



St. James Preschool
a loving place to learn

Registration Information
2026-2027

Welcome to St. James Preschool!

Making the decision to start your child in preschool, and then going through the process of selecting one that meets your family's needs is challenging. There are so many things to consider, and so much emotion attached to finding a program in which you will entrust the care of your child.

St. James Preschool is an established program committed to creating an environment for your children that is stimulating, enriching, and exciting. While at St. James, we believe that your children will be lovingly challenged to grow socially, developmentally, intellectually, and physically; and receive the best care possible.

We appreciate your interest in our program and your desire to participate in registration. We hope you find this booklet, which describes our philosophy, our educational approach, our class offerings, and our registration process useful as you complete your application. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to serving you.

Marla Reisman

Preschool Director

St. James Preschool A ministry of St. James United Methodist Church

4400 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, NE

Atlanta, GA 30342

Marla Reisman, Preschool Director

Jenny Castro, Assistant Director

Preschool Office: 404-237-7354

Church Office: 404-261-3121

www.sjpatlanta.org

St. James Preschool Philosophy

As a ministry of St. James United Methodist Church, each person involved in the Preschool is called to love as God loves and to provide a loving, nurturing and creative environment for each and every child enrolled in our program. We are committed to the belief that children develop and learn best in the context of a safe community where they are valued, where their physical needs are met, and where they feel secure. Knowing that children are active learners, we will help children learn to communicate effectively, respect others, analyze situations, exercise reasonable judgments, and solve problems.

The adults in our program are committed to providing a nurturing environment while facilitating children's play. Play is the vehicle through which children learn. While our children are playing, they develop socially, emotionally, cognitively, and physically.

We believe that optimum learning experiences take place in pressure free classrooms that are print rich and visually stimulating. Our classrooms provide children with opportunities to practice newly acquired skills and to experience new challenges beyond their level of present mastery. When children leave our program, we hope that they will be on the path to developing confidence in themselves and a curiosity in life.

Goals for our Children:

Children enrolled in our program will have opportunities to:

- Participate in large and small group activities
- Develop gross motor skills
- Experience music and art
- Make messes
- Create stories
- Ask questions
- Develop social skills
- Acquire pre-math, pre-reading and pre-writing concepts
- Discover an understanding of the natural environment
- Express themselves
- Learn respect for authority and the rights of others

Curriculum

Based on Piaget's Cognitive Discovery Theory of Development, our curriculum is designed to give the child a variety of experiences at different levels in all academic areas, thus providing success and challenge. The Creative Curriculum is used as the curriculum framework for all classes, infant through pre-kindergarten. The math and reading readiness programs are designed to teach basic concepts and beginning skills.

Math readiness is taught using manipulative concrete objects and Math Their Way curriculum, and reading readiness is taught using both the Zoophonics curriculum and language arts. In the writing readiness program, emphasis is placed on large and small muscle development and the eye-hand coordination necessary for writing and our Handwriting Without Tears class. Art is presented with special emphasis on the process rather than final product.

Special Classes

Library

St. James Preschool is proud to offer a friendly and exciting children's library for all its children. Young 3, 3-year-old, Pre-K, TK, and Kindergarten classes visit the library once a week where they are presented with stories and are free to browse the bookcases and make a book selection. In addition, the 2 year old classrooms go to the library to hear stories, but do not check out a book. The weekly library activity is designed to encourage a love of reading as well as to help develop and teach responsibility.

Music

All classes participate in a weekly music class.

Garden

Children as young as the Young 2's and older attend a weekly gardening class to learn about cultivating and caring, patience and discovery, stewardship and respect, beauty and life. Students also learn practical skills such as: mathematics, science, health, and nutrition.

Playball

Playball, offered to the 3, PreK, TK, and Kindergarten classes once each week, is a program focusing on basic gross motor and movement skills in young children. Young 3 classes begin attending in January.

Chapel

Children in the Young 3, PreK, TK, and Kindergarten classes attend chapel each Monday in the sanctuary where spiritual concepts are learned through songs and simple lessons. 5 day 2 classes begin attending in January.

Handwriting Without Tears

All children in the 5D3's classes participate in a weekly Handwriting without Tears class. Children in the Pre-K, TK and Kindergarten Class participate in the class twice a week.

Makerspace/STEM Studio

All children in the 2's, 3's, 5D3's, PreK, TK and Kindergarten classes participate in Makerspace classes. Children are encouraged to solve problems by inventing or creating projects using materials from the studio.

Class Arrangement and Size

It is our desire to maintain a small student/teacher ratio to provide the utmost in individualized instruction.

Infant Class

A child who will be at least 6 weeks old by September 1, 2026 may be registered for the infant class one or two days a week (Tuesday/Thursday or Wednesday/Friday). The Infant class meets from 9-12. Class size is 4 children with 2 teachers.

Toddler Class

A child who will be at least one year old by September 1, 2026 may be registered for a two day class (Tuesday/Thursday) or a three day class (Monday/Wednesday/Friday). The Toddler class meets from 9 until 12. Class size is 12 children with 3 teachers.

