early Release 8:30 - 10:00)
Full-Day Kinder-Prep Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:15 pm
Full-Day Before Care: Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 8:30 am
Full-Day Aftercare: Monday - Friday 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Faith Mather Sossaman Elementary:

Full-Day Kinder-Prep Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:15 pm

Mountain Trail Academy:

Full-Day Kinder-Prep Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:15 pm

Queen Creek Elementary:

Coyote Pups 3-Day: Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 am - 11:30 am & Friday 12:30 pm 3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 3-Day AM: Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Kinder-Prep 3-Day PM: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Kinder-Prep 5-Day AM: Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Full-Day Kinder-Prep Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 3:15 pm
Full-Day Before Care: Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 8:30 am
Full-Day Aftercare: Monday - Friday 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Stepping Stones: Session A- Monday, Wednesday and Friday Morning 8:50-11:20 am
Session B -Tuesday and Thursday Morning from 8:50 to 11:20 a.m. and Friday Afternoon 1:10 to 3:40 p.m.
Session C- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1:10-3:40

Preschool class sections are contingent on enrollment.

Preschool locations are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure capacity. Locations are subject to change.

Sign-In/Sign-Out Procedures

For the safety of your child, any individual removing children from the program will be required to show proof of identification to the site staff. A child will not be released to an individual refusing to show ID upon request, or an individual who is not on the emergency contact list or

DHS card. **Always bring a valid (state) picture ID to the site. Please do not assume you will not need it!**

- DHS requires that a parent or an authorized party sign a child in/out of the program before and after each preschool class. Only the enrolling parent can designate authorized pickup parties. Those authorized parties may not assign that right to an unauthorized party. To sign a child out, the parent or authorized party must sign his/her full name along with the date and time in ink or electronic signature. The child must leave the site with the parent/authorized party once he/she has been signed out.
- An enrolled child will be released only to those persons specifically authorized on the emergency information form. **A sibling may not sign out a child unless he/she is listed on the emergency form as an authorized party and is 18 or older.** Exceptions cannot be made without the advance written permission of the parent. Site staff are not eligible to be an authorized party for any child other than their own.
- Under the laws of the state of Arizona, both parents may have the right to pick up a child, unless a court order restricts that right. The enrolling parent who chooses not to include the child's other parent on the authorized pick-up list must file an official court document (e.g., current restraining order, sole custody decree, or divorce decree stating sole custody). Absent that document, the school staff may release the child to either parent, provided that the parent documents his paternity/her maternity of the child.
- If only one parent has sole legal custody of a child, the school office must have court orders on file.

Absences

In the event that a child will not attend school, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to contact the school attendance line to report the absence to the school site. There are no credits or refunds for students who are ill or on vacation/out of town.

Illness

Parents must inform the preschool teacher or school attendance clerk when an absence is due to illness. Please inform the child's teacher or attendance clerk when a child's absence is due to a potentially infectious illness. For additional information please refer to the School Student Handbook posted on your school's website.

[Gateway Polytechnic Academy Homepage](#)
[Silver Valley Elementary Homepage](#)
[Queen Creek Elementary School Homepage](#)
[Katherine Mecham Barney Elementary Homepage](#)
[Faith Mather Sossaman Elementary Homepage](#)
[Mountain Trail Academy](#)

A child who exhibits signs of illness or infestation will not be permitted to attend or remain in preschool as stated in the Arizona Department of Health Services Revised Statutes for Childcare Facilities:

Illness

- Fever within the past 24 hours
- Swollen Glands
- Vomiting and/or Diarrhea
- Undiagnosed Rash

Infestation

- Lice
- Pinworms
- Scabies
- Other parasites

A child who did not attend preschool due to illness will not be accepted into before or aftercare that day. If a child becomes ill while attending preschool/extended care with a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or onset of a rash, a parent/guardian/emergency contact will be notified to pick-up the child.

Seasonal Festivities/Celebrations - In (your school) and QCUSD, our primary focus is teaching and learning. With that being said, we do participate in a variety of fun celebrations at our school. We have spirit days, seasonal activities, and festivities to celebrate these special times of the year. They do not include student costumes during the school day. These types of events generally take place for a short period of time at the end of the school day and/or include educational activities so that we can continue to focus on our mission of teaching and learning.

