

Britannia Preschool Newsletter

Tue Sep 5, 2023 to Wed Jun 26, 2024

Preschool Phone: 604-718-5838



We look forward to having an excellent year with you and your children!

Our playroom and curriculum is based on Learning Through Play. Our environment is set up with play centres for children to move freely through and engage with others in social interactions with their peers, facilitated by our Licenced Early Childhood Educators (ECE). We know that if children enjoy and participate in their learning, they become lifelong learners.

GRADUAL ENTRY HOURS

SEPTEMBER 5-8

Morning Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30-10:00am (1.5hrs)

Tue/Thu 8:30-10:30am (2hrs)

Afternoon Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 11:45-1:45pm (2hrs)

Tue/Thu 12:45-2:15 pm (1.5hrs)

SEPTEMBER 11-15

Morning Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30-10:30am (2hrs)

Tue/Thu 8:30-11:30am (3hrs)

Afternoon Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 11:45-2:45pm (3hrs)

Tue/Thu 12:45-2:45 pm (2hrs)

REGULAR CLASSES HOURS WILL BEGIN, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023.

REGULAR PROGRAM HOURS

Morning Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30-11:00am (2.5 hrs)

Tue/Thu 8:30-12:00am (3.5 hrs)

Afternoon Classes

Mon/Wed/Fri 11:45-3:15pm (3.5 hrs)

Tue/Thu 12:45-3:15pm (2.5 hrs)

All persons entering the room will be required to wash their hands with soap and water.

PICK-UP TIMES (after gradual entry)

Pick-up times are very busy. **Staff will bring your child to you at the entry.** If you want to speak to a staff, please come inside the room to speak in private.

Morning Classes END time

Mon/Wed/Fri ENDS @ 11:00am

Tue/Thu ENDS @ 12:00am

Afternoon Classes END time END @ 3:15pm

Ensure that you pick-up your child promptly. Unfortunately, we have a very tight schedule between classes, and transition for the Out of School Care Program happens in the PM.

WHAT TO BRING TO PRESCHOOL (LABEL ALL YOUR CHILD'S ITEMS.)

- ✓ Zip lock bag with a change of clothes that will stay at the centre
- ✓ Backpack/bag
- ✓ Change of cloths
- ✓ Send a nut free snack
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Dress for the weather (we will be playing in the rain)
- ✓ Comfortable footwear to run, jump and play
- ✓ Sun screen your child at home prior to coming to preschool
- ✓ Special comfort toys/items are allowed

HEALTH BULLETIN

We are a ***NUT FREE ZONE!***

Please ensure that all food items entering the Preschool Do Not Contain Nuts and Tree Nuts.

We have several children with life-threatening allergies to nuts. Remember that many items like candies, crackers, breads etc. may contain traces of nuts or nut oils, so please check packaging.

If your children (or their siblings) eat peanut butter they may get peanuts on their breath, hands or stroller etc. Ensure their hands are cleaned and their teeth are brushed. Even the smell of peanuts can cause an allergic person to have an anaphylactic reaction.

Avoid the following food items when preparing your child's snack, as they can be a choking hazard:

* Popcorn * Gummy Bears * Marshmallows

These below items, unless cut lengthwise

* Hot Dogs * Grapes * Cherry Tomatoes

* Baby Carrots

Send your child with a water bottle and utensils.

COMMUNICATION

To advise us of any changes in your child's pick-up person or to communicate any other important information regarding your child, please leave a message at **604.718.5838**.

ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS

If you would like to find out more about the progress of your child or any other concerns or questions, please call **604.718.5838** and a PS teacher will connect with you at a mutually agreed upon time via phone.

HOLIDAYS PROJECTS

We celebrate different occasions throughout the school year such as Mother and Father's Day. Due to different circumstances and family structures, we present these activities on an individual basis. We introduce the activity as making gifts for anyone who is important to them. So, the child can decide who they want to make the activity for.

