PARENIT HANDBOO

8

K - 2ND GRADE

HEARNING POD

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Dear Parent,

I am incredibly excited to have the opportunity to teach your student! I'm genuinely thrilled to welcome your child to our class this school year, and I firmly believe that through our collaborative efforts, we can make this a highly successful experience.

Here are the class details: Learning Pod: Monday-Friday, 8:50am - 3:30 pm.

It's crucial that all students come prepared. Please ensure your student has all their materials ready before the start of class. I kindly request that all families make their best effort to complete homework assignments in a timely manner.

I encourage you to reach out to me on Classtag anytime you have questions or concerns. I am committed to keeping you wellinformed. It is an absolute honor and privilege to be your child's homeschool facilitator this school year, and I eagerly anticipate meeting with each of you.

With your active involvement and support, a dedicated facilitator, a robust curriculum, and the enthusiasm of our students to learn, I am confident that we can achieve our goal of academic success.





WELCOME

Welcome to Spectacular Start's learning pod! We are excited about the opportunity to work and grow with you and your family. Rest assured that your child will receive a quality education and a nurturing environment while in our program. It's time to relax and get your child off to a Spectacular Start! $\Rightarrow \equiv \Rightarrow$

OUR PHILOSOPHY

What sets us apart from other programs is our unique philosophy. We firmly believe that learning is an active process best fostered in a small and interactive setting. In our approach, the child takes the lead by asking questions, and the adult's role is to facilitate learning through answers, activities, and assessments, even at the preschool level.

We instill in our children the art of critical thinking by encouraging them to pose questions, explore potential answers, test hypotheses, and draw real-life inferences and connections for analysis. These fundamental skills serve as the building blocks for the abstract thinking required for success in Science, Math, Engineering, and Technology. We are committed to nurturing a dynamic and inquisitive learning environment that empowers our students for future achievement.

OUR MISSION

We firmly believe that all children possess an innate enthusiasm for learning and conquering new subjects. With this belief in mind, our mission is to offer the most comprehensive and top-quality early childhood education program, focusing on early math, science, and reading skills.

We are committed to keeping our program economically accessible to families. This affordability enables parents to work, pursue employment opportunities, or further their education, ultimately benefiting both their families and the wide r community. Our dedication is to empower children through education while supporting the growth and well-being of families.





Our ultimate goal is to ensure that all children who attend Spectacular Start develop into school-age students who are not only academically confident and competent but are also socially and emotionally aware. As they transition into adulthood, we aspire for them to become positive contributors to society, thereby benefiting the larger community as a whole.

COMMUNICATION

Maintaining open communication between parents and teachers is crucial for the well-being of your child. Sharing important information about your child and family is fundamental to providing them with the best possible education.

For quick questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to the teacher via **"Klassly."** If you require a phone conversation, the preferred hours for calls are Thursdays and Fridays from 8–850 am and 4–5 pm. Any contact outside of these hours should be scheduled by appointment only. Your active participation and communication are greatly valued.

EXPECTATION

Our expectation is that students arrive daily: groomed (face washed and teeth brushed), well-rested, properly nourished, and equipped with all necessary supplies (<u>no toys from home</u>), appropriate lunch, and their uniform. **Breakfast is expected to be consumed at home.** If a student is unable to stay awake during class, parents will be contacted for pickup.

Parents have the option to sit in on class from 8:50 am to 9:00 am if requested. However, if they intend to stay longer than 10 minutes, it must be in a volunteer status, involving a commitment of a 2-hour block for constructive activities. **Please note that prolonged goodbyes can be distracting to the student and their classmates.**

UNIFORM

Students are required to wear polo shirts featuring the Spectacular Start logo, which can be obtained from J&R Clothing, either in-store at their location on 600 Fayetteville, W Lanier Ave Suite 109. GA 30214. or online at www.jandrclothing.com/spectacular-start. When it comes to bottoms, any color or style is acceptable. It's worth noting that elastic waistbands are advisable for children under the age of 5 for their convenience.



