

Central School Handbook

Home of the Tiny Tornadoes

Central School
515 E. Bidwell
Taylorville, IL 62568
217-824-5050
central.tcusd3.org
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CENTRAL SCHOOL

OUR VISION

Our vision is a high quality educational environment that fosters social, emotional, cognitive, and physical growth at each child's developmental level to support them to reach their full potential.

OUR MISSION

Our Mission is to provide research based curriculum and instruction to facilitate growth across all areas of development. To provide an inclusive, safe, and nurturing environment in which all children and families can grow. Collaboration with all stakeholders is instrumental in creating lifelong learners by building lasting relationships between home, school, and community.

Our Program

Children may start on or after their third birthday.

Eligibility is based on screening.

Our program provides many opportunities for students and creates a foundation for all future education. Children are provided with academic and social emotional support throughout their time in preschool.

Throughout the school day they will participate in gross motor play, circle time/large group time, small group time, centers, snack, and other learning opportunities.

Our program is free and all supplies are provided. We ask that each student have a backpack, however we are able to provide one if you call our office.

IMPORTANT INFO

Central School reflects district closures due to weather or other emergency situations. Please find updates on the district website, or on local television and radio. To stay the most up to date on district information, download the Taylorville CUSD #3 app on your phone!

Students will play outside year-round unless weather does not permit. Our state guidance states that rain, snow, and temperatures under 25 degrees and above 90 degrees are not suitable for students to be outside. Wind chill is taken into consideration. Children should have appropriate clothes to go outside.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Transportation is not provided through our grant, so parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from school.

When dropping students off, adults should park on Cherokee or Bidwell streets and walk their child to the door when they see their teacher at the door. The parking lot is a BUS LANE ONLY. Please do not pull into the parking lot to drop your child off or pick them up unless you are a DCFS licensed daycare, or have the appropriate handicap authorization. Do not block the entrance or exit. This is for the safety of our students.

DCFS licensed daycares, the bus has the right-of- way in the parking lot/bus lane. Please be mindful of students walking to and from the school. Safety is a priority.

If someone new is dropping off or picking up, please notify them of the rules.

If your child is late, please ring the doorbell and check in with the office.

YOUR CHILD'S ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL TIMES ARE:
Drop off:

Pick up:

Classroom Management Plan

Whole Body Listeners Reminder

- Eyes watching
- Ears listening
- Voice quiet
- Body Calm

Rules (in our classroom we…)

- Have helping hands
- Use kind words
- Keep ourselves and others safe

Proactive Approach

- Behavior management is more effective when having a proactive approach. Things that will be implemented to reduce the likelihood of challenging behavior are:
    - Utilizing a visual schedule for all learners and give warnings prior to transitions
    - Stating rules and routines clearly and often and have visual cues posted
    - Reinforcing positive behavior through verbal praise and encouragement
    - Modeling appropriate behavior and teaching social skills
    - Teaching behavior as we teach other skills
    - Having a designated space for children to decompress when they are upset that they may utilize by choice at any time of the day
    - Following accommodations listed in the IEP (for children with an IEP)

Challenging Behaviors

If challenging behaviors arise the following steps will be taken…

- Discuss the concern with the student and tell them what behavior SHOULD have occurred (i.e. not “we don’t run” but “ next time, lets walk please”)
- Give the student the tools or modeling necessary to calm down
- Allow the child to use the designated calming area if they choose
- Discuss the behavior with the parent if it is warranted
- If the child is in crisis, or a harm to themselves or others, remove other students from the situation, keep the child safe, and notify appropriate staff for assistance
- If concerning behaviors are occurring on a regular basis, discuss with parents and appropriate staff members and if deemed necessary hold a formal meeting.

ATTENDANCE AND ILLNESS

Please notify the office if your child will be absent by calling 217-824-5050 or emailing cbrown@tcusd3.org

"Children who are chronically absent in preschool, kindergarten, and first grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the third grade. Students who cannot read at grade level by the end of third grade are four times more likely than proficient readers to drop out of high school."

Attendance is SO important, even at the preschool level. If your child is healthy, please make sure they are in attendance. Good habits start early!

Children will not be permitted to attend school if any of the following apply:

- They have a fever (100.4 or greater). They must be fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT medicine before returning to school.
- They have diarrhea or are vomiting.
- Are contagious (consult your doctor)
- Are unusually tired/visibly feel ill
- Have a rash that is harmful or contagious (rashes, allergy concerns, eye issues, etc. will be at the discretion of the school nurse)
- Have live head lice

3 days of absence with no notification to the office will result in a phone call from the program and an absence letter