

Pre-Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions

Choosing a school for your student is one of the most important decisions a parent can make. As parents, your decision will profoundly influence your child for years to come. Sending your student to Queen of Angels Catholic School ensures that he or she will be educated in a faith-filled environment with wonderful academic opportunities. While we are proud of our school's accomplishments, we truly pride ourselves in serving each student and helping them reach their maximum potential.

Our pre-kindergarten program offers a variety of options to best serve each student's and family's needs. We hope this information provides answers to some of your questions. While we are the experts in child development, you are the expert of your child. Please seek counsel of your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding their placement for their pre-kindergarten year. We are blessed to be a part of your family and your child's early education experience.

How old are the children in pre-kindergarten?

Children in pre-kindergarten are at least 4 years old by October 1. Some children enter their pre-kindergarten year recently turning 5 and have elected to have another year of growth before entering kindergarten.

What are the pre-kindergarten options at Queen of Angels Catholic School?

Monday, Wednesday, Friday Half Day (8:00am-11:30am)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday Full Day (8:00-2:30pm)

Monday – Friday Half Day (8:00am-11:30am)

Monday – Friday Full Day (8:00am-2:30pm)

How does the curriculum differ between the different options for pre-kindergarten?

Our pre-kindergarten program focuses on Kindergarten readiness and social/emotional skills that will help your child to succeed, no matter what option you choose. This developmentally appropriate curriculum provides opportunities for learning through a multi-sensory approach. No matter your child's enrollment status, their day-to-day activities are based on the same curriculum. It includes:

- Foundational literacy skills with an emphasis on phonemic awareness and alphabet knowledge in preparation for reading readiness.
- Mathematical skills are taught through hands-on games and activities that deepen your students' understanding of numbers, geometry and critical thinking.
- Fine motor skills are enhanced through art, journaling, and building in the classroom, as well as during weekly art and STREAM classes.
- Gross motor skills are developed through outdoor recess time and weekly physical education.
- Faith-based education through daily prayer, virtues, and bible stories that emphasize respect and consideration for all of God's creation.

What are the gains of Half-Day versus Full Day attendance?

In its simplest expression, the more your child attends school, the more opportunities your child has to grow socially, emotionally, and cognitively. Each child is different, and the reasons for program selection are different for each family.



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Our afternoon enrichment option provides students with a full day of learning as an extension of their core morning curriculum. The goal of enrichment is to provide a challenging curriculum through developmentally appropriate practices and to reinforce our students' readiness skills. Children will immerse themselves into a theme-based curriculum that is focused on preparing them for academic success.

What are the gains of 3-day versus 5-day attendance?

The 5-day program provides children with more time to build a deeper understanding of skills and content in the pre-kindergarten curriculum. Students enrolled in the 5, half-day program are in the classroom for 7 additional hours per week in comparison to a student enrolled in the 3, half-day program. Students enrolled in the 5, full-day program are in the classroom for 13 additional hours per week in comparison to a student enrolled in the 3, full-day program.

What is the afternoon schedule?

Students that stay for the afternoon will have lunch and choice time. Children then begin a quiet rest period. Following rest, the students participate in academic choice time. Academic choice allows students to take charge of their learning. They learn to choose based on interests "and the skills they believe are important. These skills focus on literacy, math, and fine motor content areas. The activities are collaborative and multi-sensory, providing a 21st century skill approach to learning. During this time, teachers are able to provide each child with additional support or enrichment in content areas.

How do you know if my child is ready for full day or half day?

Each child is different, and families have different stipulations regarding their frequency for school attendance. Some families need to have their child enrolled five days per week, other families it is by choice. Children also have differences in stamina and attending to the cognitive load of a full day of school. We want to make sure your child is set up to be successful, and know if your child is enrolled in a half-day program he/she can transition to a full-day attendance throughout the year as they are developmentally ready. An increase in the number of days, however, would not change.

