

Frequently Asked Questions

about the rehoming of RMSC Preschool

What does DASA Preschool mean?

Formerly RMSC Preschool (started in 1976), we are now known as Discovery Academy of Science & Art Preschool. DASA Preschool is a shortened version of our name.

How is DASA Preschool unique?

DASA Preschool has been in operation for 45 years as a museum based Preschool located on the RMSC property at 657 East Ave. At the end of the 2022 school year, the Preschool moved off the RMSC Campus. DASA Preschool maintains a relationship and programming opportunities with the RMSC. We have a commitment to continuing our work as a museum based preschool and we plan to expand that connection to include other area Museums.

Where is DASA Preschool located?

DASA Preschool plans to be located at 546 Oxford Street. The school has a designated entrance that is at the back of the building next to the parking lot. The school is located on the second floor and while there is no elevator, we will provide at door drop off service for families. We will be the only folks occupying our floor during the school day. There is ample parking in the adjacent parking lot and an option for families to pull in and pull out should they be utilizing the drop off service.

Since I cannot tour the space, can you tell me about it?

Think large (810 square feet), spacious classrooms that have an entire wall of windows! Each classroom was used as a classroom when the space was built. While we have access to the gym on the bottom floor of the building, we will also have a designated classroom on our floor that is set up for daily gross motor play. There is also a grassy, fenced outdoor play space.

How much is tuition?

Tuition costs vary depending on the length of your class session. We are competitively priced with other preschools in the area. Costs can be found on our application form.

When is tuition due?

At the time of application, the \$85 application fee plus a 25% tuition payment is due. Remaining tuition is due in three installments on August 1, November 1 and February 1. Checks and money order are the forms of payment currently accepted. Registration is on a first come first serve basis and is ongoing until all spots are filled.

Is tuition refundable?

Your tuition payment is used to cover program expenses and teacher compensation. As we plan based on enrollment, we are not able to offer tuition refunds.

If I have more than one child attending, is there a discount on tuition?

Yes – you will receive a 10% discount off the lowest tuition.

What are my class choices?**Three-Year Old classes – must be 3 by 12/1/2022**

- Two mornings per week (T & TH) 8:45-11:15 OR 9:15 - 11:45
- Three mornings per week (M W F) 9:15 – 11:45

Four/Five-Year Old classes – must be 4 or 5 by 12/1/2022

- Three mornings per week (M W F) 8:45 – 11:15
- Three afternoons per week (T, W, Th) 1 – 3:30

Pre – Kindergarten Classes – must be 4 or 5 by 12/1/2022

- Four mornings per week (M – TH) 8:45 – 11:15
- Five mornings per week (M – F) 9:15 – 11:45

Note: *All classes are play-based and combine small and large group activities, art, science and math exploration, literacy, music and physical education.*

What is the difference between the Pre-K and the Preschool classes?

Both Pre-K and Preschool classes for 4/5 year-olds are designed to prepare children for kindergarten. They focus on curriculum exploration, individual and group social skills and the development of routines. The teachers plan experiences that match the developmental age of their class. Our Pre-K classes which meet four or five consecutive days allow for a more in-depth focus in these areas because they meet for more sessions/week. Some families who know that their child will not be attending kindergarten when they are age eligible, may opt for two years in our 4/5 year old programs. For instance, they may start in a three day a week class and then opt for the Pre-K class the second year.

What is a typical class size?

Class size generally ranges from 12 – 17 children with two teachers. If need be, we may go up to 18 children and two teachers (four year old groups only) and still be within the recommended staff/child ratio as established by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Can I request a specific room or teacher?

Families make their choices based on the time slot that works best for them. At the time of registration, we do not know who the teachers will be for next year or what schedules they may have. While some teams have been together for years, teaching schedules are always subject to change, and are not finalized until June. If you have questions about staffing and room assignments, please contact the Head of Preschool.