



September 2020

Hello and Welcome to a new school year at Wesley Learning Center! We are so excited to have you and your children with us. My name is Diane Fuchs and I am the school's director. My staff and I have been hard at work getting everything ready for a fun year of learning. We are excited, and we hope you are too. This year may look different with staggered class times, parents waiting in the parking lot for drop off and pick up, staff in masks, and health checks at the door, but please be assured that we will continue to provide a welcoming environment for your children to learn and grow.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. My office hours are from 7:30 am to 1:30 pm – Monday through Friday, and you can reach me at the school office 203-426-6149 or by e-mail at director@wesleylearningcenter.org or wesleyfuchs@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing returning faces and cannot wait to meet our new students.

Some children may be apprehensive about leaving their parents. Some parents may be apprehensive about leaving their children; so lots of patience will be good for the first month of school. You can help your child get off to a great start by insuring that they have a good night's

rest, a healthy breakfast, wear comfortable clothes, sneakers, and easy to open lunch boxes with a snack that they enjoy. Reassure your child that they will be making lots of friends. With a positive approach, we know that both you and your child will get the most out of preschool.



The Philosophy of Our Program.....

is centered on play. Everyone loves to play. Our program is designed so that your children will be learning important concepts while having fun. This will set the stage for their learning experiences. Teaching young children looks different than teaching older children. Young children are active. They do not listen well. They are learning to get along in a group. They are figuring out how to channel their energies, control their behavior, take care of themselves, and use their language to get what they need. They are dependent on caring adults to establish a safe and supportive atmosphere for them where they can learn more about relating with others and feel comfortable taking risks and trying new things. It is the “how” that makes early care and education distinctive from the education of the later grades. It is

important to maintain the uniqueness of curriculum. If they haven't been given the time to play, they won't have explored objects enough to know what words like hard, harder, or hardest mean. If they don't string beads and buttons, cut, paste, pour, and draw, they won't develop the muscles they need for handwriting. Without concrete experiences children may give correct answers but probably won't understand what they are doing and why. Because we feel that play is one of the most important things that your child can do, we incorporate academics and standards into play with purpose and intent. This insures that your child will get what they need as a solid foundation for higher learning. The guiding principles of these standards are that early learning and development are multi-dimensional and highly interrelated. Connecticut has a set of standards for children from birth to kindergarten. They are called CTDELDS (Connecticut Early Learning Development Standards). They are organized in 8 domains:

Social/Emotional Development,
Physical Health Development,
Language and Literacy, Creative Arts,
Mathematics, Science, Cognition, and
Social Studies. There are (70) indicators that go with these domains that the teachers will introduce to your child as the year progresses. These standards are now integrated with the Kindergarten Common Core used in the state.

We have a special handwriting program called LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS. This is a program that was designed by an Occupational Therapist to give children a strong foundation in which to learn to write. This program is used at our 3 and

4 year old levels. They start off by playing with wood pieces to create a "Mat Man" and learn the names of the pieces used. The children sing songs, which will help them to learn concepts, like over / under, top / middle/ bottom. There are a lot of sensory activities and visual preparation which will give your child a strong foundation to begin writing.



Through spontaneous play and engaging activities, children develop early math skills in the following five domains:

- Numbers & Operations
- Geometry
- Patterns & Algebra
- Measurement & Time
- Data Representation & Probability

All this will be presented in a way that children will have fun with and be able to be successful at their own pace.

In conclusion, our program's curriculum is developmentally appropriate because it is child centered, it embraces children's active learning and promotes understanding. We are able to individualize all of our students' goals so that they will get the most out of their preschool years. Our processes will give your child an edge as they enter kindergarten. One final thought; we hope you know the important role that you play in supporting your child's learning. The key to a successful learning experience is to figure out what interests your child and

use those interests to engage him / her in actively exploring and learning about the environment. Every place is a learning environment. Here's to a fun and very exciting year.



No Running


SAFETY

ABSOLUTELY NO
RUNNING ON THE RAMP
OR
IN THE PARKING LOT



Please make sure that you have your child's hand when entering or leaving the school. Please be prompt when dropping off and picking up your children. If your child has to wait more than 5 minutes for you after class, they become upset. Call us if you know that you are going to be late. This will help us to explain your

delay to your child. It is especially important this year to be on time because of our staggered class times and social distancing.

Lunch Boxes should have your child's name on them as well as water bottle, thermos, and cold packs. Please send a small amount of food for snack time. Snack and bathroom time should only be  minutes of the children's routine here.

Please make sure you pack a spoon or fork in your child's lunchbox if they will be needing one to eat their food.

Please put your child's name in their coats or sweaters. We do try to go outside even when it's cool. Please dress your child the day's weather.

Illness: If your child becomes ill while at school, we will call you. It is imperative that we have a number to reach you – cell phone – or an emergency local person who can pick up your child. If your child is sick, and will not be attending school, please call us and let us know. Please check the handbook for illnesses that requires your child to remain home.

Physicals: *If we do not have a current physical on file or a physical date, your child cannot start school. This is a state law. See me if you have any doubts about your child's physical being current.*

Parking

There is absolutely NO PARKING under the bridge or directly behind the school building. The black top area behind the school will be used during the day for the children to ride bikes or other organized games. You may also park directly behind the church or on the side of the church, if spots are available. Please do not leave your car idling while in the school. If you have any

questions or comments, please feel free to let me know.



TUITION PAYMENTS - are due on the first day of the month that your child's class meets. Your next (2nd) tuition payment is due on September 8th. Subsequent payments are due on the first of each month. You will be billed a \$50.00 late fee after the above due date. If you have extenuating circumstances, please call me or let me know.

We do not send monthly bills.

If you are paying for something other than tuition, please make out separate checks. Include your child's name in the memo section of the check.

If you need a receipt for tax purposes or employee reimbursement, we will be glad to provide you with one if you give us advance notice.