Tuition Payment Policies - No payments will be accepted at any school sites

- Tuition is due prior to attending the program.
- Registration and payments are made through our online Eleyo registration and payment system at <https://qcusd.ce.eleyo.com>.
- Payment methods include:
 - Online ACH from checking or savings and Credit cards.
 - Tax Credits – **Tax credits are not taken for payment of preschool tuition.**
- Payment history for tax purposes, insurance, are available on your Eleyo family account online.
- The financially responsible parties will be liable for any fees, charges, or legal costs incurred by QCUSD in the collection of delinquent accounts.

Summary of Fees:

The following fees will be assessed based upon the applicable criteria listed below. All fees, charges and payments are non-refundable and non-transferable.

- \$25.00 late payment/cancel fee may be assessed per child if deadlines are not met for payments, cancellations, or contract changes. Charges are assessed if a half-day preschool invoice remains unpaid one day from the due date and full-day late payment fees are assessed one day after the due-date. No child will be allowed to attend without prior payment or arrangements with the Director of Community Education.

- \$65.00 Preschool Registration fee per year, per child. Payment is due upon initial registration. This fee is non-refundable.
- \$50.00 Before & Aftercare Registration fee per year, per child. Payment is due upon initial registration. This fee is non-refundable.
- A \$35.00 annual registration fee for Preschool Break Camps is due upon initial registration for the first break camp attended.
- Payments returned marked Insufficient Funds, Declined, Do Not Honor, Failed, etc. by the responsible party's financial institution will be charged a \$25.00 fee for each failed payment. These fees are automatically added to the next preschool invoice.
- Late pick-up fees in the amount of \$3.00 per minute will be assessed to the account for any child picked up after the contracted program end time. This is a per-child fee that will be added to your preschool invoice per occurrence.

Discounts: (Discounts may not be combined with the exception of the employee discount)

- **Sibling Discount** - 10% per additional sibling enrolled in the program. (Discount is taken off the lowest tuition cost)
- **Paid In Full Discount:-** 10% discount for paid in full for all **half day programs** - payment due on the first day of preschool.
- **Employee Discount:** - 10% employee discount - the employee must be the parent or guardian of the child to qualify. An employee discount can be applied to an account with a paid in full discount for half day preschool **OR** a sibling discount for a maximum discount of 20%.

Cancellations

Cancellation is defined as the parents/guardians removing their child from a program in which the child is currently enrolled.

Dismissal From Program:

- A child may be removed from the program if the account is delinquent. The financially responsible party will be liable for any costs incurred in the collection of the balance due.
- If at any time the account is delinquent, your child will not be able to attend the preschool until the payment and the additional fees are paid in full. Parents are contacted via the email that was provided on the fee agreement and by phone before dismissal from the preschool.
- QCUSD Preschool reserves the right to refer a child for Child Find in the child's home district and remove the child from the program due to behavior that endangers the safety of the child or the safety of other children and/or staff. No refunds or credits to the family account will be given if a child is removed from a preschool program.
- Any and all behavioral incidents are situational and will be documented by incident reports shared with parents as they occur. Our goal is to ensure success for all children enrolled in our program through positive reinforcement and communication.

Behavior Guidelines for Preschool, Before and Aftercare Programs and Camps

Because social growth is so crucial during the preschool years, our preschool teams will focus on helping children learn appropriate behaviors. Behavioral guidelines have been established with the goal of not only maintaining the physical and emotional well-being of each student, but also of teaching self-discipline, judgment, and manners. Positive techniques are used to guide children's behavior. Parents and staff are viewed as partners in guiding a child's development. Staff will work with parents and teachers to establish consistency for each child. Parents will be kept informed of problems should they arise.

Appropriate behavior is essential to learning and growing and should be based upon mutual respect for the rights and property of others, respect for those placed in authority, and respect for every student. No one will be allowed to jeopardize the health, safety, or learning environment of other children. Children will be expected to display responsible behavior when they are attending a QCUSD Preschool Program. Emphasis is placed upon each student taking responsibility for his/her own behaviors. For more severe or continuous problems, one or more of the following may result: incident report, conference with parent, suspension, and/or removal from their program.

