



PLAY with Big PLANS FAQ

- 1. What is PLAY with Big PLANS and why are we offering this new program?** We are excited to announce a new initiative called PLAY with Big PLANS. To fulfill programming requirements set forth by Alberta Education, we will be enhancing our current services by providing more direct-access time to our certificated teachers. There will be no cost to families; however, children **MUST** be on the Big PLANS caseload and enrolled in one of our partner preschools to attend this new program.
- 2. Who can attend PLAY with Big PLANS?** This program is available to children currently on the Big PLANS roster who are enrolled in one of our partner preschools. It is not available to siblings who are not on our roster. Each family must complete a one-time registration form for the location of their choice before their child attends the first class and your child must continue to attend their regular classes at the preschool they are currently enrolled in, to participate in the PLAY with Big PLANS program. Please plan to attend PLAY with Big PLANS on days/times your child is **NOT** in regular classes.
- 3. Where is this program offered?** This program is currently being offered at a North and a South location. The North location is at Foothills Alliance Church (Located at the North entrance of Foothills Alliance Church in the preschool building: 333 Edgepark Blvd NW, Calgary, AB). The South location is on the campus of Calgary Christian School (2839 49 Street SW, Calgary, AB). A map and further directions are available online at www.bigplans.org/programming.html.
- 4. When is this program offered?** From now through to the end of June, families can sign-up to attend PLAY with Big PLANS in the North or PLAY with Big PLANS in the South. Both locations will offer this program Monday through Friday from 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm.
- 5. What will my child do at this program?** There will be different program options offered throughout the week by certificated teachers. Parents can choose which programming option(s) best meet their child's needs. Children can attend all five days if space is available. Programming will target the following:
 - Physical and Motor Development (fine motor skills, gross motor skills, and sensory play activities)
 - Academic Readiness (colours, numbers, shapes, letters and word recognition)
 - Early Language and Speech Development for all learners; including English Language Learners
 - Social and Emotional Development (self-regulation, interaction with others, social thinking)
 - Parents & Play - every Friday we welcome parents to join the program to learn a variety of parenting strategies that will help their child develop needed skills through play
- 6. How do families register to attend?** Visit "PLAY with Big PLANS" at www.bigplans.org/programming.html to view the calendar of programming and registration forms. Complete steps one and two to register. Please note, families must complete a one-time registration form and drop it off at the preschool location a minimum of 24 hours prior to their child (ren) attending the first class. The registration must be completed in FULL with exception of the severe allergy/medical concern forms at the end of the package. These are only to be completed for children with allergies or special medical concerns. Parents wishing to attend class with their child **must have a copy of a current police clearance** before they may join in the classroom.
- 7. Where can I sign up for classes?** Please visit "PLAY with Big PLANS" at www.bigplans.org/programming.html to sign up for individual classes. The calendar online will list which program is being offered each day and how many spaces are available. Please choose classes that are at different times than your child's regularly scheduled preschool class.
- 8. What if I am no longer able to attend a class I registered for?** If you are no longer able to attend we ask that you cancel your booking so your child's spot will become available for someone else.
- 9. How does the Parents & Play program on Friday work?** Every Friday we welcome parents to join the program to learn a variety of parenting strategies to help their child develop needed skills through play. Play is an integral part of learning for a child. Through play, your child will learn a significant amount in all development areas from physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and thinking skills, to communication and general knowledge. We are excited to offer some great programs on Fridays to help you work with your child through play so that we can best prepare them for the school years ahead. One parent or caregiver may sign up for this class with their child. Each classroom has space for 12 children and 12 parents. Please note - Parents will require a valid police clearance (a photocopy from another location is sufficient). Alternative care for siblings will be necessary on Fridays as only children registered in the program may attend.
- 10. My child usually attends preschool with the support of a Child Development Facilitator. Can they attend this program without one?** If your child is not yet ready to attend preschool without an aide, then we ask that a parent or caregiver attend PLAY with Big PLANS with their child (a valid police clearance is required). On some occasions, a learning facilitator may be available. Please check with the program teacher or email play@bigplans.org.

More questions? Please email play@bigplans.org or visit the website at www.bigplans.org/programming.html