Furthermore, we request that each child keeps one set of extra clothing at school for potential emergencies. A <u>solid</u> <u>black</u> long sleeve shirt may be worn under the polo in the winter. Crocs, heels, and sandals are not allowed. Plain <u>solid black</u> tennis shoes or plain solid black <u>ankle</u> length boots for the winter are the acceptable shoe choices.

For students who may encounter difficulties tying their shoes, we recommend opting for lace-less shoes, which are not only convenient but also safer. Lastly, please be aware that <u>beaded hairstyles are not permitted</u> due to safety considerations. **No tutu's or tiaras** please. Your cooperation in adhering to these dress code and safety guidelines is greatly appreciated. **Students in violation of the dress code policy will<u>not</u> be permitted in the building.**

HOURS OF OPERATION

Our hours of operation are from Monday to Friday,

starting at 8:50 am and ending at 3:30 pm. Students will

not be allowed to enter after 9:30 am unless they have a doctor's

note. Being tardy is defined as arriving after 9:05 am. Please note that a student is permitted no more than 5 instances of lateness per month.

Additionally, students are allowed no more than 5 unexcused absences within a rolling 3-month period without a doctor's excuse. Punctuality and regular attendance are essential for a productive and effective learning environment.

MEDIA

Please be aware that your child's image may be used in various forms, including social media, photography, or video recordings, for the purpose of advertising and securing grant funding for Spectacular Start.

CURRICULUM

We employ a combination of curricula to support our educational approach, including "Little Thinkers," "Kinder Math," "Kinder Writing," "Sweet for Kindergarten Phonics," and "The Good and The Beautiful." These curricula are designed to be hands-on and engaging. In addition to these resources, we also supplement our teaching with various workbooks and activities to provide a wellrounded and interactive learning experience for our students.





24'-25' SCHOOL CALENDAR

First Day of Class (9/3) School Closed (9/27) School Closed (10/11) (10/14) Picture Day (10/17) Thanksgiving Break (11/25-11/29) Winter Break (12/18-1/5) MLK Day (1/20) School Closed (2/17-2/18) School Closed (3/14)(3/17) Spring Break (4/7-4/11) School Closed (5/2)Memorial Day School Closed (5/26)

Last Day Of Class (6/18)



SCHOOL BIIS

PAYMENTS

Payments are due via Omella. Payments are due on the 1st of the month. In the event that a payment is received after the 3rd day, there will be a late fee of \$50 imposed, with an additional \$7 fee for each subsequent day until the payment is settled. If, unfortunately, we do not receive any payment by the 7th of the month, the student may face withdrawal from enrollment, necessitating a \$75 re-enrollment fee in addition to any pending payments and any associated late fees. In the event of a returned payment there is a \$50 returned payment fee. No partial payments.

REFUND POLICY

Once you enroll your child into our program, all payments should be made according to your payment plan. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer any refunds for any reason. There will be no reduction in price for inclement weather days, sick days, family vacations or any days that the parent or student chooses not to attend.

LATE PICK UP

A late pick-up fee of \$1 per minute will be imposed for any time after 3:30 PM, and this fee will be invoiced promptly, with payment expected on the following school day. Please note that early pick-up after 2:45 PM is not permitted, as it can be a source of distraction and disruption.

TRANSPORTATION

We want to stress the importance of recognizing that transportation is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian, or a designated representative. Please ensure that you provide the necessary information for the designated representative on your students' enrollment paperwork. It's important to note that a car seat is mandatory for school transportation during field trips for children under 7.

TUITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Spectacular Start offers an extra incentive to parents who are seeking ways to reduce tuition costs.

- 5% Semester Discount: \$2612.5/semester
- 10% Annual Discount: \$4950/a year
- 5% Multi-family Member Discount: (-\$27.50 per month)
- Referral Program Refer a family and, once a child within that family completes 30 days of class, you will receive \$50 off of your next tuition payment.