The following are general expectations of all students. Individual sites may choose to extend these expectations:

- Listen and follow directions the first time given.
- Keep hands, feet, and all objects to self.
- Respect others and equipment.
- Use words to solve problems. If that doesn't work, ask a staff member for assistance.
- Never be out of sight or sound of staff.

For more severe** or continuous issues*, one or more of the following may result:

- Phone call to parent which may result in student leaving for the remainder of the day
- Written incident report
- Conference with parent
- Behavior Improvement Plan developed to support the child (if student is not a risk to others)
- Removal from the program

*If the Preschool Team determines that a child cannot benefit from the program or presents a danger to other children, parents may need to withdraw their child from the Program.

**If the Preschool Team determines that a student would benefit from going through a screening process in the district of residence, due to concerns about the child's development, and possibly needing intervention, the parent will be notified as soon as possible. Depending on the level of concern, parents may need to withdraw their child from the program.

Parents and teachers are viewed as partners in guiding the child's development and this team approach will be utilized. Parents will be kept abreast of concerns if they should arise.

If the teacher and school principal determine that a child cannot benefit from the program or presents a danger to self or other children, the child may be administratively withdrawn from the program.

The following 5-step plan will be utilized to maintain a positive learning environment for all children.

- Verbal warning – positive redirection
- Placed away from the current activity – positive redirection
- Phone call to parent
- Conference on site with staff, parent and child
- Request to withdraw from the program

Social growth and learning is an essential part of childhood. For this reason, our preschool staff will work with children to teach behavior expectations and emotional regulation. Behavioral guidelines are established to maintain the physical and emotional well-being of each student and to teach self-discipline, judgment, and manners. Positive behavior management strategies, like positive reinforcement, are used to guide children's behavior. Parents and staff are partners in nurturing and supporting each child's development.

If the program Building Principal determines that a child cannot safely function within the program, or that the child's behavior presents a danger to the child or others (students and staff), we reserve the right to refer the child for Child Find in the child's home district and remove the child from QCUSD Tuition Preschool.

Appropriate behavior is essential to learning and growing and is based on mutual respect for the rights and property of others, including staff, and other students. No one will be allowed to jeopardize the health, safety, or learning environment of others. Children are expected to display responsible behavior during the program.

We will teach, model, and reinforce our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) expectations as follows:

- **Be Kind**
- **Be Respectful**
- **Show Integrity**

By teaching and reinforcing the positive behavior attributes above, we will promote a healthy and safe learning environment for students across all of our preschool programs.

Fully potty trained behavioral guidelines:

Pull-ups are not permitted. To be considered potty-trained, a child must be able to do ALL of the following:

- Tell an adult they have to go potty BEFORE they have to go (They must be able to say the words “ I have to go potty.”
- Can INDEPENDENTLY pull down their underwear and pants and pull them back up when done.
- Can INDEPENDENTLY clean their bottoms after using the toilet.
- Get off the toilet by themselves.
- Wash and dry their hands.
- Postpone going if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or if outside and away from the classroom.

Early Release Days

When schools are scheduled to release children early (please see district calendar), the half-day preschool day is also altered. Specific times will be provided by teachers.

Please note that our Full-Day preschool programs will not observe half-days on Wednesdays. On days when teachers are required to attend professional development and conduct parent-teacher conferences, our paraeducators that facilitate before and aftercare programming will continue with the regular class schedule. Please note that our program will always operate within DHS licensing student-to-staff ratios. Early Release days for full day - September 25 & 26, December 18 & 19, March 5 & 6 and May 21. Release time is 12:55 pm.

Holiday and School Closures:

Preschool is not in attendance on the following holidays:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Labor Day● Veteran’s Day● Thanksgiving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fall Break● Winter Break● Spring Break● Summer Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Civil Rights Day● President’s Day● Spring Holiday
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Break Camps:

Camps will be offered during Fall Break, Spring Break, and Summer Break for students currently enrolled in QCUSD Tuition Preschool. Information is shared with families and the community as each camp approaches. The aforementioned guidelines for health requirements, payment requirements, and behavior guidelines apply to Preschool Break Camps.

