

- 1) Do families having more than one child registered in the program require to have two parent jobs, two cleaning bees, two fundraising shifts etc?
Answer:
Yes, a family with more than one child registered in the program will be expected to take on parent jobs, duty days, cleaning bees, fundraising etc., corresponding to EACH registered child.
- 2) Do I need to pay the \$50 non-refundable registration fee to get on the waitlist?
Answer:
Yes. If you wish, consider contacting the Registrar for details of program availability.
- 3) My child won't turn 3 until Jan 3, can I register him at the preschool?
Answer:
Unfortunately our policy states that a child must turn 3 before Dec 31 in order to enroll at the preschool.
- 4) There are a lot of cheques to write, may I combine multiple cheques?
Answer:
Please contact the Registrar for further details. Generally, programs cheques can be combined, but please note that program cheques are to be post dated for the 1st of the month. Combining payment for multiple months would mean the entire amount on the program cheque will be cash on the first available date.
- 5) Can I bring my younger child to class during my duty parent day?
Answer:
No, when you are scheduled for your parent duty day, younger siblings are not allowed to come to class with you. As a duty parent, you are assisting the teacher in various classroom tasks and activities, that includes interactions with the children. We kindly ask that you arrange childcare for your other children.
- 6) I really want to enroll my child in the morning program, but only the afternoon program is available. Can I switch to the AM session if there is availability?
Answer:
If there is a spot available in the class of your choice (AM class), and your child is next on the waitlist, then you will be contacted and given an opportunity to switch your child to the class of your choice (AM class).
- 7) My child turns 4 on Jan 3, should I enroll her in the 3-year program or 4-year program?
Answer:
Please contact the Registrar for your specific situation. Our Parent Handbook outlines that children must turn 4 on or before February 28 of the current school year in order to enroll in the 4-year old program. With a birthdate of Jan 3, your child meets this criterion and is eligible to enroll in either the 3-year old program or the 4-year old program. Many considerations come into play and we encourage you to contact the Registrar, who will put you in touch with the teacher to discuss your specific case.

8) I don't have time to participate in duty days and volunteer activities, can I just ask that my cheque gets cashed?

Answer:

Malmo Pre-Kindergarten is a parent co-operative, and as such, requires the participation of all families to ensure the sustainability of our preschool and to provide a fun and memorable experience for our children and families, all while keeping costs down. Your participation is required. Please note that you may enlist other family members, close neighbours, friends etc., to participate on your behalf. Failure to participate will result in forfeiting your fine cheques. However, repeated failure to participate may result in removal from Malmo Pre-Kindergarten, at the discretion of the Board. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for more information.

Please note that a requirement for enrolling your child into the Malmo Preschool program is acknowledging, understanding and agreeing to abide by all the policies and instructions as outlined in the Parent Handbook which is available on our website at www.malmopreschool.com.

9) Does the Preschool ever go on field trips?

Answer:

Yes, the Preschool often has several field trips throughout the year. Some places the children visit may include the zoo, library, local grocery store, John Janzen Nature Centre, WEM Marine Land, etc. In some cases, we invite visitors to come visit us at the Preschool. For out of school field trips it is the responsibility of the parent to arrange appropriate transportation for their child to/from the field trip.

10) Why are Busy Bear/Duty Days so important?

Answer:

Our children are special and we want to celebrate that fact by assigning each child a Busy Bear day. When your child is the Busy Bear, they enjoy special privileges (such as sitting at the front of the class in a special chair beside the Teacher, helping the Teacher with special tasks, being the leader in line, bringing a special toy to show and share with the class etc.). In addition to being the Busy Bear, your child is asked to bring an adult who is special to them to school to spend the day in class together. That adult becomes the Duty Parent for the day. As the Duty Parent, you assist the Teacher in tasks to make the day's activities run smoother. In addition to helping the Teacher, the Duty Parent gets to participate with the class while at the same time, take the opportunity to observe their child as he/she interacts with the other children. It is important for parents to attend their Duty Days as scheduled as the program relies on the presence of the additional adult to keep the ratios down to allow the teaching staff the opportunity to spend more individual time with each child.

11) Why can't my child bring peanut products to class?

Answer:

Malmo Pre-Kindergarten is a nut free preschool. As nuts can evoke life threatening reactions from some children, we insist that all snacks brought to the Preschool are nut free. Any snacks that are not nut free will not be opened and will return home in the child's snack/back pack. We want to ensure all our children stay safe so if your child has an allergy that the Preschool should know about, please make sure you advise the Preschool by providing all pertinent health and medical information.

