



A Preschool of Excellence since 1996

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Michelle Wicklund, Director

The Kingswood School provides a loving nurturing Christian environment which develops a child's love of learning. We recognize that the earliest years of a child's life are a most critical time for learning and developing. Our staff facilitates hands-on learning in a success-oriented environment, encouraging the individual strengths of all children. We strive to balance our curriculum, providing experiences intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. The Kingswood School admits students without regard to race, creed, sex, religion or national origin. The Kingswood School operates no more than 4 hours per day, 5 days per week. Our school day runs from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The children bring their own lunch from home and eat with their class and teachers in the lunchroom. We follow DeKalb County School closings for inclement weather. The program is in session for nine months, traditionally beginning after Labor Day and ending before Memorial Day. The school is exempt from state licensing and is not required to be licensed by the state. The school has been recognized as a Preschool of Excellence by the United Methodist Preschool Association of the North Georgia Conference of church preschools since 1996.

Staff

We are fortunate to have committed and nurturing teachers that help to carry out our mission to educate children with love and respect. Our staff is trained in The Positive Discipline approach. Positive discipline teaches children to have a feeling of belonging and significance while becoming responsible, respectful and resourceful members of a community. Teachers attend workshops, seminars, and in-services throughout the year. In addition, all staff is CPR and First Aid certified.

Christian Living

The children attend chapel twice a month and a daily blessing is said before lunch. Monthly themes revolve around God, as Creator of our wonderful world and Jesus, as our friend who teaches us how to live. Christian songs and stories bring added meaning to every holiday.

Security

Rest assured that safety is a priority. Every effort is made to provide the safest environment for your child. Strict departure policies are enforced. Locked door access system are throughout the school.

Parent Teacher conferences

Two Parent conferences are held during the year. Mid-term and year end skill sheets are given to the parents. Weekly parent communication is maintained. Opportunities for additional parent conferences are always available.

Two Year Olds ratio 6:1

Age two by September 1. Two and three day classes are offered. Listening skills, language, and social play are the focus of this age group. Verbal communication, auditory and visual discrimination, and hands on play experiences are abundant. The curriculum includes many forms of art, music, storytelling, and play time. With love and praise, our two year old teachers help facilitate the wonderment of first time school experiences.

Young Three Year Olds ratio 6:1

Age 3 by December 31st. Two and three day classes are offered. This class is a stepping stone for some older two's into the three year old skills. Language skills are enhanced and attention span skills are lengthened. Fine motor skills such as scissor cutting, stringing beads, manipulating play dough are practiced. Gross motor skills, conversational language, listening and following directions are practiced with our young 3's. Pre-Reading skills such as asking questions, recognizing colors and sorting objects are some examples of the skills taught.

Three Year Olds ratio 6:1

Age 3 by September 1st. Three, four, and five day classes are offered. Our three year old classes offer a wide variety of experiences directed toward social skills, language development, listening skills, sensory perception and gross motor development. Our curriculum includes many hands on activities for developing fine motor skills. We use all forms of art media, music, games, finger play, and literature experiences. Exposure to basic shapes, colors, letters, numbers and scissor skills are all taught. We expect the children to be potty trained by the beginning of school.

Young Four Year olds ratio 7:1

Age 4 by December 31st. Four day and five day classes are offered. Social skills and independence are taught through a hands on learning curriculum. Readiness discrimination skills are sharpened as attention spans lengthen. Hands-on

learning activities are facilitated as children become more independent. Working puzzles, following 2 and 3 step directions and fostering more complex language skills are essential stepping stones. Auditory and visual memory skills are practiced. Many opportunities for fine and gross motor skills are made available.

Pre-K/ 4 year olds ratio 7:1

Age 4 by September 1st. This class uses a letter based reading program which has a strong Phonics base. Animal Island introduces the upper and lower case letters of the alphabet to the children. Through the adventures of various animals, the children eagerly move on to Letters and Sounds and Storybook Land. Predictable books and emerging readers bring pre-reading success as children master decoding techniques and begin comprehension skills. Common sight words are also introduced. Handwriting is taught in our Pre-K and Young 5's classes using Handwriting Without Tears. Beginning with strengthening and toning finger muscles they move on to practicing eye-hand coordination and visual tracking. The children learn correct positioning and methods of handwriting. Using a hands on approach with a variety of manipulatives, many Math skills are taught. Patterning, graphing, place value and counting, adding on / taking away, and measurements are presented throughout the year.

Young Five's ratio 9:1

Age 5 by December 31st. This program is tailored to meet the needs of the older four or younger five year old student. Young 5 classes foster the maturity of each student by teaching concepts through a "work job" approach. This fosters student responsibility and independence, which is a key component in our Young 5's program. This class emphasizes fine motor skills and strives to foster independence and maturity. The Young Five's use the same published curriculum as our four year old Pre-K class. Social maturity is key!

Kindergarten ratio 9:1

Our Kindergarten program has a strong phonics based reading curriculum using Modern Curriculum Press Phonics workbook in conjunction with Emerging Reader books. We use Guided Reading Leveled Readers to foster independent readers and a love of literacy. Our curriculum also provides writing skills using journals, story writing and response writing. Whole Language experience charts provide numerous opportunities for children to connect the spoken and written word. Dolch Sight word lists are used to increase reading fluency. With an emphasis on Handwriting without Tears, our handwriting program is simple and developmentally based. Math Their Way, our math curriculum, provides a strong, sound approach to mathematical concepts. Hands on learning helps children understand concepts easily. Computational math, as well as graphs, measurement, complex patterns, time, fractions and money are also integral parts of this program.

Enrichment Classes

MUSIC is an integral part of the school program. Through songs, dance, and rhythm instruments, the children learn enjoyment of the Arts. Music is offered four days a week to all classes – Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday.

STORYTELLING provides drama and literature experiences to all Wednesday classes.

CHAPEL is presented twice a month by the Pastor and/or Music Pastor of Kingswood UMC.

MOVEMENT exercises are offered weekly through Busy Bodies.

SPANISH is taught to our 3's through Kindergarten classes on Wednesdays.

GAMES GALORE is taught to our Pre-K and Kdg. It is a fast-paced, fun and friendly program providing activities and games that promote cooperation and teamwork.