Recess:

Preschool students play on the preschool and kindergarten playgrounds only. Preschool students will have recess with other preschool classes accessing equipment that is age-appropriate for their use.

Snacks:

Snacks are served daily as a part of the preschool program. Snacks must meet the nutritional guidelines set by DHS. Each child is encouraged to eat a snack. Students requiring special or specific food choices will need to provide their individual snacks from home. Unfortunately, the program is not able to provide food for special dietary requests.

Breakfast :

Full-day students who are on site prior to 7:30am can purchase breakfast through the QCUSD food and nutrition department.

Lunch:

Full-day students, parents need to provide a sack lunch from home, or purchase a hot lunch from the QCUSD food and nutrition department.

Rest Time: (Full-Day Preschool Only)

Each day, students enrolled and attending Full-Day Preschool will have a scheduled rest time. QCUSD Preschool will provide a rest mat for each child.

- Parents are required to provide a crib size sheet and blanket that will be sent home to be laundered each week. Parents must return the clean sheet and blanket the first day of attendance the following week.
- Kids who do not nap will be provided a quiet activity to do at rest time (ie: puzzle, task box, or book to read).
- After 30 minutes, all children that are awake will participate in center activities to continue their learning.
- Kids who have fallen asleep may remain sleeping for 30 minutes then will need to be woken up.

Personal Belongings:

We do not assume responsibility for personal items. Please label your child's belongings with their first and last name. Children should leave toys, electronic games, and electronics at home.

Parent/Family Responsibilities and Participation

We believe the key to the success of the program involves both staff and parents. As a parent of an enrolled child in preschool, you have access to the areas on the facility premises where the enrolled child is receiving child care services.

- Parents may request a conference with the site staff and/or the building principal to discuss any concerns.
- We encourage you to share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns regarding the preschool program. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the building principal.
- Please contact your child's preschool teacher or the front office at your child's school for a copy of your child's preschool schedule.

Parent & Staff Communication:

All communication and conduct will be in alignment with district expectations for the safety and protection of our students. All interactions between staff members and parents/guardians are expected to be appropriate and respectful on district premises, any off-campus district-sponsored events, and on and offline. Anyone engaging in unsafe, inappropriate, disrespectful, or threatening conduct/communication may be removed or asked to leave.

Field Trips and Transportation Policy:

Preschool classes do not take off campus field trips.

Accidents & Emergencies:

If a child is injured while in attendance, first aid will be administered. If emergency medical attention is needed, every effort will be made to contact the child's parent/guardian and the doctor indicated on the "emergency information card." In the event of an emergency, a child will be given the necessary emergency treatment until a parent/guardian can be contacted. If contacted in the case of an emergency, please be sure you know what medical facility should be receiving your child for treatment.

Health Records:

Any changes and revisions to health records must be made immediately at your school site and online using the Eleyo system. Changes to emergency information and revisions of immunization records presented to the school office will not be forwarded to our program. Please remember to keep all records updated. A child's immunization record must be provided at the time of registration. The immunization record provided by the parent shall contain all information required by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Medication Administration & Emergency Procedures:

Prescription Medication. Medications may be administered to children during the school day when circumstances require that the child must take medicine at school. A parent must fill out the appropriate DHS medication paperwork and the appropriate QCUSD medication paperwork and the appropriate QCUSD Medication Form (available from the school nurse or health aide) requesting administration of the medicine. In order to administer medication, we must receive written authorization signed by the enrolled child's parent or healthcare provider that includes the following:

- Name of the enrolled child
- Type/Name of medication
- Prescription Number (if applicable)
- Instructions for administration specifying the:
 - Dosage and route of administration
 - Indicated, starting and ending dates of the dosage period
 - Times and frequency of administration
 - Reason for the medication
 - Date of authorization
- All instances of administration of medicine to children must be documented in a log.
- The medication must be stored in a locked storage container or cabinet unless orders from the physician indicate otherwise.
- Any unused or expired prescription medication will be returned to the parent or guardian. If a parent/guardian chooses to not replace the medication promptly, QCUSD is released of all liability. Medications will be disposed of two weeks after the expiration date or a child's withdrawal from the program.
- In case of an emergency, as determined by program staff, the paramedics will be called and a parent will be notified immediately. We are not responsible for any charges incurred (ambulance transport, etc.).
- PLEASE NOTE: A separate consent form must be filled out for break camps.

