



Hello from Pasadena Christian Preschool! Who are we?

We are a Christ-centered, developmental, play-based preschool serving children from 18 months (toddlers) to 4 years old (Pre-K). Since 2000, we have supported families in our community and are proud to be part of Pasadena Christian School, which has been providing education from TK through 8th grade since 1946.

Pasadena Christian School – Shaping Hearts and Minds for Life

What curriculum do we follow?

Our play-based, hands-on, sensory-immersive preschool environment focuses on pre-academic skills centered on the “whole child” approach and learning through play, balancing teacher-directed and self-selected learning opportunities and featuring a strong emphasis on spiritual guidance and Biblical integration.

Utilizing a combination of traditional teacher-led learning, such as circle times and small groups, and student-selected play, the teacher provides opportunities for children to grow in the areas of social, emotional, physical, intellectual, moral, and spiritual development through play experiences in a developmentally appropriate environment, exercising repetition to gain proficiency and eventual mastery.

Through an “emergent” curriculum process of documented “curriculum webbing” of children’s ideas, we develop robust cross-curricular lesson plans that reflect the children’s interests and our monthly goals stated in the preschool “Skill Sheets” (*available on our blog under the Parents’ Corner tab and Monthly Curriculum Guides*). We believe young children develop a positive view of school and a love of learning through experiences aligned with their interests.

Additionally, our Pre-K students participate in small-group rotations focused on pre-academic skills that mirror those of Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students on our elementary campus. This, along with the integration of our “Happily Ever After” language curriculum, creates continuity of learning that carries beyond preschool into kindergarten.

How does our program prepare young children for what comes next?

Using a developmentally appropriate approach reflective of each age group, our play-based, hands-on early learning environment offers children ample opportunities to practice the skills they will need to succeed in preschool and beyond.

By focusing on social-emotional abilities like self-help, self-regulation, emotional intelligence, flexibility, perseverance, and resilience, we work to expand children’s ability to attend during presented and self-selected learning periods. Allowing them to reap the greatest benefits from their play and our teaching. We empower the children to make positive, pro-social, and meaningful choices that ensure we play with purpose.

We also work diligently on children’s ability to follow through on single- to multi-step instructions through to task completion. This could be as simple as cleaning up after themselves or as complex as participating in a

group activity that requires strong executive functioning skills. [A key to later academic success lies in a student's capacity to stay mentally and physically present while following the teacher's instructions.](#)

What does a typical day look like?

Each day at preschool, children will participate in both large- and small-group activities, including Morning Meetings, Music, Bible, Art, and more. They will also have access to our Outdoor Classroom, which includes the large play yard and patio spaces, where they can engage in gross motor, full-body, kinesthetic experiences that require more space and developmentally appropriate materials. The children will also be provided opportunities to practice self-help skills during snack and lunch periods as they enjoy the fellowship of their peers around our tables. While each classroom and age group has its own unique schedule, the hallmarks of our day are similar across all the age groups (*classroom schedules are available under the Parents' Corner tab on our blog*).

What is the student-to-teacher ratio?

Our preschool maintains a 1:8 teacher-to-student ratio, with up to 24 children per class daily in our 3- and 4-year-old programs, and a maximum of 18 students in our 2-year-old classrooms. The Toddler program runs at a 1:6 ratio and accommodates up to 12 children each day. Our varied program schedules, including two-, three-, five-, half-, and full-day options, cause daily student counts to fluctuate. Each classroom has a lead teacher, associate teachers, and an enrichment teacher who supports the classroom during teacher breaks. These consistent staff members work with the same group of children each day, fostering strong bonds between the staff and students.

How much time do they spend outside?

Each class has its unique schedule that includes an hour in our Outdoor Classroom (large play yard) and roughly forty-five minutes in our Patio spaces during our "core curriculum" window between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Our full-day friends will have additional chances to play in the yard and on the patios in the afternoon.

What are the benefits of our preschool?

- Play-based, hands-on, sensory-immersive learning
- Emergent curriculum – learning that is tailored to the interests of the children
- Allowing time for young children to gain social-emotional maturity
- Access to our Outdoor Classroom and patio play spaces
- Schedule flexibility – 2, 3, and 5 half- or full-day program options
- Rest time for our full-day children

[For more information about our program, including our Outdoor Classroom, book a tour today!](#)

"The playing adult steps sideward into another reality; the playing child advances forward to new stages of mastery." - Erik H. Erikson

Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him.
- Psalms 127:3

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.
- Proverbs 22:6