

PRESCHOOLS	PHONE   EMAIL	REGISTRATION	CLASSES	SEPT. 15 CUT OFF	RELIGIOUS CONTENT	ABOUT THE PROGRAM
Ashworth Road Baptist Church 5300 Ashworth Road, WDM www.ashworthroadpreschool.com	515-223-0914, ext. 104 bobbie@ashworthroad.com	January	2s - 2-day AM 3s - 3-day AM or PM 4s - 3-day AM or PM (fourth day option)	Yes	Yes	Christian curriculum, Pre-K readiness
Iowa Christian Academy 2501 Vine St., WDM www.icabazers.org	515-221-3999 mhummel@icabazers.org	Ongoing	4s - 5-day kinder prep full day	Yes	Yes	Christian-based, need to be 4 yr. old by 9/15 for Kinder-prep
The Larick Early Learning Center 2700 Elm St., WDM www.larickelc.com	515-249-5783 larickelc@outlook.com	Ongoing See Website	3s-5s - 5-day	No	No	Certified early childhood teacher; low teacher/child ratio
Little Friends Preschool 2180 NW 142nd St., Clive www.clivechurch.com	515-556-5576 sandy.littlefriends@gmail.com	February/ Ongoing	2s - 2-day 3s - 2-day 4s - 2-day Pre-K - 4-days	Yes	Yes	Classes are from 9 AM-1 PM; Pre-K is for older 4s; Christian curriculum
Montessori Children's House 1505 42nd St., WDM	515-225-1073 director@themontessorichildrenshouse.net	January	18 mos-3 yrs, 2-3 yrs, 3-6 yrs, 5-7 yrs - half days and full days	Yes	No	Child-directed, prepared environment, Spanish immersion
New Horizons Academy 1119 5th St., WDM www.mynewhorizonacademy.com	515-255-0220 mynewhorizonsacademy04@gmail.com	Ongoing	0-24 months--part-time 2s-3s - part- and full-time 4s-5s - part- and full-time	No	Optional	Optional Islamic curriculum setting, Literature-rich, child-centered curriculum, Creative Curriculum
New Horizons Christian Preschool 925 Jordan Creek Pkwy., WDM	515-422-9122 jan.hoyt@hopewdm.org	January	3s - 2-day AM or PM 4s - 4-day AM or PM	Yes	Yes	Traditional
*Creekside Preschool 2743 82nd Pl., Urbandale www.creeksidepreschool.net	515-277-8454 creeksidepreschool@outlook.com	January	3s - 2-day AM 4s - 4-day AM or PM	Yes	Yes	Creative Curriculum based, certified early childhood teacher, child-oriented
*Sacred Heart Preschool 1653 Grand Ave., WDM www.sacredheartwdm.org	515-226-2146 jane.kimney@sacredheartwdm.org	January	3s - 2-day AM 4s - 4-day AM or PM 5s - 5-day PM (transitional kindergarten for Young 5s)	Yes	Yes	Creative Curriculum based, certified early childhood teacher for 4s, extended care options.
*Seeds of Faith Early Learning Center 10395 University Ave., Clive www.faithc.org	515-689-8334 seedsoffaith@faithc.org	January	2s - 1, 2, or 3-day AM 3s - 2-day AM or PM 3s - 3-day AM 4s - 4-day AM or PM	Yes	Yes	Child-centered Christian program utilizing Creative Curriculum, project-based learning, lead teachers certified
Shepherd's Flock Early Learning Center 3900 Ashworth Road, WDM www.shepherd-valley.org	515-225-1952 diane@solv-wdm.org	January Call anytime after birth.	3s - 2-day AM; 3-day AM or PM 4s - 3-day AM; 4-day AM or PM; 4s and 5s - 5-day PM Ks - 5 day AM or PM	Yes	Yes	Traditional; Christian program; low teacher/child ratio
St. Francis of Assisi Preschool 7075 Ashworth Road, WDM	515-223-4577, ext. 116 tmeyers@saintfranschurch.org	January	2s - 2-day AM only 3s - 3-day AM or PM 4s - 4-day AM or PM	Jan. 1 Sept. 15 Sept. 15	Yes	Teacher-directed and self-selection times, faith based.
*St. Timothy's Preschool 1020 24th St., WDM www.sttimspschool.org	515-494-7735 sttimspschool@msn.com	January	2s - 2-day AM 3s - 2-day, 3-day AM 4s - 4-day PM	Yes	Religious play hour offered	Play-based; certified teachers, outdoor learning component
*Tiger Cubs Preschools Clive Learning Academy 1600 - 73rd St., Windsor Heights Crestview School of Inquiry 8355 Franklin Ave., Clive Fairmeadow Elementary 807 23rd St., WDM Jordan Creek Elementary 4105 Fuller Road, WDM Western Hills Elementary 600 39th St., WDM Westridge Elementary 5500 E.P. True Parkway, WDM	Clive 515-633-5800 Crestview 515-633-5700 Fairmeadows 515-633-6500 Jordan Creek 515-633-5200 Western Hills 515-633-5900 Westridge 515-633-5400 www.wdmc.org/district/our-schools/preschool-programs/	Ongoing See website for more information.	4s - 4-day AM or PM	Yes	No	Traditional, Creative Curriculum-based, certified early childhood teacher through WDMCS
*Walnut Hills Preschool 12321 Hickman Road, Urbandale www.walnuthillspreschool.org	515-270-9126 sue@whumc.org	Begins on First Monday of October	3s - 2-day AM or PM 3s - 3-day PM 4s and 5s - AM or PM	Yes	Yes	Literature-rich, child-centered curriculum, Creative Curriculum in a Christian setting
*West Des Moines United Methodist Early Learning Preschool 720 Grand Ave., WDM	515-279-8897 nsetchell@wdmumc.org	December - New Families Anytime - Current families	18 months-2s - 2-day AM 2s - 3-day AM 3s - 2-day AM; 3-day AM or PM 4s - 4-day AM or PM	No Yes Yes Yes	Yes	Child-centered program utilizing Creative Curriculum, project-based learning, certified teachers; Low teacher/child ratio