Over-The-Counter Medication:

A parent must provide written permission for the administration of non-prescription medication including the DHS Medication Consent for and the appropriate QCUSD Medication form. The medication must be brought to the school in the original manufacturer's container, which states the name of the drug, the dosage, and the contents of the drug. The medication will be administered according to the directions on the medication label unless we receive a signed order from your child's doctor. All instances of administration of medicine to children must be documented in a log. The medication must be stored in a locked storage container or cabinet.

Liability Insurance:

- The Preschool program is covered by the Queen Creek Unified School District's insurance. Documentation of insurance may be reviewed at the District Office. Queen Creek Unified School District does not carry medical insurance.
- Preschool is a school-year program open to all who meet the attendance requirements. We do not discriminate based on race, national origin, color, gender, or disability.

Child Abuse Reporting

DHS requires staff members to report suspected child abuse to law enforcement and/or the Department of Child Services whenever there is a reasonable belief, or a child discloses that he/she, or another child has been abused or a victim of physical injury or neglect, regardless of the identity of the perpetrator. A "reasonable belief" is when there are facts that cause a staff member to form the suspicion that a child is or has been the victim of abuse.

Pesticides

We limit the use of pesticides and herbicides in our program. If it is necessary to use pesticides or herbicides, they are applied by a licensed professional when children are not present. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for all chemicals used in pest control are kept on file at the Queen Creek Unified School District Office. Notice of Pesticide Application with dates of application is posted at all sites. Changes to these dates will be posted within 48 hours advance notice before application.

Special Needs

Queen Creek Unified School District complies with the requirement of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, applicable Department of Health Services (DHS) regulations, and applicable federal, state, and local laws. Students with disabilities who meet the essential criteria will be permitted to participate in the program. Reasonable modifications will be provided to afford a student with a disability meaningful access to preschool unless demonstrated that the modification would be a fundamental alteration in the nature of the program, or constitute an undue financial and administrative burden. Any student, including students with disabilities, may be removed from preschool if that student, even with reasonable modifications, is so disruptive as to jeopardize the safety, enjoyment, and learning environment of other students and staff.

- **If your child has special needs or disabilities, please notify the Director of Early Childhood Special Education prior to registration. DHS regulations (R9-5-507) require that you provide copies of the following: your child's IEP, medication schedule, and qualifications for staff.**

For more information - Please call Aubrey Ruhser, Director of Early Childhood Special Education at 480-655-6213

Child Find

If you know of a child residing within the Queen Creek Unified School District who is disabled, or if you suspect that a child may have a disability, regardless of the mildness or severity of the disability, and may need special education and related services, please contact our Special Services Office.

If the child is younger than three years old, please call the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP) at 1 (888) 439-5609 or (602) 532-9960.

If the child is three through 21 years of age, please call (480) 987-5990. You do not need to be related to the child to refer him or her to our office.

Course Descriptions

Coyote Pups 3 Day - is a program for children between the ages of three and four years. This introductory class meets three days a week throughout the QCUSD school year and is taught by a certified teacher. The curriculum in this class progresses at a rate suitable to the younger age group. Students participate in teacher-directed and student-led learning opportunities focused on social-emotional development with an introduction to pre-academic skills. **Children must turn three on or before August 31, 2025, to enroll in this class.**

If your child was born on or before August 31, 2021, they are too old to register for this class.