LEAVE TIME

The program offers educators the benefit of 6 paid emergency leave days during the academic year. Educators will strive to inform families within 24 hours of the school day's commencement or as promptly as possible following the emergency incident. In the event that these 6 emergency leave days are exceeded, families will be granted a prorated discount on their upcoming payment.

FEES

A non-refundable \$50 application fee applies, regardless of the admission outcome. Furthermore, upon enrollment and annually by July 15th thereafter, a \$200 registration fee is required. This registration fee is used to acquire educational materials for the school, cover office supplies, and contribute to testing fees.

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is invite only. It's important to note that enrollment will close on August 15th. Existing families have priority and are required to make their admission decision by April 15th.

CONFIDENTIALITY

You can be confident that all the information you provide will be maintained with the utmost confidentiality and shared exclusively with

authorized parties, such as the police, health, and social services departments, among others. Please understand that photographs may be captured and employed for advertising purposes, and there is no option to opt out of this practice. Your acknowledgment of this handbook and its policies is considered implicit upon the completion and submission of your application.



HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

Our primary objective is to establish and implement robust, safe procedures and response protocols to address the current infectious disease crises. As a school, we are dedicated to maintaining a clean environment by regularly sanitizing frequently touched surfaces and providing accessible hand sanitizing stations. We invite everyone to join us in our commitment to safeguarding the health of our community.

As members of this community, we kindly request that each individual:

- 1. Stay at home if feeling unwell or displaying symptoms, including an unexplained rash, blister, or fever 100.2.
- 2. Maintain good hand hygiene practices.
- 3. Wear masks as required for any student with a persistent cough, runny nose, or excessive sneezing due to allergies.
- 4. Report positive test results or potential contact with infected individuals.
- 5. Adhere to social distancing guidelines.

In the event of a school closure due to COVID, we will utilize "Zoom" for virtual classes. Students can access the classroom through any internet-connected device, including computers, phones, or tablets. The meeting link will be posted within the Klassly application. If you encounter any technical issues (such as no audio, no video, or connectivity problems), please try logging out and rejoining the meeting initially to maximize learning time.

We kindly request your acceptance of the Klassly invitation. If you require the invitation to be resent, please don't hesitate to request it via email.

While we aim to make our virtual sessions enjoyable, it is essential for students to remain on the screen to actively participate and receive the full benefit of the program.

We kindly ask that you:

- 1. Ensure your student has had a meal before the class to ensure their full attention. In-person students should pack a nutritious lunch and snacks daily.
- 2. Confirm that your student is dressed appropriately while in the online environment. Uniforms are mandatory for both in-person and online students. Your support in adhering to these guidelines is greatly appreciated.





• Wake up at least an hour before class starts. We want students to be awake, alert, and ready to learn! Families should log in 5 minutes before class starts.

Prepare your student's learning space! An ideal learning space should be: In a quiet, calm place (minimal distractions from pets and other family members), clear of all toys, and away from all electronics (TVs, iPads, cellphones, etc.).
We kindly request that parents:

Please:

- Assist your student in maintaining focus during the session.
- Encourage your student to remain seated during the class.
- Offer technical support when necessary, such as muting and keeping the video on.

Please DO NOT:

- Provide direct answers to your student's questions or assignments. We believe in a learning process that includes making mistakes and learning from them, so incorrect answers are valuable teaching moments.
- Complete classwork or answer questions on behalf of your student. It is important for us to accurately gauge your student's abilities to provide the best support.

Your collaboration in adhering to these guidelines is highly appreciated.

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FOOD

Parents are responsible for providing their child's lunch and snacks. Please refrain from including rice, hot dogs, nut-based foods, fish, or shellfish in your child's lunch. If any of these items are included, they will not be warmed or served to the student, and we will contact the parent to provide a suitable and safe lunch.

For safety reasons, please cut grapes down the middle lengthwise, and ensure that all food items are appropriately cut into bite-sized pieces. Please note that our <u>staff will not be able to assist with cutting up food</u>. Food should come pealed and chopped for consumption. Soup should be sealed on a bowl with a lid. Parents should provide all eating utensils. **Please separate hot and cold items for easy warming**.



