



BloomTM
FINE ARTS
P R E S C H O O L

Parent Handbook

2021-2022



MISSION STATEMENT

At Bloom Fine Arts Preschool, we believe children blossom best when participating in the arts. Through dance, music, art and theater, our students develop creativity while learning academics that will prepare them for kindergarten and beyond. At Bloom, your child will be welcomed into a positive and nurturing environment with dedicated teachers. We passionately embrace our responsibility to guide your child to bloom into capable, confident, creative, and caring human beings.

OUR GOALS

Our goal is to create enriching experiences for each child in a safe, supportive, and respectful environment. At Bloom we create developmentally appropriate activities daily through the Arts to promote intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development. We believe that each child will learn and develop in his/her own way. Opportunities are created for each child to observe, learn, explore, and discover, all while promoting their development. We are committed to ensuring each child has a positive experience here at Bloom Fine Arts Preschool.

Contact Us!

208-821-1518

bloomfineartspreschool@gmail.com



Drop off / Sign in Procedure & Pick-Up

School drop-off begins at 9:10 am on Mon/Wed/Fri for session 1, 10:10 am for session 2, and 9:25 am on Tues/Thurs. Parents or caregivers must sign their child in on the provided sign-in sheet each day. This sheet will include emergency contact information and the person picking up the child for that day. Once parents sign the sign-out portion of the sheet, children will be released to the person(s) who have been listed in writing on the sign-in sheet. If someone different will be picking up your student, please notify Bloom office staff as soon as possible. We will require the person picking up your child to show identification if our staff is unfamiliar with them. All students must be picked up by 12:50 pm on Mon/Wed/Fri for session 1, 1:50 pm for session 2, and by 12:05 on Tues/Thurs. Students who are not picked up within the allotted time frame will be subjected to the following late fee policy:

- 5 minutes late (grace period)
- \$1 per minute after grace period up to 10 minutes
- \$10 for every 5 minutes past that

Example:

- If you are late and pick your child up at 1:10 for session 1, you would incur a \$30 late fee = 12:45 – 12:50 (grace period), 12:50-1:00 (\$10), 1:00-1:10 (\$20)

We understand that unforeseen circumstances may occur when picking up your child, and appropriate consideration will be given in these situations. Once a child is signed out, the person picking up the child is responsible for the child, even if they remain on property.

Please make every effort to have your child to school on time. We jump right into the day and the first 30 minutes of school is when we introduce the theme, have circle time, and gear up for a fun learning day. Arriving late can be a huge distraction for the other students. If you are able to let your teacher or the office staff know you will be late, that would help the teachers to be ready to receive your child.



Snack/Lunch/Water Bottles

Please send your child to school with a nutritious snack each school day. Their snack should be in a separate Ziplock or container with their name on it. Your child's snack should not include candy and it should be something that can easily be eaten in a 10-minute timeframe. Our M/W/F classes also need to bring a nutritious lunch to school each day. Please make sure their lunch is in a separate container from their snack and labelled with their name. All students should also bring a water bottle that is labelled with their name and is already FILLED with water. Please don't bring soda or colored juices to school.

Nutrition

Each school day, parents are to provide a healthy and nutritious snack, as well as a lunch for our Mon/Wed/Fri classes. Please refer to the Food Pyramid guidelines. If you need further suggestions on appropriate snacks or lunch ideas, please ask your child's teacher.

Nut-Free Foods

Bloom Preschool is a completely nut-free facility. Please do not send your child with any snacks, lunches, or class treats that include nuts in any forms. This is non-negotiable. If a child is found to have a food item that has nuts in it, we will dispose of it outside immediately and either give your child something we have on hand or call a parent to bring something else.

