

Sam Houston Elementary

Frequently Asked Questions about PreK



Does my child have to qualify for the PreK program?

Yes. Your child will have to qualify for PreK by meeting at least one of the following criteria:

- 1) Qualify for free or reduced lunch (you will get a form at the beginning of school or you can go to Food Service and pick up one beginning of August).
- 2) Speak a language other than English.
- 3) Or Pay \$125 monthly
- 4) And be 4 years of age by September 1.

Is PreK a full day program?

No. Your child will attend a morning (7:50-11:15 am) or an afternoon (11:45am-2:45pm) class. If you wish, your child may attend Head Start at Travis during the other half of the day. They will be transported between the schools by bus. Your child will have to qualify at Head Start in order to attend there.

Will my child need to follow the district dress code?

Yes. Your child will be expected to follow the CISD dress code policy. If you need information about what is appropriate, you can check the district's website or ask the office for a pamphlet.

Will my child eat meals at school?

If your child attends PreK in the morning, he/she will receive breakfast & lunch. If your child attends ONLY PreK at Sam Houston in the afternoon, he/she will need to eat BEFORE coming to school. **ALL** students have to complete a lunch form in order to qualify at Sam Houston (even those in the PM classes who don't eat at school). You will be expected to pay full price for your child's lunch from the 1st day until the form is processed. (You will take all lunch money to the cafeteria).

Will my child need supplies?

Yes. Your child will need school supplies. You will receive a list of needed items. Please make sure to write your child's name on all supplies.

How will I know how my child is doing?

Your child will have a conduct report in his/her folder for you to look at daily to see how their behavior is. After the first 9 weeks, we will send home progress reports every three weeks to show social development and academics. We will have a conference at the end of the first 9 weeks to discuss your child's progress & give you a report card. After that the report cards will be sent home every 9 weeks for you to review, sign & return to school. Sam Houston sends home a Wednesday Folder that will have letters about happening at school, progress reports, and report card. You need to read what is in the folder, and return the folder back to your child's teacher.

Will my child take the STAAR test

No. PreK does not take the STAAR test; however, we take the CPALLS assessment three times a year (the beginning, the middle, and the end of school year).

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What will my child be doing every day?

Our schedule is full of learning activities. We have Circle Times (calendar, stories, songs), Small Group/Center Time (working on skills with a teacher & at special centers), Outside Play, and Journal Time. Occasionally your child will have homework. Your child will have access to technology (computers, iPads, & white board).

Will my child be expected to attend school daily?

Yes. Your child will be expected to follow the CISD attendance policy. It is important that your child be on time and at school every day (unless he/she is sick or there is an emergency). If your child must miss, please send a note or doctor's excuse with him/her when he/she returns. If your child regularly misses or is late you will receive a truancy letter that could lead to going to truancy court or your child being dropped from the program.

Will my child participate in PE, Music or Computer classes?

No. Your child will not attend these classes; however your child will get to exercise, sing & use the computers in class during our school day.

Will I be able to volunteer or attend field trips with my child?

Yes. You will need to complete a background check. For safety purposes, we must make sure that anyone who comes in contact with our students is not a danger to them.

2013-14 PreK School Supply List

- *Baby wipes (package)-1
- *Backpack (no wheels)-1
- *Construction paper (9x12; assorted colors; 50 count)-1
- *Crayons (Crayola; box of 24; no jumbo)-2
- *Plastic folders (solid colors)-4
- *Glue (bottles; Elmer's; 4 oz)-1
- *Kleenex tissues (large box)-1
- *Manila paper (9x12; 50 count)-1
- *Markers (Crayola; washable; box of 8)-1
- *Notebooks (Spiral; 70 pages; wide ruled)-1
- *Scissors (rounded Fiskar)-1
- *Girls only: Paper plates (non-coated; white)-1, Lunch sacks (package)-1
- *Boys only: Play-doh (4-pack)-1, Tape (clear;roll)-1