12) My child is very independent and responsible for his age; can I send him to preschool alone?

Answer:

In order to ensure the safety of all children who attend Malmo Pre-Kindergarten, we insist that parents/guardians (or designated adult) escort children to and from the preschool classroom and check-in with the teaching staff at drop off and pick up. Children can get easily distracted and wander so we want to ensure all children safely get to Preschool and at the end of class, safely get home. Children will not be dismissed without the parent/guardian (or designated adult) first checking in with the Teaching staff.

13) I want to withdraw from the preschool on Dec 15, how much advance notice is required?

Answer:

To allow the Teacher enough time to prepare for your child's departure and the Registrar time to fill the vacancy, the Preschool requires a minimum of one month's advance notice of any withdrawals. Notice must be received by the Registrar before the first day of the month prior to withdrawal. For example, for a December withdrawal, notice must be delivered to the Registrar before the 1st of November. Any intent to withdraw submitted with inadequate notice will result in the forfeit of one month's program fee. Your child would still be able to attend the Preschool up until the last date of attendance that is stated in your notice of withdrawal.

14) What happens when I can't attend my scheduled duty day? (or Cleaning Bee, fundraiser)

Answer:

As outlined in the Parent Handbook, if you are unable to attend your scheduled duty day, it is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement to ensure someone covers your obligation for that particular day. Families are provided with a duty day schedule calendar and a contact list of parents for their specific class well ahead of time so the information is available for some advance planning. If you know there is a specific day you can't make and the duty day schedule calendar isn't available yet, parents are asked to take initiative by contacting their designated Duty Roster Scheduler to inquire for more information.

As everyone at Malmo Preschool (except the teaching staff) are parent volunteers, a missed duty day affects everyone. If a replacement duty parent is not found, it may result in the cancellation of class and will result in your forfeiture of a fine cheque. Please note that the importance of fulfilling duty parent obligations also applies to fulfilling assigned parent jobs, Cleaning Bees as well as fundraisers.

15) On my child's birthday, can I bring in a treat to share with the class?

Answer:

You are most welcome to bring in a special treat on your child's birthday, however, we encourage you to first check in with the teaching staff before doing so. Malmo Pre-kindergarten is a nut free preschool, but there may also be other dietary restrictions. We want to ensure that all children are included when celebrating a special day with their classmates. Please note that all edible treats brought into the preschool classroom must be store bought and in its original unopened packaging.

16) Why is fundraising so important?

Answer:

Malmo Pre-Kindergarten is a non-profit parent cooperative and as such, we rely on the participation of parents to ensure that the preschool is staffed with quality teachers and the proper resources are in place to deliver a consistent and rewarding program. Registration and program fees only cover a

portion of the expenses which includes the lease for the classroom, insurance, licensing, teaching staff salaries, classroom materials and supplies, toys, field trips, etc. Thus, fundraising allows us to maintain program quality and competitive fees.

17) What is so special and different about Malmo Pre-Kindergarten?

Answer:

Malmo Pre-Kindergarten believes that children are unique and special. Their first school experience should be fun and rewarding and should be shared with those special to them. Preschoolers are at the age where they are quite impressionable and they are discovering amazing things about the world around them everyday. Malmo Preschool offers parents the opportunity to be involved in shaping and sharing in their child's first school experience. Children's experiences are more enriching if parents show interest and are involved. At Malmo Preschool, the children learn and grow and they do it alongside with those most special to them.

18) Why are parent jobs assigned?

Answer:

Malmo Pre-Kindergarten is a non-profit parent cooperative and as such, we rely on the participation of parents to ensure that the preschool is staffed with quality teachers and the proper resources are in place to deliver a consistent and rewarding program. There are many things that happen behind the scenes to ensure the preschool is properly maintained and operated. Malmo Preschool has a fabulous hired teaching staff to interact and teach the children. In order to keep costs down, the operation, maintenance and administrative aspects of the preschool are handled by the parent volunteer community, lead by a volunteer Executive Board. Many of the operational and maintenance aspects can be divided into manageable tasks that can be assigned to families, bearing in mind that all of us do have busy lives. If everyone commits to doing their part, the preschool as a whole is able to operate and maintain efficiently at a reasonable cost.