



Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

585 N. Corona Avenue, Valley Stream, New York, 11580 • (516) 568-6147
www.valleystream13.com

Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Families:

As you may know, the district was recently notified that it is eligible to receive funds from New York State for the purpose of providing district resident children with a full day Pre-Kindergarten program. The district had planned to provide a limited Pre-K program for the 2021-2022 school year using funds in the current proposed budget for next school year. Combining these two potential funding sources, we now anticipate being able to provide 72 spots for the Pre-K program.

The new Pre-K program will be housed at the Howell Road School. The program will be a yearlong, full-day program with the same calendar as the other four district schools. Hours of the program will be from 8:35 am to 2:10 pm. There is no fee for the program. Transportation will not be provided; all families must make their own arrangements for drop off and pick up.

Resident district children who turn 4 years of age by December 1, 2021, are eligible for the program. To apply, you must fill out and submit the VS #13 Pre-K application, that can be found at: <https://forms.gle/ryJbR7EWchJX25Cp7>. **Applications must be received no later than Friday, June 11, 2021, by 4:00 pm.** You will receive a receipt that confirms submission of the form. On June 16, 2021, at 10:00 am, there will be a lottery for the 72 available spots. Families whose child is randomly selected by the lottery will be notified within one week, and will then complete the school registration process.

We look forward to expanding opportunities for our district families through the new Pre-K program. More detailed information can be found in our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. If you have any additional questions regarding the program please call the district office at (516) 568-6147.

Sincerely,

Judith A. LaRocca, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent



VALLEY STREAM 13 SCHOOL DISTRICT

FAQ about Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Pre-Kindergarten (May 2021)

1. Does the Valley Stream District 13 offer a Pre-K program each year?

The Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen Pre-K program is made possible through a grant from the New York State Department of Education, combined with funds from the district's general budget. If funding remains available, the district intends to continue to offer a Pre-K program moving forward.

2. Is the Pre-K program free?

Yes, there are no fees for participation in the Pre-K program.

3. What days are the children off from school?

The program follows the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen calendar.

4. How long is the program?

The program is a yearlong, full-day program, that will follow the district calendar. The school day for the Pre-K program will be 8:35 am to 2:10 pm daily.

5. Is the program run by Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen?

The program is administered by the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen School District. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Judith A. LaRocca at (516) 568-6147.

6. Can all district 4-year old's attend?

The Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen has a specific allocation for Pre-K spots based on funding by New York State. **The allocation for the 2021-2022 school year will be 72 full-day Pre-K spots. A lottery will be held to determine who will be randomly selected to participate in the 2021-2022 Pre-K program. All other applicants will be placed on a waiting list.** If any vacancies occur during the year, they will be filled from the waiting list until it is exhausted.

7. Who is eligible? How do I apply?

Resident district children who turn 4 years of age by December 1, 2021, are eligible for the program. To apply, you must fill out and submit the VS #13 Pre-K application, that can be found at: <https://forms.gle/ryJbR7EWchJX25Cp7>

All applications must be received no later than Friday, **June 11, 2021, by 4:00 pm.** You will receive a receipt that confirms submission of the form. All eligible resident applications will be included in the lottery for a spot in the program (**see #6**).

8. How will I know if my child has been chosen?

The lottery will be held at the Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen district office at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021. The lottery will take place with PTA representatives present. Parents of children selected for the program will be notified within one week of the lottery, upon confirmation of residence eligibility.

9. What do I do next if my child is selected for the Pre-K program?

Children selected by lottery for the Pre-K program will need to register for school using the district's registration process. Families can print and submit a copy of their registration packet or fill out the registration form online at <http://valleystream13.com/district/student-registration/>.

10. Does my child need to be immunized?

The district follows NYS (New York State) Department of Health mandates for immunization. Students must submit immunizations at the time of registration. All students **must** be fully immunized by the start of school. More information regarding immunizations can be found at https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/schools/school_vaccines/.

11. If my child is going to be absent/picked up early, who do I call?

Children who will be absent should contact the health office at Howell Road at (516)568-6133. If your child will be picked up early, please contact the main office at (516) 568-6130 or send a note in to your child's teacher.

12. What if there is a custody situation regarding my child?

You must provide court documentation at time of registration and copies will be forwarded to the main office. In addition, you must contact the main office at (516) 568-6130. We recommend that you follow up with the teacher to be sure that all the proper safeguards are in place.

13. What if my child has a severe allergy or other serious medical condition?

A health form must be filled out upon registration. Any serious medical condition must also be reported directly to the health office at (516) 568-6133.

14. What kind of curriculum is taught in the program?

The program will use a NYS approved Pre-K curriculum and will follow the New York State Education Department Next Generation Standards for Early Learning (<http://www.nysed.gov/early-learning/resource-guides-school-success-early-learning>).

15. Where is the program located?

For the 2021-2022 school year, the Pre-K program will be located at the Howell Road School, 1475 Howell Road, Valley Stream, NY 11580. Mr. Frank Huplosky is the principal of the Howell Road School and the main office number is 516-568-6130.

16. Is transportation available?

No. All families will need to provide their own transportation to and from the program, regardless of whether other children in the family receive a bus to another school in the district.

17. Will there be a supply list for my child if he/she is selected for the program?

Yes. Our Pre-K program functions similarly to our Kindergarten program. You will receive a similar supply list request prior to the start of school.

18. Does my child have to be potty trained?

Pursuant to Education Law a child cannot be withheld from a Pre-K program if they are not potty trained.

19. Where can I find out additional information about Pre-K?

For more information visit the NYS Department of Education's website on Statewide Prekindergarten Programs at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/upk/>.