



Audubon Preschool

2026-2027

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How old does my child have to be to attend preschool?

A: Children entering preschool must be at least three years old on or before October 1, 2026.

Q: How do I set up my Genesis account for my student?

A: You will receive an email invitation to set up this important online account for access to your child's records. You will be prompted to complete required forms at the start of this process, as well as designate pick up persons for your child(ren). If you do not receive this email before the start of the school year, or if you need additional assistance, please contact Kristina Filacheck (kfilacheck@apsd.us).

Q: Does my child have to be toilet trained to attend the preschool program?

A: No, your child does not have to be fully toilet trained to attend preschool. However, please understand that we will be working toward independent success in this area in coordination with families and encourage you to start this process at home before school starts to set your child up for success in school.

Q: What do I need to do if my child will be absent from school?

A: Contact Mrs. Stenton in the main office at (856) 617-0918 or email kstenton@audubonschools.org with absence reason. Call outs, reasons, and excused notes will be documented to support positive attendance.

Q: How do I call my child out sick?

A: Contact Mrs. Stenton in the main office at (856) 617-0918 or email kstenton@audubonschools.org with absence reason. Call outs, reasons, and excused notes will be documented to support positive attendance.

Q: Why do you call if my child is absent from school?

A: School procedure is to call when a student is unexpectedly absent to ensure the safety of our students and families, as well as to document the reason for the absence in our system. Students not called out will receive an automated call each day they are absent to notify parents that the student is not in school. If you believe you are receiving this call in error, contact the main office directly at (856) 617-0918 or email kstenton@audubonschools.org.

Q: When will we find out who my child's teacher will be?

A: Homeroom assignments will be mailed in mid-late August. Families that attend the Ice Cream Social in August will receive their homeroom assignment early.

Q: How can I communicate with my child's teacher throughout the school year?

A: All families will be able to utilize the Teaching Strategies Family app to communicate with their child's teacher. (see information in packet regarding app) Additionally, a weekly classroom newsletter will go home every week. Don't forget to check your child's folder daily and return it to the backpack.

Families will also receive weekly newsletters from the main office that includes important information about our preschool program and upcoming events. This is your first stop for information about preschool.

Q: Can we request a specific teacher/placement?

A: We do not honor requests for specific placement, however, parent input is taken into consideration when scheduling. If you have specific concerns, please contact the principal directly at bledyard@apsd.us

Q: How can I get more involved with the school and my child's class?

A: PTA is an excellent way to get involved in helping with the preschool and your child's class. Additionally, there are ample opportunities for families to be involved in classroom activities throughout the school year. Your teacher will contact you with details. The Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) is another great way to get involved. This



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parent and community advisory board works together to plan for and develop school programs that reflect the specific needs and values of our community.

Q: What do I need to know about field trips?

A: One parent/guardian chaperone per student is expected to attend with your student. If you can not attend, you may designate a guardian for the trip. Students are expected to wear their school shirts on trips to make our SWARM easily identifiable in an alternate location. School shirts will be provided for each student and kept at school until the end of the year. Shirts will be sent home at the end of the school year with each child.

Q: What should my child wear to school?

A: Comfortable, loose fitting clothing that he/she can manipulate independently. Sneakers are preferred.

Q: What time is pick up on Early Dismissal days?

A: 11:45 am

Q: What if my child isn't feeling well at school?

A: Both facilities will be overseen by the nursing staff of Audubon Public Schools and you will be notified if your child is ill or needs to be picked up for any reason. Students sent home from school are not permitted to return until they are symptom free without medication for at least 24 hours.

Q: Where do I drop off and pick up my child each day?

A: This information will be building specific. More information will be shared as we prepare for the beginning of the school year.

Q: Will breakfast be available for preschool students?

A: Yes. Breakfast is available for purchase for all Audubon Public School students. Preschool students who participate will eat breakfast after the 8:20 bell. You may also choose to send in your own breakfast or morning snack item.