Birthdays and Holidays

We love to celebrate birthdays and we want it to be special for your child. Bloom preschool does allow parents to bring in special treats for the class! If you plan to bring a special birthday treat, make sure it is store bought and does not contain nuts in any form. Please also notify your teacher one day in advance. If you plan to provide cupcakes for



the class, we ask that you purchase the smaller size mini cupcakes, as the children rarely can finish the bigger ones. Birthday invitations may only be handed out in school if every student is receiving one. We will have holiday parties throughout the year. There are no obligations to help, but our teachers will provide a sign-up sheet in advance if you would like to donate items or volunteer for the parties.

Personal Belongings

Label all your child's belongings with first and last name. Please refrain from having your child bring toys from home. Teachers cannot be responsible for items being lost, stolen or broken.

Dress Code

Dress is left up to the discretion of the parent. However, school is a place for exploring and learning, so we suggest that you dress your child in clothing that is suitable for school. Suitable clothing consists of play clothes that promote freedom for movement and freedom from worry about spills, splatters, and dirt. Some of the projects that your child will be doing can and will get messy at times. Clothing should also be simple enough for your child to get in and out of easily to use the bathroom. If your child is wearing a dress or skirt to school, please have them wear a pair of shorts underneath so they are comfortable doing our movement activities. Each child is required to pack a complete change of clothes in their backpacks, including socks and underwear. Please place these in a Ziploc bag that is labeled with your child's name.

Newsletters

Your teacher will provide a monthly newsletter to communicate important information, topics, or upcoming events to provide as much information as we can to keep you informed about what goes on in our classes! These newsletters will be posted on your class Facebook group, as well as be emailed.



Health and Medical Information

Your child must have a completed registration form and their current immunization record or a signed immunization waiver on or before the first day of school. If a child requires specialized medical assistance, parents will be requested to provide a copy of directions from their health care professional. Teachers and staff will familiarize themselves and fully understand the child's needs, as well as follow the directions given by the healthcare professional. A copy will remain on the child's file.

Medication

Teachers may not administer medications to any child without written instructions from parents. A medication authorization form must be completed for any medication. Medication must be clearly labeled with the child's full name. It must be in the original container with the date it was brought into the center. Medication will only be given as stated on the label directions, unless otherwise noted by the child's health-care professional. EPI Pens are included as medication and must have an Allergy Emergency Care Plan form. All forms must be updated annually. An allergy Emergency Care Plan form can be provided by your child's doctor and must be given to the school if your child has any type of diagnosed allergy.

Separation Anxiety

Separation anxiety can occur at any time during the preschool ages. Our staff is trained to deal with these situations, and we do understand that this can be difficult for parents. Teachers will work with each child to the best of their ability to see that any situation is resolved. Teachers ask parents for patience during this process, as it can take a few weeks for children to adjust to preschool and sometimes even longer. Each child is unique in their process of getting used to preschool drop offs. We will use a case by case approach for every child to help them acclimate.



Illness Policy

Colds, flu, and other contagious diseases are common in preschoolers. We do our best to keep all items in the classroom clean and we encourage hand washing throughout the day, however, there are times a child may get sick. We will need you to keep your child home if he/she shows any of the following:

Signs of sinus infection eyes or ears	Severe Sore throat/cough Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	Discharge from
Complaints of ear pain		Temperature over 100.4 degrees
Diarrhea		Vomiting
Infestation (Lice, scabies, pinworm)		Impetigo
Rash, with fever		

Regarding infectious/contagious diseases (hand/foot/mouth disease, chicken pox, fifth disease, strep throat, etc.), please contact your teacher so that other parents can be informed.

Your child may return to school after he/she has had no temperature for 24hrs without medication.

If your child shows any symptoms from the list above while they are at school, you will be called to come and pick up your child immediately.

COVID Policy

Bloom Fine Arts Preschool will follow all necessary state guidelines and mandates that personally apply to our preschool situation. Our goal is to keep the preschool a clean and safe place optimal for learning and growth. We ask that parents follow our Illness Policy carefully and to communicate with us to the best of your ability when you feel your child may have been in contact with someone with COVID or are being or have been tested for COVID. We will handle each of these situations on a case-by-case basis.

