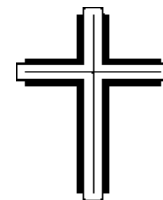




CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL



Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool Frequently Asked Questions

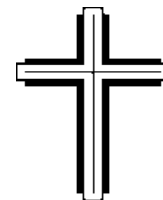
Below are some of the most anticipated questions regarding the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool.

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General

What is Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK)?

UPK is a free preschool experience made possible through grants from the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

Is the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool part of the North Babylon Union Free School District?

No. The North Babylon School District receives funding for a collaborating agency which is the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool. As long as the funding remains available and the Cross of Christ has the human resources and classroom space available, we can offer the program.

Is the UPK program free?

Yes. The cost of tuition for students is paid for by the New York State UPK grant for North Babylon School District residents. There are no fees paid by the family.

How are you following COVID-19 guidelines?

Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool prioritizes the health and safety of every child each and every year, even without a global pandemic. We believe that our job is to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our students. We are following the guidelines and regulations that are in place by the NYS Department of Health, Office of Children and Family Services and NYS Education Department.

Will there be mask requirements for students?

The preschool will follow the COVID-19 requirements as defined by the NYS Department of Education, in conjunction with the NYS Department of Health.

The Preschool is run by the Cross of Christ Lutheran Church. What role will religion play in the classroom?

The children will pray before meals and attend chapel services periodically throughout the year.

If I do not want my child to participate in the religious aspects of this program, what are my options?

If a parent does not want his/her child to attend chapel services, they may opt out by contacting the preschool director.

Eligibility

How old do you have to be to be in the program?

Each child must be four (4) years old on or before December 1, 2021 (born between December 2, 2016 and December 1, 2017).

Can I send my Kindergarten aged child to the Preschool program instead of Kindergarten?

No, the UPK program serves children who are four (4) years old.

My child will not be four (4) by the cutoff date, can they still attend?

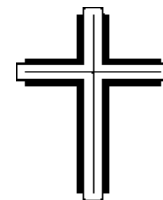
No, to be eligible for the UPK program, a child must be four (4) years old on or before December 1, 2021.

What is the address criteria?

Each child must reside within the boundaries of the North Babylon School District. Addresses will be verified with the North Babylon School District Registration Office prior to registration.



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Does my child need to be potty trained to attend this program?

Toileting is a developmental skill that is achieved by each child at an individual rate and is not a skill that can be developed overnight. If needed, the classroom teacher and principal will assist families in the development of a plan that supports the child using the toilet independently. Toilet training is a learning experience for every child and accidents do happen. We will ask that every child have a change of clothes available at school.

What are the immunization requirements?

Children must receive all first age / grade level appropriate doses, or overdue follow-up doses if they already received prior doses in a series, within 14 days from the first day of instruction for the school year, and must provide evidence of age appropriate appointments for the next follow-up doses, in accordance with the ACIP schedule, within 30 days of the first day of attendance. For more information on required immunizations please read the [2021-22 School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance](#) | [Immunization Questions and Answers](#).

Is there a religious exemption for immunization requirements?

New York State no longer offers a religious exemption for immunizations.

Application / Lottery

What happens once I submit my child's application?

The application will have a closing date of Friday, October 22 at 4:00 pm. If more applications are received than seats available, a lottery will be held.

Will handing in my child's application right away improve their chances of being selected?

No. All applications submitted by the due date will be included in the lottery, should more applications be received than seats available.

How will the lottery work and when will it happen?

Following the application closing date, on Monday, October 25 at 10:00 am the names of eligible students will be placed in a lottery that will randomly select the winners. Lottery winners will be notified via email or phone and provided registration information. **Note:** Failure to complete your child's registration during the assigned window could result in losing your spot.

Will twins, triplets or siblings of the same age all be selected into the program?

Yes, when one child is selected from the lottery, the other(s) will also be placed in the program.

My child was not selected in the lottery - now what?

Anyone who was not selected in the lottery will be placed on the waiting list. If for any reason someone who wins the lottery does not complete the registration process, we will notify the next person on the waiting list.

How does the waiting list work?

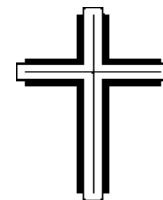
If, for any reason, a child drops out of the preschool program, the next family on the waiting list will be offered the vacant spot. If the family declines the vacancy for any reason, they will be removed from the waiting list. This process will continue until all available seats are filled.

Do I complete my child's registration with the District to be eligible for the Preschool lottery?

No. The Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool is not part of the North Babylon School District. Lottery winners will be contacted via email or phone by the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool with information regarding the registration process and window.



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Registration

How do I register my child for the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool Program?

Registration information will be sent out via email when lottery winners are notified.

What is the deadline for registration into UPK?

The deadline for registration is October 27, 2021 at 12:00 pm. **Note:** Failure to complete your child's registration during the assigned window could result in losing your spot.

Where do I find the registration form to apply for the program?

Registration forms will be available after the lottery has occurred and selected families have been invited to register for the program.

Program Specifics

Where is the Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool program located?

The Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool is located at 576 Deer Park Avenue, Babylon 11702.

What are the hours of school?

The program is a full-day program, five days per week. School hours are 9:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Is a full-day program the only option or can I choose a half-day program?

Although we offer a half-day program, the UPK seats are only available for a full-day program.

Who will the teachers be and how many of them will be in the classroom?

There will be one teacher and one teacher's assistant in the classroom. Teachers and teacher assistants are Cross of Christ Lutheran Preschool employees.

How many UPK seats are available for the 2021-22 school year?

There are ten (10) seats available for the 2021-22 school year.

Will breakfast and lunch be offered?

Yes, students can request lunch or bring their own to school. If a child needs breakfast, we will be able to provide breakfast by parental request. Snack time will also be part of the school day.

Is a physical needed in order to attend the program?

Yes, physicals are mandatory in order to attend the program.

Is there space for pull-out services? Will push-in services be encouraged as well?

Related services are recommended by the CPSE and services are provided by approved providers separate and apart from the program.

Will transportation be provided?

There is no transportation available for this program for the 2021-22 school year.

Will there be nap time?

There will be a regularly scheduled rest time for all students. During this time, students are encouraged to rest, relax and nap. Quiet activities will be provided for students who do not nap.