

Greetings from Pennoyer School's Preschool for All team!

We hope that this communication finds you and your family healthy! While Pennoyer's preschool team wishes that we would be able to meet you and your child in person, we have adapted our screening process due to the significant and sudden changes caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic. Pennoyer School follows all mandates regarding building closure that come from the Governor's office and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Therefore, our preschool team has moved ahead with the following changes in order to continue screening potential students for Pennoyer's Preschool for All (PFA) program.

Family & Caregiver Input

Please complete two online surveys prior to your scheduled remote preschool screening. Families have reported that completion of both forms takes between 30 and 45 minutes.

1. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire
2. The Preschool Eligibility and Weighted Priority Form

Remote Screening with the Preschool Team

In order for students to be screened, a remote screening date and time has been assigned. On the day of the remote screening, a ZOOM link will be emailed to the caregiver. The remote screening process is estimated to take approximately 20-30 minutes. Please log in and join the ZOOM conference with the preschool team at your designated time. The team will interact with both the caregiver and the child to collect information. Students will be asked to engage with tasks to examine various domains. Whatever the child is willing to demonstrate or tolerate will work! The remote preschool screening process should not be stressful in any way, and is intended to help assist the team in learning more about your child. The team whole-heartedly acknowledges the unusual conditions for a remote preschool screening due to the COVID-19 health crisis. Yet despite these challenges, we are willing to try new approaches in order to best serve our community.

Additional Screening

If additional information is requested by the team, a member of the preschool team will contact the caregiver. The team will work alongside families to make necessary arrangements of additional screening measures, taking into consideration the safety and circumstances of families, schools, and the larger community.

Results

Results of the screening will be shared with caregivers within two weeks. While the return to in-person programming is still uncertain, the preschool team is committed to identifying and supporting students based on need while following all PFA guidelines from the State. Pennoyer will analyze the results of all screenings conducted to determine eligibility for the 2020-2021 school year. Families will be notified in late June if the child meets the criteria for enrollment in a blended preschool classroom.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. Pennoyer's Preschool Team is committed to supporting families and engaging our littlest learners!

Alicia Schmeisser

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