

NEW DISCOVERY FAQ'S

(Frequently Asked Questions)

What are the staff qualifications?

Teachers have Certification, CDA, Associates, Bachelor's and Masters degrees. The Education Director holds a masters degree in Childhood Education. Our bulletin board at the main entrance and the staff page on the web provides a bio of each staff member at New Discovery.

What other certifications do the staff have?

All teachers AND assistants have CPR, First Aid and Automatic External Defibrillator Training and Certification. In addition, ALL teachers and Education Director have MAT (Medication Administration Training), which includes authorization to administer epi-pens and benadryl for children with allergies.

Do children have to be toilet trained?

It is not required that a child be toilet trained in order to attend New Discovery. Our philosophy is that children develop at their own pace and we will not force any behavior on a child who is not ready.

How is discipline handled?

Teachers distract children from inappropriate behavior and encourage them to use words instead of actions to express their feelings.

What is the cut off date?

Children must be 18 months when starting the program. December 1st is the cut off date for pre-school classes. If a child lives in a school district with a different cut-off, it will be honored.

How is separation anxiety handled?

Our staff is experienced in working cooperatively with parents to handle separation issues. Generally, we ask parents to say good-bye and not to linger; but, we never let a child become overly distraught without calling his/her parent. When children are first starting the program, parents can call to check how he/she is adjusting to the day. Some prefer to stay close by, "just in case".

Are new staff members screened?

All staff must be fingerprinted and criminal background checked before new employees can supervise children. Our office checks personal and employment references. In order to begin work, new employees must have at least 3 references checked and documentation of a completed medical exam.

What are the security procedures at New Discovery?

- Children are dismissed individually to parents or authorized pick-ups. Unless contact is made with the person picking up the child, the child is not permitted to leave the room.
- No child is ever left unsupervised in a classroom, hall, or play areas.
- The playground is locked at all times until the teacher takes the children out and opens the lock.
- Parents sign in and out at the classroom.
- All doors in the building are kept locked except for arrival and dismissal time.
- When the main entrance is locked, visitors ring the bell. A video monitor in the office shows us who is at the door.
- We share space with the District Office of Kings Park School District. All administrators are located on the 2nd floor.
- There are cameras in the hallways, video monitors, and remote buzz-in equipment throughout the building.

What are the fees?

In order to start the program, a registration fee and first and last month's tuition must be paid. From January to June fees due for the next school year are: non-refundable registration fee and \$125 deposit. Summer camp tuition and registration fee are due in full at the time of registration. For program rates, parents must call the main office. For more details on fees, refer to the Parent Handbook, available at our web site.

