

**Harry Lee Cole Elementary School
Integrated Preschool
26 Middleton Road
Boxford, MA 01921**

Our program

The Cole School opened its preschool in the fall of 1997 to serve the children of Boxford. This integrated preschool is designed to serve children with mild to moderate special needs and also includes three and four year olds from the general population.

Philosophy

All young children learn most effectively through concrete experiences provided in a play-oriented approach to early childhood education. The curriculum is designed to encourage children's active involvement in the learning process. The Cole School Integrated Preschool emphasizes a nurturing environment that encourages independence, social development and developmentally age appropriate cognitive growth.

Program Description

Children must be 3 years of age on or before September 1, 2010 and be a resident of Boxford to enroll in the preschool program.

The class size will include up to fifteen three or four year olds, with a special education certified teacher and an assistant. If more than fifteen students are in a class, typically another assistant is added.

Our environment is safe and nurturing. Children are provided with opportunities to work in large and small groups.

Our language-based curriculum is developmental and thematic with the "Letter People" literature providing an exposure to letters and sounds. This curriculum promotes a child's social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth.

Therapists (physical, occupational and speech) are available to children with special needs who require these services and to monitor the development of all children in the program.

Our daily schedule allows for indoor and outdoor activities, child and teacher directed activities and learning center activities. The preschool has a separate playground from the students in kindergarten through grade two.

Our public school setting allows for beneficial interactions with the Cole School community. Children become familiar with the setting that will be their kindergarten through grade two environment.

Parental involvement is welcomed in our preschool. Volunteering is arranged by teachers. Parents must complete a CORI (criminal record check) and sign a Confidentiality Statement.

Your child's progress will be monitored throughout the year. You will be kept informed of your child's development with two formal assessments provided in December and June.