

Transitional Kindergarten FAQ

What are the student age requirements for Pre-K and TK?

Pre-K is for students who turn 4 on or before September 1 of the school year.

TK is for students who are age eligible for Kindergarten (age 5 on or before September 1) and are looking for a bridge year between preschool and kindergarten.

May students attend both Pre-K and TK at BHPCNS?

Absolutely! This program is designed for students who have already completed a year of Pre-K but who not quite ready to transition to Kindergarten.

Does a student have to attend BHPCNS Pre-K to be a part of the TK program?

No, a student does not to be currently enrolled in BHPCNS to be considered for the TK programming. New student applicants must have completed a Pre-K or four-year-old program elsewhere and submit a teacher recommendation and/or ASQ developmental screening questionnaire.

What is the teacher to student ratio in the Pre-K and TK programs?

Pre-K maximum teacher to student ratio: 2:9

TK maximum teacher to student ratio: 2:6

How will the programming differ between the Pre-K and TK programs?

Pre-K classes are fun and engaging classes where children grow and develop their interpersonal, leadership, and independence skills while focusing on the pre-academic milestones in preparation for more structured kindergarten programs in a larger group setting.

The smaller TK classroom moves at a faster pace academically while still giving children time to enjoy a play-based, engaging classroom with lots of fun experiences to hone their interpersonal, leadership, and independence skills. Individual goals are set for each child in consultation with parents and the classroom teacher.

What are the fees for the Pre-K and TK Programs?

For both programs there is an application fee of \$80.

Tuition rates for the 21-22 school year have not been set yet. For this current school year (20/21), the five-day Pre-K program's annual tuition is \$7700. It is expected that the annual tuition of the TK program will be slightly higher to reflect the small cap on class size.

Is there a difference in the application process for the Pre-K and the TK Programs?

Yes, there is a separate TK application. It can be found on the BHCNS website or by requesting one from the office. Students new to BHCNS also need to submit a teacher recommendation and/or ASQ developmental screening questionnaire.

Where do children go to school after a TK program?

Students from BHCNS' Pre-K and TK programs enter kindergarten at a variety of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) neighborhood parochial schools and local private schools.

Students from BHCNS' TK program are not eligible to attend MCPS' first grade classes. Students may be able to apply to first grade at the parochial and private schools.

Additional Information:

Parents of children in the BHCNS TK program are responsible for filing the Montgomery County Public Schools Exemption to Kindergarten Attendance Requirement, MCPS form 560-19, form with MCPS.