Young Two's Class

A child who will be two years old between September 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026 may be registered for a two day class (Tuesday/Thursday), or a three day class (Monday/Wednesday/Friday). The Young 2's class meets from 9-12. Class size is 8 children with 2 teachers.

Two Year Old Class

A child who will be at least two years old by September 1, 2026 may be registered for a two day class (Tuesday/Thursday) a three day class (Monday/Wednesday/Friday) or a five day class (Monday-Friday). The Two's class meets from 9-12. Class size is either 6 children with 1 teacher or 12 children with 2 teachers.

Young Three's Class

A child who will be three years old between September 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026, may be registered for a three day class (Monday/Wednesday/Friday), or a five day class (Monday-Friday). The young 3's class meets from 9-12. Class size is 7 children with 1 teacher. The children in the young three class naturally progress into a three year old class the following year.

Three Year Old Class MWF and 5 Day 3's

A child who will be at least three years old by September 1, 2026 may be registered for a three day class (Monday/Wednesday/Friday) OR a five day class (Monday – Friday). We strongly encourage that children enrolled in this program be toilet trained. The 3's class meets from 9-1. Class size is 8 children with 1 teacher.

Pre-K

A child who will be at least four years old by September 1, 2026 may be registered for a five day (Monday-Friday) Pre-k class. The Pre-K class meets from 9-1. Class size is either 8 children with 1 teacher or up to 18 children with 2 teachers.

Transitional Kindergarten Class

This is a transitional class for those students not quite ready for kindergarten or a pre-first program. The class is designed for those students that are five years old and have completed a four-year-old program at St. James or another preschool. Formation of this class is based upon need and at the discretion of the director. Please contact the director should you have questions regarding this class. The TK class meets from 9-1. Class size is 8 children with 1 teacher.

Kindergarten

This is a fully accredited half day kindergarten class with a maximum capacity of 12 children and 2 teachers. The class is also designed for children who are ready for the rigors of the Georgia Kindergarten program. The child must be 5 years old as of September 1 and completed a Pre-k class. Formation of this class is based upon need and at the discretion of the director. Please contact the director should you have questions regarding this class.

Registration Policy and Procedure

Applications are currently available on our website.

Placement Decisions

The Preschool reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of St. James Preschool for a particular applicant based on his/her needs and the school's facilities and resources. The Preschool reserves the right to determine class assignments. All admission and placement decisions for St. James Preschool are made without regard to race, color, creed, sex, or national origin.

Withdrawal after Acceptance

Please notify the Preschool Director immediately if, after acceptance, you decide you wish to withdraw your child from St. James Preschool prior to the start of the school year. Our budget for the year is based upon full enrollment and efforts must be made as early as possible to fill all available openings. For the same reason, please notify the Director as early as possible in the event that you plan to withdraw your child from the program after the school year has begun.

Registration Fees and Tuition

Payments can be made through the Brightwheel app after your registration is processed. Tuition checks should be made payable to St. James Preschool. Checks may be delivered by an adult to the Preschool office or mailed to:

St. James Preschool

4400 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, NE

Atlanta, GA 30342

Tuition and Payment Schedule

For the 2026 – 2027 school year, a non-refundable \$350 tuition deposit is due upon registering to be applied to the final February 2027 payment. Subsequent tuition for the Preschool is payable in three payments, upon registering, November 2026, and February 2027. Tuition payment is due the first day of the month. The tuition payment will be considered late after 10 business days. Payments made after that day will include a \$100.00 late fee.

Members of St. James Church and current Preschool Board members are entitled to a \$200 reduction in tuition per child. The Preschool operates entirely on funds provided by these tuition fees. When a child is registered, we assume it is for the entire year and our budget is planned accordingly. All registration fees and tuition payments are non-refundable and non-transferable.

2026-2027 Tuition Payment Schedule

	Year	May & Nov. Payments	Feb. (-\$350)
<u>Infants</u>			
One Day	\$2133	\$711	\$361
Two Days	\$4134	\$1378	\$1028
<u>Toddlers</u>			
Two Days	\$4575	\$1525	\$1175
Three Days	\$6327	\$2109	\$1759
<u>Young Two's</u>			
Two Days	\$4575	\$1525	\$1175
Three Days	\$6327	\$2109	\$1759
<u>Two Year Old</u>			
Two Days	\$4800	\$1600	\$1250
Three Days	\$6402	\$2134	\$1784
Five Days	\$9045	\$3015	\$2665
<u>Young Three's</u>			
Three Days	\$6402	\$2134	\$1784
Five Days	\$8664	\$2888	\$2538
<u>Three Year Old</u>			
3D	\$6540	\$2180	\$1830
5D	\$9690	\$3230	\$2880
<u>Pre-K/TK</u>	\$9999	\$3333	\$2983
<u>Kindergarten</u>	\$10,530	\$3510	\$3160

Please Note: If the quarterly tuition payment plan causes a hardship to your personal finances, please contact the Preschool Director to make alternate arrangements for payment.