

About Castle Rock Early Learning Center

Castle Rock is an inclusive, community preschool where we offer preschoolers of all ability levels the opportunity to learn together and from one another.

Castle Rock is part of the Wenatchee School District. Each class is taught by a certificated early childhood special education teacher who supports an inclusive environment for all students.

Students identified with a developmental delay are enrolled into the preschool through the school district. They receive specially designed instruction in the general education class and have access to the same content as their peers without special needs.

Our community students, who are considered “peers,” are enrolled through the school district and pay a monthly tuition. These students must be three years old by August 31st of the current school year, toilet trained and reside within the Wenatchee School District.

Why an inclusive program?

Research shows that all children, whether they have a developmental delay or not, benefit from an inclusive environment.

All students at Castle Rock have the unique opportunity to gain an appreciation for and an awareness of people who are different from themselves. This fosters compassion, empathy, and kindness - all qualities that extend beyond the classroom and beyond preschool.

Students at Castle Rock learn to develop friendships while learning the academic skills they need in order to successfully enter kindergarten.

Castle Rock and The Pyramid Model

The Pyramid Model is an evidence-based, developmentally appropriate approach that focuses on social-emotional development and well-being. The foundation of the Pyramid Model is **nurturing and supportive relationships**. Research shows that students' social-emotional skills are a the **#1 indicator** of future learning success. This research is what drives the preschool program at Castle Rock.

Our priority is to teach, practice, and develop social-emotional skills and communication while simultaneously embedding academics. All teachers have received extensive training in Pyramid Model practices. Your child will learn friendship skills, problem solving strategies and increase their emotional literacy through play-based learning, songs, and developmentally-appropriate, hands-on activities.

For more information about The Pyramid Model, please click [Pyramid Model Overview](#)

Will my child have a quality preschool experience?

YES! At Castle Rock in addition to social emotional skill development, teachers provide lessons in pre-literacy, math, science, writing, art and music using a curriculum called Learning Without Tears. Instruction is balanced between individual, small group, and large group instruction and everything is taught with the approach of **nurturing and supportive relationships**.

Each teacher at Castle Rock is trained to adapt lessons and activities for students who are ahead in their learning and those who need extra help. Our teachers understand that students have different backgrounds, experiences and abilities. They celebrate diversity and leverage evidence-based practices in order to support all students.