



Pelham City Schools Inclusive PreK Program

Sprouts PreK is an inclusive program which supports students with and without special needs. The program follows the Alabama Standards for Early Learning and Development and uses Three Cheers for PreK curriculum which provides exceptional learning experiences for all students. As they take their first steps on the path of knowledge, they are accompanied by typical peers, who serve as beacons of inspiration and motivation for students who receive special education services. The program is helmed by a highly qualified teacher, and supported by paraprofessionals who possess the wisdom and expertise to nourish the unique needs of each child. Together, they tend to the roots of knowledge, sowing the seeds of lifelong learning. The goal is for each student to sprout and flourish, from the moment they enter PreK to the day they graduate from Pelham City Schools.

Program Locations:	Pelham Oaks Elementary Pelham Ridge Elementary
Administrators:	Mr. Chase Holden, Pelham Oaks Mrs. Lisa Baxter, Pelham Ridge
Teachers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pelham Oaks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mrs. Laura Barksdale ● Pelham Ridge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mrs. Michelle Evans
Program Director:	Ms. Lana Tew
Timeline:	Sprouts will follow the Pelham City Schools calendar. Drop off time: 7:15-7:45 Pick up time: 2:40

Background

Sprouts is designed to provide learning through teacher guided experiences in an environment that is child centered, play-based, and rich in language and vocabulary. Instruction is given in whole and small group settings using established classroom routines and expectations. While following the Alabama Early Childhood Standards for Early Learning and Development, students work on building skills in the following developmental areas: communication, cognition, motor skills, self-help, social skills, and social emotional development.

Goals

The goal is for each student to sprout and flourish, while preparing them for a successful transition into kindergarten. In addition, our goal for typical peers is to serve as a model student for our friends with special needs.



Typical Peer Enrollment

To be considered a typical peer, a child must pass a screener and demonstrate age appropriate speech and language, self help skills, appropriate peer play, model positive behavior, toilet independently, and self feed.

Students must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2024 to enroll as a typical peer. If all typical peer slots are not full with 4 year old applicants, we will consider a child who is 3 years old on or before September 1, 2024 who passes the developmental screener. Students who were 3 years old and in Sprouts during the 23-24 school year will be grandfathered in, and will have first opportunity to return if they choose to do so.

Students must live in the Pelham City Schools district or have a parent employed by Pelham City Schools. Children of Pelham City Schools and Pelham City employees are granted the first

available seats. Transportation must be provided by parents to and from school for all typical peers. There is no before school or after school care for a child participating in Sprouts. If children are not picked up on time on more than 3 occasions per semester, the Sprouts team will consider dismissal.

Meals

Lunch may be brought from home or purchased from the cafeteria. Snacks will not be provided and should be brought from home each day.

Behavior

Behavior of students will be monitored closely each day. Parents will receive notification from the classroom teacher in regard to positive and negative student behavior. In the event of ongoing negative behavior that causes disruption to the learning environment, the Sprouts team may determine a child is no longer an appropriate peer model and the student may be removed from the program at the team's discretion.



Medical/Health Information

Families should notify the school district in writing of any health-related issues for their child. The school nurse will work jointly with families to address any concerns or medical needs of the student. Sprouts will follow the State of Alabama established requirements for administration of any medication during the day.

In the event of sickness, our staff will take necessary precautions to protect the safety and well being of all students. Children should stay home if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Diarrhea or loose stool

- Vomiting
- Rash accompanied by fever
- Discharge from eyes or ears
- Severe cold, sore throat, or coughing
- Severe headache

Children should be symptom free for 24 hours *without* fever-reducing medication before returning to school. If your child should return too early, you will be called to pick them up from school.

Withdrawal and Termination

Pelham City Schools respectfully requests a 30 day notification before a child is withdrawn from Sprouts. Tuition for the full month is expected and will not be prorated if the child leaves prior to the last day of the month. If monthly tuition is delinquent, termination of participation may be considered. Payment will be due by the 5th of each month. After the 5th of the month, a \$50.00 late fee will be applied. Tuition will be \$500 per month. Pelham City Schools employees must sign up for automatic draft through the school system.

Enrollment and Registration

*If no registration link is available in this section, all typical peer spots in SPROUTS have been filled for the upcoming school year.

Questions

If you have questions, please email Ms. Lana Tew at ltew@pelhamcityschools.org or call 205.624.3805.