



PARKGATE  
COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

## **Parkgate Community Services My First Preschool Program 2018/2019**

### **What is My First Preschool?**

Our preschool program is designed for 2 years olds and has a maximum class size of 8 children, with 2 preschool staff. This is a play-based program that includes time for free play, art activities, circle/story time and outdoor play as well. Included in the program is time to have a snack. This is a creative, fun-filled introduction to preschool, with caring, friendly and professional educators.

### **What are the preschool days and hours?**

Our program operates from 9:30 to 11:30am and we offer a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday class

### **What days will the program be closed?**

Our preschool program follows the same holiday schedule as the North Vancouver School District, which means we will not operate during Spring Break or Winter Break. The preschool does not operate during the summer.

### **How does the gradual entry of the program work?**

In order to help your child get settled comfortably into the program, we have implemented the following gradual entry schedule:

1<sup>st</sup> class – children come for 1 hour with 1 parent staying for the entire hour

2<sup>nd</sup> class – children come for 1 hour and parent leaves child

3<sup>rd</sup> class – children attend the full regular class with no parents

### **What should my child wear to preschool each day?**

Children should be wearing “play clothes” to preschool. Our program encourages creativity, discovery and fun, both indoors and out. Please dress your child in clothing that can get dirty or covered in paint. Also, please ensure that your child is prepared for the playground with the appropriate outdoor gear (boots, muddy-buddies and coats).

**What should I pack my child for snack?**

Families know best about how much and what their child likes to eat. The children have a busy morning in our program, and they seem enjoy sitting with each other and having a snack. We suggest a snack that includes a water bottle, fruits or veggies and healthy finger foods such as cheese and crackers. Please refrain from sending any peanut products (including items which may contain peanuts) to ensure the health and safety of all the children participating in the program.

**Will the staff change my child's diapers?**

We recognize that this time in your child's life is a time where they are likely toilet training. *First, we remind parents to provide their child with the opportunity to use the toilet **BEFORE** coming to class.* Staff will change a child's diaper when needed. They will also regularly check in with children to see if they need to use the toilet and ensure that they have regular opportunities to use the toilet during transition times (i.e. before snack, before going outside). Please send your child to preschool in "pull-ups" if necessary and please remember to send along spare "pull-ups," wipes and a change of clothes.