



## Program Description

### **We Offer:**

Domestic Play, Motor Development/Physical Play with access to a Gym, Language Arts, Make Believe, Natural Materials, Technology, Playdough, Discovery of Science, Inquiry Play, Music, Arts & Crafts, Outdoor Play, Field Trips, Group Games, Block Play, Quiet Corner/Books and Library Access

### **Lil' Stars Preschool Will Benefit Your Child**

Our program is based on a "Learning Through Play" philosophy, thus providing many exciting challenges and opportunities for your child. Children are free to play, explore and create with the toys, games and manipulative materials in the classroom. Individual attention and instruction is provided for those who are in need. Children are encouraged to interact with their peers. During "Group Time" children enjoy crafts, drama, songs, stories, creative group play, seasonal themes, science concepts and outdoor playtime.

Exposure to a variety of choices and experiences will contribute to the growth and development of a whole child. If a child is able to make their own choices, this will foster independence and decision making.

The Preschool is organized into learning centers, based upon chosen themes. The children have the choice as to where they wish to play. They are encouraged to explore all of the learning centers that are planned to provide optimal learning experiences. The purpose of the four year old program is to encourage socialization, foster independence, and also prepare your child for the following year in Kindergarten which is more structured.

### **Time of the Program**

At St. Augustine School we are proud to offer a few preschool options. During the registration process, please indicate your program preference. Every effort will be made to accommodate your choice however, in an effort to maintain a low student to teacher ratio, we may explore adjusting classes once the final registration numbers are confirmed. Should that be the case, you will be part of the decision making process. Children must be 4 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year. Children must also be toilet trained.

- Monday/Wednesday morning program - Approximately 69 school days will be scheduled with classes starting in early September. The classes will run from 8:30 a.m. - 11:27 a.m.
- Tuesday/Thursday morning program - Approximately 69 school days will be scheduled with classes starting in early September. The classes will run from 8:30 a.m. - 11:27 a.m.

### **Cost of the Program**

The total yearly cost for Preschool is \$1090. A \$ 90 Non Refundable Registration Fee is due to confirm enrollment after your child has been accepted into the program. The remaining \$1000 is paid in installments throughout the school year. St Augustine School uses SchoolCash online to collect school fees and families are able to pay by Visa, Mastercard or e-cheque through SchoolCash.

Subsidy Information - Subsidy for children enrolled in preschool is \$125 per month. All families who meet the Child Care Subsidy eligibility criteria and earn a gross household income under \$180,000 are eligible. Visit [Alberta Child Care Subsidy](#) to apply, the application process is simple and straightforward. There is a quick and simple estimator tool on the website that will help you determine if you are eligible for this subsidy.

In January 2022 the *Early Learning and Child Care Agreement* , signed by the federal and provincial governments, came into effect. This agreement is to support accessible, affordable and high quality child care and our preschool falls under this umbrella. Through this grant/agreement we anticipate being able to reduce our preschool fee by \$75/month. We will share more updated/detailed information as it becomes available.

### **Registration Process**

Go to St. Augustine School Website - <https://staug.starcatholic.ab.ca/>

- Scroll down and on the right side of the page and select 'Registration'.
- Click on the link 2023-2024 Registration Form.
- If you are a current STAR Catholic family, log into your account by entering your email address and password. Once logged in go through the registration process.
- If you are not a current family with STAR Catholic you will need to create an account by selecting 'Create Account' and follow the steps. Once the account is created, go through the registration process.