

## **Information on the East Hampton Memorial School Preschool Programs**

### **Integration Program**

The East Hampton Memorial preschool Integration program is designed primarily to meet the needs of students with special needs. The program is composed of children ages three and four who warrant intensive early intervention in the areas of speech/language, gross motor, fine motor, behavior, health concerns, and/or moderate to severe developmental delays and typically developing children that serve as peer models. The preschool program is available for East Hampton residents only and parent/guardian transportation must be provided. There are currently four preschool sessions ; 2 three year old sessions, 2 four year old sessions. Each classroom has one certified early childhood/special education teacher and one paraprofessional. Additionally, an occupational therapist, a school social worker, and speech/language clinicians are all part of the preschool team. These specialists work within the classroom to provide individual, small group, and large group lessons that target specific skills for the children with special needs.

### **Selection Process**

The East Hampton Memorial preschool Integration program implements a screening and selection process for selecting typically developing peers to serve as peer models in the program. The selection process consists of a screening which will assess that a child's developmental skills are age appropriate within the following areas: expressive and receptive language, emotional coping, social situational skills, self help, pre-readiness, and fine/gross motor skills. All peer model candidates that have been determined to have demonstrated appropriate skills in the previously stated areas will be entered into a lottery selection process for placement during the 2019-2020 school year.

### **Smart Start Program**

The Smart Start Program is partially funded through the CT Smart Start initiative and designed to meet the needs of preschool age children at risk due to economic disadvantage or other factors. Instruction is driven by the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards (CTELDS). This program is a full time program which follows the East Hampton Public School calendar. This full time program will be taught by a certified early childhood teacher. The preschool program is available for East Hampton residents only and parent/guardian transportation must be provided.

### **Selection Process**

Priority will be given to 4 year old children that meet income guidelines or have been found to be at risk. Other applicants, regardless of economic or at risk factors will then be selected.

***\*\*See reverse side for procedure on the day of the screen →***

### **On the day of the Screen**

On the day of the screen, you and your child will be greeted in the entrance way by members of the preschool team. **Your child will then be brought to our preschool classroom where he or she will have the opportunity to engage in developmentally appropriate activities. During this time you will meet with Sue Engelhardt, school Social Worker or Lauren Kasperowski, Early Links Coordinator.** At that time, you will review the Parent Interview Form and learn more about the screening process, and our programs as well as discuss any questions or concerns that you may have. In the classroom, the members of the preschool team (Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Speech Pathologists and Special Education teachers) will be looking at your child's development. After the screen is completed, we will bring your child back to you in the entrance way. If your child is having a difficult time due to the separation, we may return your child before the screen has ended.

Parents of children who have participated in the screening process will be notified by mail the second week in May as to the status of their application. In the event that your child presents significant concerns within the developmental areas assessed, you will be contacted via telephone by school staff.

We thank you for your interest in the Memorial School preschool programs. We look forward to meeting you and your child in April.

Respectfully,

The Preschool Team