Q: Will lunch be available for preschool students?

A: Yes. Lunch is available for all Audubon Public School students. Preschool students who purchase lunch will order in advance and lunch will be delivered to the classroom. Parents may also elect to pack lunch for their child.

We encourage healthy lunches that include all food groups. We can not heat, cook, or refrigerate meals for your children. Please plan accordingly when packing for your child.

Q: Will snacks be provided for preschool students?

A: No. Parents will need to send a snack and a refillable thermos/water bottle to school with their child every day. Please do not send flavored drinks or sugary snacks.

Q: Will my child take a nap during the school day?

A: Yes. Nap/Rest time is scheduled into the school day for all preschool children. Students who do not sleep are required to rest.

Q: Will KEYS be available for Preschool students?

A: No. At this time, there is no before or after school care for preschool children in either location.

Q: What curriculum will the preschool be using?

A: Audubon Preschool utilizes Creative Curriculum, a proven, comprehensive, research based curriculum that teaches preschool children through meaningful play. Our social-emotional learning curriculum, Second Step, teaches children to identify emotions and relate to them in a meaningful way.

Q: Will my child have Special Area classes as part of the full day program?

A: No, not at this time. However, Creative Curriculum provides ample opportunities for active play, creative expression, singing and listening to music, and even use of technology where appropriate.



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Q: Will my child receive related services as part of this program?

A: Yes. Eligible students in preschool will continue to receive speech, occupational therapy, and physical therapy as part of the school day.

Q: What if my child is struggling or if I have concerns about his/her behavior, development, or progress?

A: Your first contact is always your child's teacher. Beyond that, you and/or your child's teacher can refer your student to the Preschool Intervention and Referral Team (PIRT), a group of educators who work together to develop personalized learning plans to help students succeed. The PIRT team will contact you directly once evaluated to discuss supports that may be put into place. This is NOT a special education program, nor are children receiving PIRT services considered classified. PIRT provides an intervention plan to support students in order to help them meet age level expectations.

Q: Will I have an opportunity to provide information about my child?

A: Yes, in addition to the beginning of the year student survey, parents/guardians will be asked to complete the ASQ-3 approximately 45 days after the start of the school year. As part of the PEA expansion program, we are required to conduct development screenings during the school year. There are only two NJ DOE approved screening tools that we are permitted to utilize— the ESI-R and the Ages and Stages, ASQ-3. After careful review of both, we have selected the ASQ-3 screening specifically because this research-based screening provides an opportunity for parents to be involved in the screening process. This screening tool allows for additional screening information to be collected and utilized based on individual need, facilitates conversations between parents/guardians and the teacher about student progress, and supports positive relationships between home and school.

Q: Will I have an opportunity to meet with my child's teacher to discuss his/her progress?

A: Yes, we will host parent conferences 3 times per school year to discuss your child's progress. We will have Early dismissal on all conference days. Fall and Spring Conferences are required. Winter conferences are optional/at teacher discretion.

Q: Will my child receive a report card?

A: Preschool students will receive a report card each trimester (3 total). Report cards are developed using assessment data, teacher observation, anecdotal records, and screening information to document and monitor progress, and will be discussed in detail at Parent Conferences.

Staff and services that will be available for my child during the school day include:

- Teacher and Paraprofessional in every classroom
- Small Group Instruction Teacher
- School Wide Support Paraprofessional
- Counselor
- Instructional Coach
- School Nurse
- Custodial Services
- Related Services for eligible students
- Child Study Team
- Administration

Q: Who do I contact if I have additional questions about preschool?

A: Parents/Guardians should first contact their child's teacher for questions regarding the preschool program. If you still need assistance, you may contact Mrs. Ledyard as indicated below.

Mrs. Barbie Ledyard
Principal, Audubon Preschool and Haviland Avenue School

Main Office: (856) 617-0918
Email: bledyard@audubonschools.org