

What is PANDA?

The Scottsdale Preschool Program for Assessed Needs in Developmental Areas (P. A. N. D. A.) provides preschool intervention services for 3, 4, and 5-year-old children with special needs who are not yet eligible for kindergarten.

What do I do if I have concerns about my child's development?

Call Scottsdale Special Education Services (480) 484-5086. At that time, intake information will be taken over the telephone. The screening process will be discussed with you. Dates for screening will also be given to you at this time.

What happens during the evaluation appointment?

- While the child is being assessed, the parent(s) will participate in an information gathering interview where medical, developmental and areas of concern are discussed.
- An assessment will be conducted using a variety of assessment tools and personnel.
- The results of the assessment will be discussed in terms of eligibility for special education services as provided in the PANDA Program.
- Upon meeting the criteria for eligibility, placement will be made.
- At a later date, an Individualized Education Program will be developed detailing the services to be provided.

Who qualifies for PANDA?

In order to participate in this program, a child must meet eligibility criteria in at least one of the following areas:

- A significant developmental delay e.g. cognitive, physical, social/emotional or adaptive development
- Speech or language delay
- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment

What happens if my child qualifies for the program?

You will be asked to meet with a group of professionals to develop an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) to meet your child's educational needs. Your child will then be enrolled in one of the PANDA classrooms that is closest to your home. The program is designed to facilitate the growth and development of young students with special needs through early intervention. The curriculum is based on the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) and is focused on the development of skills in communication, cognition, social motor and other developmental areas.

What is the school schedule for the PANDA Program?

The school day consists of two hours and forty five minutes of instruction, four days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday). Children are assigned to a morning or afternoon session depending upon enrollment and the related services that need be provided. Bus transportation is available for children who require it.

What is the enrollment policy?

- Child lives in the attendance area designated for the PANDA site.
- Child has a legal birth certificate confirming that the child is at least three years of age and not age eligible for Kindergarten.
- Child meets legal requirements for immunizations or other health-related issues.
- Parent or legal guardian has participated in an Individual Education Plan meeting and has agreed to placement in special education by signing the IEP form.

PANDA programs may have up to 12 students in each class. The adult/student ratio may vary depending upon the class needs.

SCOTTSDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Preschool Program are to:

- Provide preschool experiences that are developmentally appropriate for pre-kindergarten students who are 3 years of age and older who have special needs.
- Identify the needs, abilities, and interests of each child.
- Develop and implement an appropriate individualized plan for each child and family.
- Provide a safe, caring, and enriching environment which encourages growth through independence.
- Assist and support families through parent workshops, home visits, conferences, shared decision-making, and the use of parenting resources.
- Monitor, assess, and report the progress of each child.
- Facilitate a smooth and effective transition for each child into an appropriate program for kindergarten aged children.

PANDA PROGRAM

2009-2010

Preschool for Assessed
Needs in Developmental
Areas



Scottsdale Unified School
District
480-484-5086