CLOSURES

CLOSED ALL STATUARY HOLIDAYS 2023/2024

➤ Labour Day	Mon, Sep 4
➤ National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Mon, Oct 2
➤ Thanksgiving Day	Mon, Oct 9
➤ Remembrance Day	Fri, Nov 13
➤ Stat for New years	Mon, Jan 1
➤ Family Day	Mon, Feb 19
➤ Good Friday	Fri, Mar 29
➤ Easter Monday	Mon, Apr 1
➤ Victoria Day	Mon, May 20
Winter Break	Dec 25 – Jan 5
First Day Back Monday January 8, 2024	
Spring Break	Mar 18 - 29
First day back Tuesday April 2, 2024	

In order to maintain a high-quality program, we will be closed for program development /maintenance for specific classes to plan and prepare accordingly.

CLOSED for staff meeting & training

Wed	October 18, 2023	PM class
Mon	November 6, 2023	PM class
Wed	December 19, 2023	AM class
Thu	January 18, 2024	AM class
Tue	February 20, 2024	AM class
Tue	April 16, 2024	PM class
Thu	May 16, 2024	PM class

LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL CLASSES WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 2024

INDOOR & OUTDOOR PLAYTIME

We do take the children into our backyard play space daily and onsite community walks throughout the year. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the rainy/cold weather. Pack indoor shoes and a change of clothes, should they get wet/soiled!

STUDENTS/VOLUNTEERS

Our centre welcomes students from several post-secondary schools to do their practicum learning and training within the Preschool program. It is our ongoing mission to actively participate in the development of high-quality Early Childhood Educators. All students and volunteers do undergo a thorough criminal record and health check prior to being accepted into our facility. Their bios are posted at the preschool entrance.

VALUES OF PLAY

Play has a unique meaning for each individual child. All children have the extraordinary ability to learn new skills, develop their unique strengths, gain autonomy, enhance their critical and creative thinking, and reach their full potential. Play is the vehicle for learning about the world and the environment around them. Play is the way in which children take part in their own growth and development; it is the very essence in which they celebrate learning.

GIFTS

We are very grateful to all our families for appreciating the care we provide. Unfortunately, Britannia has a gift receiving policy which states all **staff are NOT allowed monetary gifts or gift cards.**



EARLY CHILDHOOD PEDAGOGY NETWORK (ECPN)

We will be working Pedagogist [Megan Macdonald](#) According to [ECPN](#), "Pedagogist are vital provocateurs who enact situated, dialogical and transformative pedagogical projects in early childhood centres. They enact these projects by co-constructing curriculum with educators and children. Pedagogists collectively engage with the ECPN pedagogical declarations"

FEES

Fees are processed on the first of the month.

One month's written notice (email is good), on the last of the calendar month, is required when withdrawing or one month's fee payment in lieu of one month's notice.

AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE BENEFIT (Subsidy)

We encourage all families to apply for the Affordable Child Care Benefits (ACCB). Visit the online platform to see if you qualify at <https://myfamilyservices.gov.bc.ca/s/estimator>

Email the Senior Supervisor for the Child Care Arrangement form, which is required when submitting your subsidy application. It only takes 30 minutes to do the application online.

**Affordable Child Care Benefits,
Toll Free at 1 888 338-6622**

<https://myfamilyservices.gov.bc.ca>

Senior Supervisor Lorraine Evans at 604.718.5843 or lorraine.evans@vancouver.ca

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SUBSIDY?

Call or email **Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre**, Monday through Saturday from 9am-5pm. Contact: GRACE PAN, gpan@wstcoast.org 604-709-5699 ext 246.



CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Please advise us if you have changed any of your personal information on file, for your child, since you originally registered:

To make a change see a Preschool Teacher!

FIND US ON THE WEB @



[Britannia Community Services Centre Britannia Preschool | \(britanniacentre.org\)](https://britanniacentre.org)

To make any changes to registration, get information on billing, subsidy or any other enquiries, please contact Lorraine at 604.718.5843 or by email at lorraine.evans@vancouver.ca

DID YOU KNOW THAT GLITTER IS MADE FROM PLASTIC!

- Glitter is a micro plastic that is difficult to recycle
- Glitter ends up in the drains and then in the oceans and rivers
- Micro plastic is dangerous for sea life and birds

Britannia Child Care decided to end the use of glitter in our art projects to help our sea creatures and birds!