

StarPoint - PreK/K

Celebrating each child's strengths. Building a strong partnership with families. Developing the foundational skills needed to jump-start education.

StarPoint™ embraces the concept that each child learns differently. Our comprehensive half-day program recognizes each child's abilities while supporting his or her academic and therapeutic needs. StarPoint focuses on developing the core areas of early literacy and early numeracy as well as self-regulation, executive function and social-interaction skills—strengths needed to transition into other learning environments. StarPoint's teaching methods are grounded in child-development principles set forth by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and aligned with Pennsylvania Core Standards.

Classes are taught by a certified special education teacher with ongoing support from, and collaboration with, licensed speech-language pathologists and occupational therapists. We utilize developmentally appropriate practices to provide a safe, supportive and nurturing environment wherein children develop academically, physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively.

Our curriculum incorporates the Nemours® BrightStart! programs for early literacy, Growing with Mathematics and Handwriting Without Tears®. Social skills development, art, music, science, technology and outdoor learning are included in the schedule. Twice a week, students have small group occupational therapy and speech-language therapy. Other support services are available as required by each student's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP).

For children who may have a speech-sound disorder such as Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) or general or global dyspraxia, the programs incorporate activities based on motor-learning theory and provide many opportunities to practice motor skills in classroom activities.

Program at a Glance

Highlights	Classroom Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengths-based approach to teaching• Language-rich curriculum• Nemours® BrightStart! programs for literacy• Handwriting Without Tears®• Growing With Mathematics (McGraw-Hill)• Activities based on motor-learning theory• Family-centered model with strong parent feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play Center• Welcome Circle• Move and Learn• Group Speech–Communication Development• Outdoor Learning• Science Exploration• Writing• Fine-Motor-skills Development• Transition Center• Early Literacy

StarPoint is licensed through the Pennsylvania Department of Education under The Vanguard School license.



For more information or to arrange a tour, please call 610.296.6725 x128

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Schedule Descriptions

Smooth Transition Play Center

Children are dropped off at The Luma Center and transitioned into the classroom. After hanging up jackets and backpacks, children have the opportunity to choose activities and toys at the Play Center with social-participation support from the classroom teacher.

Welcome Circle

Includes a welcome song and opportunity to facilitate social interaction with peers through a review of the calendar, weather, weekly and monthly themes and daily activities.

Move and Learn

A 15-minute routine that incorporates exercises which support developmentally appropriate movement including bilateral skills, crossing mid-line, power-movement activities (e.g., jumping) and winding down through simple yoga poses. This movement routine helps make sure the children are alert and ready to start their day of learning and play.

Early Literacy Center

Nemours® BrightStart! is a research-based specialized pre-reading program for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten children. Through systematic instruction and carefully designed activities, children learn the foundational skills that will support them in learning to read. Nemours' studies show strong results for children with developmental and learning challenges who participate.

Group Speech-Language Therapy

A speech-language pathologist supports the classroom teacher in planning activities and incorporating developmentally appropriate oral directions and scripts to promote vocabulary and social-language development. In addition, the speech-language pathologist co-teaches two hours each week, working with the children on communication skills through thematic, project-based activities.

Early Numeracy Center

Introduces mathematics as something that surrounds us in nature and is part of every-day activities. Mathematics are tied to monthly themes. Hands-on application of math concepts is supported by Growing with Mathematics, a research-based curriculum that is built on a spiral approach, providing children with a continuous review of concepts.

Fine-Motor Work and Handwriting Fun

An occupational therapist facilitates handwriting skills and provides ongoing assessment and monitoring to meet each child at his or her developmental writing-skills level. Activities to support hand development as well as pre-writing and hand-eye skills are provided. The curriculum incorporates multi-sensory teaching using music, movement and songs to develop a strong foundation and productive handwriting habits.

Group Occupational Therapy

The occupational therapist works with the children in a state-of-the-art sensory integration gymnasium where children can develop their core strength, balance, behavior, attention and social interaction skills.

Outdoor Learning and Science Exploration

Exploring the beautiful 28-acre Valley Forge Educational Services campus, students experience many hands-on scientific learning opportunities, gaining a respect for nature and enjoying the art of exploration.

The Vanguard School is a state-licensed, academic day school that is one of the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Approved Private Schools for Special Education.