

Britannia Preschool Newsletter

Wed Sep 4, 2024 to Fri Jun 27, 2025

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 4-6

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 12:45-2:15pm (1.5hrs)

SEPTEMBER 9-13

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 16, 2024.

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.

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 clothes
- ✓ 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.

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!

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 *All statutory holidays*

Monday	September 2, 2024	stat
Monday	September 30, 2024	stat
Monday	October 14, 2024	stat
Monday	November 11, 2024	stat
Wednesday	January 1, 2025	stat
Monday	February 17, 2025	stat
Friday	April 18, 2025	stat
Monday	April 21, 2025	stat
Monday	May 19, 2025	stat

Winter Break Dec 23 – Jan 3
First Day Back Monday January 6, 2025

Spring Break Mar 17 - 28
First day back Monday March 31, 2025

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

Fri	October 25 2024	AM/PM class
Tue	November 19, 2024	AM class
Tue	December 10, 2024	PM class
Wed	January 22, 2025	AM class
Thu	February 27, 2025	PM class
Thu	April 3, 2025	AM class
Wed	May 7, 2025	PM class

**LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL CLASSES
THURSDAY JUNE 26, 2025**

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.

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"

FIND US ON THE WEB @



[Britannia Community Services Centre Britannia Preschool | \(britanniacentre.org\)](#)

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 /changing day 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>

DO YOUR SUBSIDY AT

<https://myfamilyservices.gov.bc.ca/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

When you log in to renew, follow the instructions attached. When you get to the question "the care arrangement details are already on file and I have no changes to report" Click **NO**.

Then click "add provider"

Fill in the information requested.

We will then be sent a link to approve your arrangement form 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?

Contact Stephanie Boisset, Stephanie.Boisset@vancouver.ca
604.562.9926

Stephanie is the new Britannia Child Care HUB Program Assistant 3, who will be providing support, resources and education to families and educators, while fostering strong connections within our community. She can assist in connecting families to community support programs, inclusion initiatives and Affordable Child Care Benefit (subsidy) applications.

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!

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

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.**