\*Subject to availability, these preschools accept Project Shine participants (see reverse).

**SVPP** — Offer Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs (see reverse).

# PRESCHOOL INFORMATION

## Age Guidelines

Most programs use age guidelines set by the state of Iowa (a birthday on or before September 15) to determine which class a child will attend. Most programs require children ages three years and older to be potty-trained. The Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SVPP) provides funding for children who are 4 years old on or before September 15, but not yet age eligible for kindergarten.

## Types of Preschools

The western suburbs have a variety of preschools. Most of the preschools are considered “traditional” programs, which means that the teacher provides the curriculum and directs a wide variety of activities during the day. Traditional preschools focus on early learning experiences and socialization. Programs that offer SVPP provide a minimum of 10 hours of non-religious instruction and must follow criteria set by the Iowa Department of Education. The area also has several Montessori programs available. These programs are considered to be child-directed with hands-on learning.

## Registration Fees & Health Information

Families will need to fill out information and health forms and provide their child's immunization records when they register. Depending on the funding source for the child, fees to families will vary.

Things to look for when choosing a preschool

- Safe, clean, and orderly learning environment
- Variety of learning materials in the room
- Well-rounded curriculum with art, music, literature, science, and math
- Indoor and outdoor play areas
- Quality teachers and staff
- “The right fit” — settings, teachers, and philosophies vary

Quality Standards — Many of the preschools participate in a quality rating or assessment process. Families may inquire about quality standards at individual preschools. These standards may give you additional information when deciding upon a preschool and are available from individual centers, if applicable.

Most importantly, call to ask questions and set up a visit with the preschools that interest you.

May 2016

# WDMCS PROGRAMS

The following programs are available in the West Des Moines

Community School.

## Tiger Cubs Preschools

The WDMCS offers preschool in six school buildings: Clive Learning Academy, Crestview School of Inquiry, Fairmeadows Elementary, Jordan Creek Elementary, Western Hills, and Westridge Elementary.

## Special Education

Call Heartland Area Educational Agency at 515-270-9030 for assessment and placement information.

## Head Start

Drake University Head Start operates a program at Covenant Presbyterian Church in West Des Moines. Call 515-271-1854 for placement information and financial guidelines.

## WDMCS Community Education

- **Project Shine** is a program funded by Polk County Early Childhood Iowa. It provides an opportunity for children from income eligible West Des Moines district families to attend a quality preschool program. Call Holly Burns at 515-633-5010 for placement and financial guidelines.
- **Brighter Beginnings** is for parents of children ages 12 months to 3.5 years of age looking to enrich their parenting skills. Contact Sonja LeSher at 515-633-5009 or [leshers@wdmcs.org](mailto:leshers@wdmcs.org) or visit [www.wdmcs.org/commed](http://www.wdmcs.org/commed) for more information.
- **LEARNwest** offers various parenting classes. Call WDMCS Community Education at 515-633-5001 or visit [www.wdmcs.org/commed](http://www.wdmcs.org/commed).
- **Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SVPP)**  
The WDMCS offers funded programs for 4-year-olds at the six district Tiger Cubs Preschools and in three partnering community preschools. There are also two full time child care centers that offer SVPP as part of their program (Apple Tree on Grand 515-225-1837 and Apple Tree on Ashworth 515-226-9791.) For general information regarding SVPP, contact Holly Burns at 515-633-5010 or [burnsh@wdmcs.org](mailto:burnsh@wdmcs.org).



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# Preschool Directory

## FOR WESTERN SUBURBS



*“Tell me and I forget.  
Teach me and I remember.  
Involve me and I learn!”*

— Benjamin Franklin