

Preschool Programs for Children in Athol and Royalston

School Year Programs September – June:

MOC Head Start

- 925 Main St. Athol
- Mon.- Fri. 8:30 AM-2:30 PM
- Parent Transport
- No tuition
- Contact: Emily Verock: 978-249-6735

Montachusett Opportunity Council Head Start is a comprehensive center-based preschool program which provides activities to assist children's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. Services are available to children ages three to five years from income eligible families at no cost. Our program provides a USDA approved breakfast, lunch, and snack to all enrolled children. Head Start parents are offered a variety of training opportunities and self-enrichment programs to promote development of leadership skills and a sense of belonging.

Athol Area YMCA Nursery School

- 545 Main St. Athol
- Tues.-Thurs. 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- Parent Transport
- Tuition
- Contact: Megan Shaughnessy: 978-249-3305

The Athol Area YMCA Nursery School is an EEC-licensed program serving children 2.9-5 years of age. In Nursery School your child will have a variety of opportunities to explore, imagine, discover, play, learn and grow. Our hands-on and developmentally appropriate curriculum enhances the growth of your child's cognitive, social, and motor skills, while nurturing the natural curiosity of the world around them. Enrollment is available for 2 or 3 days per week and is ongoing through the school year.



ACES Preschool

- 1064 Pleasant St. Athol
- 2 day AM (T,Th) 8:30 - 11:05
- 3 day AM (M,W,F) 8:30 - 11:05
- 5 day AM 8:30 - 11:05
- 4 day PM (M, T, TH, F) 12:30 – 3:05
- 5 day full day (W ½ day) 8:30 – 3:05
(W. 8:30 - 11:05)
- Transportation available to children on an Individual Education Plan (IEP), otherwise Parent Transportation
- No Tuition
- Contact: Julie Stanley 978-249-2406

ACES Preschool is a high quality early care and education program offered through The Athol Royalston Regional School District which enrolls children 3-5 years. This inclusive setting is staffed by highly qualified MA licensed special education teachers, many with advanced degrees and certifications. Children identified with developmental delays and other identified special needs are integrated into the classes alongside their peers. While providing a safe and nurturing environment, equal focus is given to the Social Emotional Standards and the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in the areas of Math, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies/History. Family engagement is a priority offering opportunities for families to gather and connect throughout the year. Breakfast is provided to morning session students at no charge. Afternoon session students bring a snack from home. All day students are offered both breakfast and lunch at no charge.

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Year Round Programs:



North Quabbin Family Childcare Association

- Individual programs each set their own hours, but all programs are open a minimum of 10 hours a day per state contract. Those hours range from about 6am to 5:30pm. All programs operate Monday through Friday
- Parent Transportation
- Tuition rates vary between programs from approximately \$25/\$30 a day to \$35/\$40 a day. Vouchers are accepted: State Vouchers, DCF Vouchers, CCAMPIS (Early Childhood Education Through Mount Wachusett Community College)
- Contact: Laurie Smith: 978-249-0365
Kim Warrington: 978-895-1071

We have a network of 15 providers in the Athol/Orange area. Our providers have a variety of educational backgrounds from Child Development Associates, AA Degrees and BA Degrees in Early Childhood Education, and run programs that meet state licensing guidelines which include infant/toddler and preschool curriculum, child assessments and progress reports. We have programs that take children from birth through middle school. Family Childcare offers excellent child/teacher ratios and individualized attention. Many programs also offer specialized enrichment programs such as private music classes, library visits, and YMCA swim and gym.



Little Tot Day Care

- 107 Park St. Athol
- Mon. - Fri. 6:45 AM - 5:15 PM
- Transportation is available for those who qualify
- Tuition- We accept voucher, private pay, income eligible and supportive child care authorizations.
- Contact: Tracy Anzaldi: 978-249-2003

Little Tot Day Care is dedicated to meeting the needs of each child in our program. Our program is geared towards social, emotional, physical and cognitive development, using the guidelines of the "Creative Curriculum". We participate in the USDA food program and serve breakfast, lunch and snack. The center is licensed for 24 preschool children and 12 infant/toddlers.

Additional Resources for Childcare

To learn about other childcares in the Athol area and information about childcare vouchers contact:

- New England Farm Workers Council: 413-475-3656
www.naccraware.net

This document was created by The Early Childhood Education Team of the Athol Area. This team works collaboratively to improve the quality of early education and care and the transition for children and their families into preschool and kindergarten. For more information please contact Jennifer at Valuing Our Children: 978-249-8467