

# Preschool Philosophy

Washtenaw Christian Academy believes that children are a precious gift of God (Psalms 127:3-5), made in His image (Genesis 1:27), and that they need a loving, safe, Christian environment in which to grow and develop. We believe that parents are the primary and most important teachers in a young child's life (Proverbs 1:8 & 9) and we consider it a joy and a privilege to share in this responsibility during these very important early years. As a school, we believe that families are ordained by God, as set forth in the Scripture, to have a father, a mother, and children (Genesis 2:24). Some families have only one parent carrying the responsibility of the home and we will do our best to partner with them in raising their children. Together, with parents and churches, as our partners, we can work together in unity to give children a solid foundation on which to grow (Ephesians 6:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:5-9; Proverbs 22:6).

We believe that young children learn best through play and hands-on activities, along with a developmental program that meets the spiritual, academic, social-emotional, and physical needs of the child.

**Spiritual:** To make God, His Word, and His Son a part of daily experience and to share Bible stories, songs and prayer (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Joshua 1:8; Deuteronomy 6:5-9; Luke 2:52). All classroom education is based on God's Word as absolute truth (Matthew 24:35, Psalm 119).

**Academic:** To assist children in reaching their full God-given potential. To develop a positive attitude toward school and learning, to foster curiosity, creativity, and problem solving abilities, and to master new skills. To allow children to create, explore, invent, experiment, and learn through the use of learning centers. Centers include blocks, books, sensory, home-living (pretend play), science, manipulative, art and writing (2 Timothy 1:9; Luke 2:52).

**Social-Emotional:** To encourage children to express themselves in socially acceptable ways, to accept others as Jesus modeled, and to develop healthy relationships with other children as well as adults (Ephesians 4:32; Philippians 2:14-15, 4:9; John 13:15, 34). To encourage children to feel valued by God, as special beings created in God's image (Psalms 139:13-16; 1 Corinthians 12:18; Genesis 1:27).

**Physical:** To help children develop large and fine motor skills and to learn that our bodies are the temple of God, which we need to keep healthy and safe (1 Corinthians 9:27; Proverbs 31:17; Isaiah 40:31; 1 Timothy 4:8; 2 Timothy 2:5; Luke 2:52).