Our staff wants to do our best to prevent any spread of illness in our facility so our students can have an enriching year full of growth. With this in mind, we will be taking your child's temperature upon arrival at the preschool with a no-touch thermometer. We will also be practicing good hygiene with frequent hand washing, as well as using hand sanitizer upon arrival. Our entire building is deep cleaned twice a week and we receive a special Covid cleaning from Healthy Home Environmental once a week. Our teachers also sanitize all touch surfaces several times throughout the class day. These practices will help keep our preschool a safe learning environment all year long.



Discipline Policy

Discipline is best achieved by respect and positive reinforcement. Each child is unique and handles discipline differently. It is our goal to find a variety of solutions to work with children including redirection, think spaces, stickers, etc. Teachers will not use corporal punishment under any circumstances.

Discipline must be:

1. Individualized and consistent for each child.
2. Appropriate to the child's level of understanding.
3. Directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

A teacher will only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourages self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction. This may include some of the following:

1. Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior.
2. Reminding a child of the behavior expectations daily by using clear and positive statements.
3. Redirecting behavior using positive statements.
4. Using brief supervised separation or time out from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of the child's age.

There will be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited at Bloom Fine Arts Preschool:

1. Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment.
2. Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training.
3. Pinching, shaking, or biting a child.
4. Hitting a child with a hand or instrument.
5. Putting anything in or on a child's mouth.
6. Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child.
7. Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language.
8. Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed.
9. Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

Teachers will make every effort to handle discipline problems appropriately. Occasionally, children may need an office "break". If a child visits the office, a form will be filled out and sent home. A copy of this form will remain in the child's file. When unacceptable behavior occurs repeatedly, a conference will be scheduled with parents and/or the child could be sent home for the day. Parent conferences will be made in consultation with the teachers and will never be held at the door during drop-off or pick up times. Teachers reserve the right to dismiss a child, upon two weeks' notice, for serious behavior problems and/or aggressive behaviors. All necessary means will be pursued to resolve the behavioral issues before any child is dismissed from the program.



Emergency Procedures Plan

The children's safety is of the utmost importance at Bloom. The first priority and responsibility of teachers and staff is to move children to a designated safe area or alternate shelter in an emergency situation. Severe weather drills, fire drills, and lockdown drills are performed regularly. Emergency maps and emergency information are posted in the classroom. In the event of an emergency, please follow the procedures described below:

For any emergency, always call 911.

FIRE

There is an emergency flashlight in the preschool cabinet. Class rolls and emergency numbers are stored in a binder located in the preschool cabinet and kept in the same place each day so it can be quickly taken with the teacher during fire drill practice or an emergency evacuation. These records include emergency contact information and authorization for pick up. However, in case of an extreme emergency, no attempt should be made to obtain the record binder since the most important thing is to get the children out of the building as quickly and safely as possible. Contact information and emergency numbers are also stored online and can be accessed wirelessly. Each classroom should follow the evacuation map labeled in their classroom. Teachers will make evacuation accommodations as needed for any child with special needs or limited mobility. The designated meeting place will be approximately 50 feet straight out of the emergency exit door. It is important that all occupants meet at this location to make sure every person is accounted for. Each teacher will do a face to name recognition using their informational binder or stored document to account for each child. Once each child, teacher, and class are accounted for, everyone will be moved to a safe meeting point for parent pickup. Children will again be accounted for via face to name recognition, and then will be released to an authorized guardian.

SEVERE WEATHER

In case of severe weather, children and teachers will move to a designated building safe area away from windows or as conditions permit. If the weather causes structural problems and the building is unsafe, we will follow the relocation plans as listed above.

LOCKDOWN

If a lockdown is initiated, we will sweep students in the hallways into the room, lock all doors, and turn off the lights. Students will be instructed to stay calm, quiet, low, and out of sight. We will not open doors until an "all clear" is received from law enforcement. If evacuation of the building is necessary, we will follow the relocation plans as listed above or as instructed by law enforcement.