

Who Qualifies as a Peer Role Model?

Because the New Kent Preschool Program is first and foremost (and by FEDERAL LAW), a quality Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) program, our priority is to help our children with special needs by placing them in inclusive classrooms. Inclusion incorporates typically developing children from the community into our special education classrooms to serve as role models for the children with identified needs. In order to be considered as a role model, children must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 3 years old by September 30 of the school year for which they are applying
- Must not have an active IEP or require specialized instruction
- Must exhibit *role model* behavior, including well-developed behavior as evidenced in listening, play, and social interactions
- Must be completely toilet trained and able to clean themselves adequately.
- Must participate in a selection visit (play date) prior to enrollment

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

Only those children **meeting the criteria** will be considered for the program. The number of students selected will be based on the population of preschoolers receiving special education services. This population changes each year. Waiting lists are maintained.

NKCPS Preschool

The NKCPs IPOP program provides children with differing abilities the opportunity to interact and learn from one another while gaining a greater understanding of human diversity and its value to our society. All students benefit from carefully designed instruction that meets their individual levels. All students are taught by highly-qualified teachers and paraprofessionals daily.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

There is great interest in our program, and we receive many, many applications each year from which we are only able to fill a limited number of available spots. We, therefore, ask that the community value this opportunity, respect the needs of our program, and treat this opportunity as a privilege.



"When all who surround you are different, then you truly belong."

~Unknown~

New Kent County Public Schools

IPOP PROGRAM

(Inclusive Placement Opportunities
for Preschoolers)



The New Kent Preschool Inclusion Program is an Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) program that is committed to:

- Student achievement for ALL
- Pursuit of lifelong learning for ALL
- Personal responsibility for ALL
- High quality of life for ALL
- Equal opportunities for ALL

****Before** completing the Preschool Inclusion Program Application, please read the **entire brochure** to make sure your child meets all of the criteria for a peer role model.*

How to Apply

After carefully reading this brochure and understanding the criteria that your child must meet in order to be eligible for this preschool inclusion opportunity, you may complete the application and return it to:

New Kent Elementary School
Attn: Holli Perez
11705 New Kent Highway
New Kent, VA 23124

Applications are due to the NKES office on or before April 3, 2020. They may be hand-delivered during regular office hours (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) or mailed. If mailed, applications must be postmarked **no later than April 3, 2020.** Any applications placed in the NKES mailbox with no postmark will be rejected. No applications will be accepted after this date (no exceptions).

After receiving all eligible applications, we will notify you of the date and time for your child to visit one of the preschool classrooms. The children will be observed during group play and during structured activities. After school visits have been completed by all applicants, you will receive a letter by mail indicating whether your child has or has not been selected as a peer role model student for the upcoming school year.

Parent Responsibilities

If your child is selected to participate in the Preschool Inclusion Program, it is necessary for parents/guardians to understand their child's and their family's role in helping us maintain the best possible learning environment for all involved. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Communicating effectively with preschool staff while being mindful that all NKCPS staff's time is prioritized for the children with special needs in accordance with federal law.
- Having their child maintain good attendance which includes arriving and departing on time.
- Supplying items on the preschool supply list and other items as requested.
- Making provisions for 1 healthy meal and 2 snacks each day.
- Completing all school registration requirements, including up-to-date physical and immunizations paperwork.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the preschool program available at both New Kent and George Watkins Elementary Schools?

No, all preschool classes for the upcoming 2020-21 school year will be housed at New Kent Elementary.

On what days of the week will my child attend if chosen for the program?

The New Kent Preschool Inclusion classrooms are in session 4 or 5 days per week based on the needs of the preschoolers receiving special education. Your child's schedule will be dependent upon the classroom in which he/she is placed.

Will transportation to and from school be provided or will I need to make arrangements myself?

NKCPS currently provides transportation for preschool students. Based on future growth of the program, however, there could be a fee for this service.