



CRESTWOOD ACADEMY

Pre-K Program Overview

2026-2027



Our Educational Approach

At Crestwood Academy, our Pre-K program is intentionally designed to provide a strong, developmentally appropriate foundation for early learners while nurturing confidence, independence, and a love for learning.

We understand that early childhood is a critical stage of development. Rather than rushing academics, we focus on creating a calm, structured, and supportive environment where children feel safe, capable, and ready to explore.

Our approach blends gentle academic introduction with hands-on learning, play-based exploration, and consistent routines that help children grow both academically and emotionally.

Within our program, students experience:

- A calm, structured, and predictable classroom environment
- Gentle introduction to early academic concepts
- Learning through play, exploration, and hands-on activities

- Individualized support based on developmental readiness
- A balance of structure, creativity, and movement

At Crestwood Academy, each child is supported at their own pace and encouraged to grow with confidence.

Small Class Structure & Individualized Attention

Crestwood Academy maintains intentionally small class sizes to ensure that every child receives the attention, care, and support they need during these foundational years.

In Pre-K, this is especially important, as children are developing at different rates socially, emotionally, and academically.

Teachers are able to closely observe each child, provide gentle guidance, and support developmental growth in a way that feels natural and encouraging rather than overwhelming.

Within our classrooms, students benefit from:

- Small class sizes (typically 5–8 students)
- Close teacher support and guidance throughout the day
- Individual attention based on developmental needs
- A nurturing and responsive learning environment
- Strong relationships with teachers and peers

Every child is seen, supported, and encouraged as they grow.

Early Academic Foundations

Our Pre-K program introduces foundational academic concepts in a way that is engaging, age-appropriate, and pressure-free.

The goal at this stage is not mastery, but exposure, familiarity, and confidence.

Students are gently introduced to early literacy and math skills through interactive activities, repetition, and guided exploration.

Students are guided in developing:

- Letter recognition and early phonics awareness

- Listening skills and language development
- Early writing skills through tracing and drawing
- Number recognition and counting
- Basic patterns, shapes, and sorting
- Problem-solving through play-based activities

Children begin building the foundation they will later expand upon with confidence.

Language, Communication & Early Literacy

Language development is a central focus in Pre-K, as it supports both academic learning and social interaction.

Students are encouraged to express themselves, ask questions, and engage in conversation in a supportive and patient environment.

We focus on building strong communication skills through storytelling, reading, and guided discussion.

Within our literacy-rich environment, students:

- Participate in daily read-alouds and storytelling
- Develop vocabulary through conversation and exposure
- Practice listening and following directions
- Begin recognizing letters and sounds
- Engage in songs, rhymes, and language play

We foster a love of language and communication from the very beginning.

Social & Emotional Development

Social and emotional growth is a primary focus in Pre-K and is intentionally woven into every part of the day.

Students are learning how to interact with others, express emotions, and navigate new experiences outside the home.

We guide children in developing confidence, self-awareness, and positive social behaviors in a structured and supportive environment.

Students are supported in developing:

- Emotional awareness and expression
- Basic self-regulation skills
- Sharing, cooperation, and turn-taking
- Positive interactions with peers
- Confidence in group settings

These foundational skills are essential for both school readiness and long-term success.

Life Skills & Independence

At Crestwood Academy, we begin building independence early by introducing simple, age-appropriate life skills throughout the school day.

Children are encouraged to take ownership of small responsibilities, helping them feel capable and confident in their abilities.

These skills are taught gently and consistently, becoming a natural part of the daily routine.

Students are guided to:

- Clean up after activities and take care of materials
- Organize their personal items
- Follow simple routines and directions
- Participate in group responsibilities
- Begin helping with small tasks at home

These early experiences build confidence, independence, and a sense of responsibility.

Hands-On Learning, Play & Exploration

Young children learn best through hands-on experiences and active exploration.

Our Pre-K program incorporates play-based learning, sensory activities, and movement throughout the day to support both cognitive and physical development.

Students are given opportunities to explore, create, and discover in a safe and engaging environment.

Students participate in:

- Sensory play and hands-on activities
- Creative art and expression
- Outdoor play and movement
- Exploration of nature and surroundings
- Guided play that supports learning goals

Learning becomes engaging, natural, and meaningful.

Daily Structure & Routine

A consistent daily routine helps young children feel secure and confident as they transition into a school environment.

At Crestwood Academy, our Pre-K schedule is structured yet flexible, allowing children to move through the day with ease while still maintaining clear expectations.

The rhythm of the day supports both learning and emotional comfort.

A typical day includes:

- Morning transition and welcome routine
- Circle time and group interaction
- Hands-on learning activities
- Early academic exposure
- Snack and rest/reset time
- Outdoor play and movement
- Story time and reflection

Consistency helps children feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

School Readiness Outcomes

By the end of Pre-K, students at Crestwood Academy are expected to demonstrate growth in both developmental readiness and early academic exposure.

Our focus is on preparing children for a successful and confident transition into Kindergarten.

Students will leave Pre-K with:

- Increased confidence in a classroom setting
- Ability to follow routines and directions
- Early literacy and language development
- Basic number awareness and recognition
- Improved social and emotional skills
- Growing independence in daily tasks

Children leave Pre-K feeling capable, comfortable, and excited to continue learning.