

Enrollment Procedure

To schedule a visit and a tour of the school facility or for more information about the school, please contact the elementary school office at (617)-926-6979. Admission and placement decisions are made by the Principal after all necessary application forms have been completed.

PRESCHOOL HOURS

8:30am-2:30pm

EXTENDED DAY

2:30pm-5:30pm



TODDLER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

(18 months-2 years 9 months)

MAYRIG AND ME

This program is the first ever Armenian Toddler Music & Movement program of its kind. Children ages 18 months to 2 years 9 months enjoy a special Armenian program which helps them develop their Armenian language and listening skills, as well as their creativity and physical coordination through an interactive musical experience. Adults enjoy the companionship and support of each other, and experience the joy of learning with their child in a relaxed atmosphere. The instructor presents Armenian songs, instrumental music, puppets, instruments and movement materials for the children. The children interact with both the instructor and their caretaker during the 40 minute program. For more information, please contact 617-926-6979.

www.ssaes.org

Photos provided by Garo Lachinian

ST. STEPHEN'S ARMENIAN PRESCHOOL



Founded in 1984

*Licensed by the
Massachusetts Department of Early
Education and Care*

*Accredited by the
Association of Independent Schools in
New England (AISNE)*

*Principal:
Houry Boyamian, M. Ed*

*Preschool Director:
Maral Orchanian, M. Ed.*

*46 Elton Ave
Watertown, Ma 02472
617-926-6979*

www.ssaes.org

The School



St. Stephen's Armenian Preschool, founded in 1984, is a private, non-profit, Armenian preschool. It is licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care and is accredited by the Association of Independent Schools in New England. The school provides innovative, stimulating and nurturing educational programs for children from the ages of 2 years 9 months to 5 years. Upon completion of preschool, the students continue on to our bilingual Kindergarten-Grade 5 Elementary School.

The school's goals are to provide a foundation for each child to realize his/her full potential and self-worth, and instill an enthusiasm for life long learning. Each child's positive self-image together with cultural heritage are of primary importance. The teachers emphasize problem-solving, reasoning, the values of fair-play, self-reliance and responsibility.

Opportunities for the children to express themselves creatively and develop age-appropriate skills are provided through art, music, puppet shows, creative movement, storytelling, reading, dramatic play, math and science.

The Staff

The teachers are experienced and State certified. The low student/teacher ratio provides the children more individualized attention. The administration provides opportunities for curriculum planning and discussion of effective teaching techniques and classroom issues. Staff professional development is furthered through attendance at Early Childhood workshops and professional development seminars.

The Curriculum

The carefully crafted curriculum is designed to meet both the age-specific needs and interests of the children, as well as to achieve the milestones in all of the developmental areas: physical, social, emotional, and intellectual. This development is fostered through thematic units and daily activities. These include circle time, group activities, computers, free play, music & movement and outdoor play. In addition, enrichment programs and field trips are offered to support development. The curriculum includes a "*Language Immersion Approach*" introducing Armenian print, verbal skills, storytelling, poems, and songs with additional emphasis on social studies, math and science concepts.

"The members of your staff are committed to education. They strive to offer the students a thirst for knowledge, an appreciation of their heritage and culture and a desire to become a community of learners."

Joanne Pitocchelli, Retired Teacher
Winchester Public School

The Facility

There are six spacious classrooms appropriately designed for preschool aged children, each equipped with its own lavatory. Each classroom provides a variety of creative experiences to help develop fine motor skills and creative expression using various materials.

A large carpeted area allows room for play with large and small wooden blocks, floor trains, small construction materials, dramatic play, puppets, and a play kitchen. There are also sand tables, floor and table puzzles, engaging educational toys and games, and a quiet book area. The Music & Movement classroom provides an enriching musical experience with opportunities for piano sing-alongs and instrumental play. The "Mayrig & Me" Toddler Program utilizes this great space as well for its Music & Movement program.

The students' social, emotional, and gross motor skills, are further enriched



through outdoor play. An adjoining playground contains an innovative play structure and swings developed by GameTime. All play structures meet the minimum safety requirements and accommodate accessibility for physically challenged children. All equipment is located within a securely fenced play area.