CELL PHONE USAGE

The use of cell phones during school hours is not allowed. Our primary focus is to ensure that students' attention is fully dedicated to the learning process.





CODE OF CONDUCT

Our program is founded on firm, consistent, and fair discipline practices, all infused with love and care. Our dedicated staff uphold high standards of behavior and interact with students with love, kindness, and genuine concern. In the rare instances when disciplinary action becomes necessary, it is undertaken with the ultimate aim of guiding the student towards positive behavior, thereby maintaining their place in our student body.

It is our overarching policy and intent to set an example of self-respect, community respect, cooperation, compassion, and goodwill towards all. We have the same expectations for your child in our learning community and encourage parents to emulate and support these values at home.

In cases where a child's behavior does not align with these expectations, we will start with verbal correction and redirection. If the behavior persists beyond a reasonable period, your child will receive a fair and appropriate consequence, and we will promptly notify you. Your understanding and partnership in nurturing these values are greatly valued.

Our commitment is to collaborate closely with parents and guardians, as well as students, rather than replace their role. It's important to emphasize that our objective is not to take the place of parents or guardians.

In cases where a child is unable to meet the expected behavioral standards and their actions consistently disrupt the progress and harmony of the learning community, a disciplinary review will be conducted. The purpose of this review is to assess whether our learning environment is suitable for the student's needs and development. Your understanding of this approach is greatly appreciated.

HOMEWORK

Homework is **not** an option but a <u>requirement</u>. Reminders are courtesies, it is the parent's responsibility to check your student's homework folder. **Homework completed after 3 days of due date will not be evaluated**.

TERMINATION

To conclude your child's enrollment at Spectacular Start, we kindly request a 30-day written notice prior to termination. Please note that your last 30 days of payment will be due regardless of your child's attendance during this period. Termination notices



cannot be accepted during family or teachers' vacation times.

Furthermore, it's important to understand that we retain the right to terminate enrollment immediately or at any time for reasons including, but not limited to:

- 1. Failure to make timely fee payments.
- 2. Failure to comply with our policies.
- 3.A lack of parental cooperation, communication, or respect.

WAIVER

It's important to note that the lack of enforcement of a specific policy at any given time does not imply that the policy is no longer in effect. Our decision not to exercise a right provided by this agreement does not indicate a relinquishment of that right. Moreover, any failure to enforce one or more terms of the contract does not waive our right to enforce other terms of the contract.

Spectacular Start retains the authority to make policy or financial changes whenever it is in the best interest of the school and will not compromise the quality of the children's education. In the event of policy changes, we commit to providing a twoweek notice to ensure transparency and allow for adjustments. Your understanding of these principles is greatly valued.





-IMPORTANT NOTICE-

Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID 19/ Monkey Pox/ Infectious Diseases

By signing this agreement, the parent acknowledges the contagious nature of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, and voluntarily assumes the risk of exposure to these pathogens if the student attends in-person sessions. It is recognized that such exposure may potentially lead to personal injury, illness, disability, or even death.

The parent or guardian also acknowledges that such exposure can result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of various parties, including but not limited to Spectacular Start LLC/Pass Network Foundation Inc, its school staff, volunteers, program participants, and their families.

The parent voluntarily agrees to accept all the aforementioned risks and assumes full responsibility for any injury, disability, death, damage, loss, claim, or expense that their child, children, or family may incur in connection with the child's attendance in the program.

Moreover, the parent or guardian agrees not to bring legal action or discharge, and instead, holds harmless Spectacular Start LLC/Pass Network Foundation Inc, as well as its employees, agents, contractors, or representatives.

It is understood that this release encompasses any claims arising from the actions, omissions, or negligence of Spectacular Start LLC/Pass Network Foundation Inc, its employees, agents, contractors, or representatives, regardless of whether an infection of COVID-19 or Monkeypox occurs before, during, or after participation in Spectacular Start LLC/Pass Network Foundation Inc programming.



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