- Taught by a certified teacher
- There will be no more than 16 students in each class
- Children must be fully potty-trained

Days & Times: Tuesday and Thursday Morning from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Friday Afternoon from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Kinder-Prep 3 Day is a program for **children that will turn four (4) years old on or before August 31, 2025.** This kindergarten preparation class offers a slightly more progressive pace than our Coyote Pups program, while still only meeting three days per week during the QCUSD school year. Students continue to develop social-emotional readiness while building and strengthening communication skills and academic readiness through a developmentally appropriate instructional approach. This class is taught by an appropriately Certified Early Childhood Education Teacher.

- There will be no more than 20 students in each class.

- Children must be fully potty trained.

Days & Times

- Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 am – 11:30 am
- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Kinder-Prep 5 Day is a program for children that will turn four (4) years old on or before August 31, 2025. This kinder-prep program offers the opportunity for children to prepare to enter kindergarten while continuing to maintain a part-time schedule. This class meets every school day during the QCUSD school year. This class is specifically designed for students entering kindergarten the next school year. Students will develop a sense of school routine and personal responsibility. Developmentally appropriate instructional strategies provide opportunities for social-emotional growth, concept development, and continued building of foundational academic skills. This class is taught by an appropriately Certified Early Childhood Education Teacher.

- Maximum class enrollment is 20 students.
- Children must be fully potty trained.

Days & Times:

- Monday through Friday from 8:30 am – 11:30 am

Stepping Stones Integrated Preschool - is an early learning opportunity that brings typically developing preschoolers and those who are experiencing delays in their development together in an inclusive environment that celebrates each unique child. Students in this class will meet 3 days each week for two and a half hours each session during the QCUSD school year. Students will engage in lessons from our core preschool instructional materials (Foundations, Origo Math, Handwriting Without Tears, and ECHOS Science) at a rate that aligns with our district curriculum maps for preschool. This class is taught by an appropriately Certified Early Childhood Special Education Teacher.

- A total of 6 typically developing peer models will be accepted to attend this class
- Peer models must be fully potty trained

Days & Times: Session A- Monday, Wednesday and Friday Morning 8:50-11:20 am

Session B -Tuesday and Thursday Morning from 8:50 to 11:20 a.m. and Friday Afternoon from 1:10 to 3:40 p.m.

Session C- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1:10-3:40 pm

Full-Day Preschool and Kinder-Prep Full-Day Kinder-Prep provides those students who will turn **three (3) years old on or before August 31, 2025**, the opportunity to prepare to enter kindergarten through meaningful experiences. Not only are students

exposed to the longer day to increase stamina, they also participate in a variety of specifically designed lessons that will help facilitate a smooth transition from preschool to kindergarten. Students in full-day preschool will benefit from a differentiated approach that allows them to gain confidence as learners in all domains. Students will experience learning opportunities designed to support both social-emotional learning and pre-academic skills. In addition, enrichment and extension activities will be made available, and students will benefit from teacher-directed instruction and student-led inquiry.

Full-Day Kinder Prep will meet every day that QCUSD is in session from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Snacks will be available for students participating in extended care. Lunch will be available for purchase from the cafeteria or children may bring their own. Children with special needs may be eligible for this program in addition to the Special Needs Preschool. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Community Education. Please allow adequate time for us to review your child's contract for Full Day Preschool. This class is taught by an appropriately Certified Early Childhood Education Teacher.

- This class will not exceed 24 students.
- There will be a rest time scheduled for students participating in this program.
- Children must be fully potty trained.
- Extended care is available from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. Please complete a separate contract for extended care.

Class days/times: Monday through Friday from 8:30 am – 3:15 pm

Early Release Days at 12:55 pm on September 25, September 27, December 18 and 19, March 5 and 6 and May 21.

Full-Day Extended Care: Requires an additional contract

QCUSD offers before and aftercare for preschool-age students enrolled in Full-Day tuition preschool at Queen Creek Elementary, Gateway Polytechnic Academy, and Katherine Meham Barney Elementary for an additional fee. **Full-Day Students** can attend before and aftercare by completing a separate contract for enrollment in Eleyo. In order to participate in before and aftercare, students must have an approved contract in the Eleyo Online Enrollment Portal for both preschool and before/aftercare.

***Before and aftercare programs are contingent upon enrollment at each site. If minimum enrollment is not reached, we will contact you regarding other available preschool/extended care options.