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St. Michael's Academy

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Dream Team

Sweet Dreams Preschool

Sweet Dreams Preschool is a newly built, Covid safe building. This school aims to prepare kids for their upcoming years of education while keeping them safe and following the guidelines of the CDC to assure a secure environment. Children from ages 3-4 are eligible to attend to assure they are prepared to begin the step forward into kindergarten.

Many things make this school set apart from others in the surrounding district. One reason is that the school has adapted to the needs of different staff and students. Sweet Dreams Preschool follows the curriculum which follows a program compatible with those with and without disabilities. The school is open to all children, and there are only a few basic requirements to enroll. This is the reason for the school's outdoor playset to be compatible with those with special needs. They offer wheelchair compatible swings and playsets equipped with ramps for easy access. In addition to this, students with health concerns such as asthma, allergies, diabetes, or any other health issues are always welcome and are given the choice to bring in any needed medication or equipment necessary for such ailment.

Another reason would have to be the coronavirus safety measures. Since the outbreak of Covid-19, this school was designed with the main purpose to not only prepare students for kindergarten but to fight any spread of disease. Sweet Dreams has presented ongoing precautionary measures to ensure the safety of staff, students, and parents at any time of virus outbreak. This aspect of the school is what has made it superior to others during a time of the pandemic. Some safety features that this school has are blue light sanitation, UV-C filter fans, clean filter systems in every room, isolation rooms, and air purifiers. The school also has strict

social guidelines set in place, with plastic dividers on each table, and limiting the grouping of too many children at any given time. Also, every morning upon arrival to the facility, a visual inspection of symptoms is required and done to ensure the wellbeing of staff and other students. If a child shows any sign of illness, they are to be put in an isolation room until the arrival of a parent or guardian. After this, they are required to stay home until tested. If the test comes back negative, they are allowed to return to the building the next day. If a test comes back positive from either a parent, sibling, or the student themselves, they are required to self-quarantine for two weeks. The student/staff is required to have a negative test and if positive to have quarantined for said two weeks to be allowed back. Lastly, the school has put hands-free light switches in each of the rooms to limit the number of surfaces being infected. These safety measures have been what set this facility apart from others in the area.

Moving on from the health and safety aspect of the school, Sweet Dreams Preschool also uses and teaches about green technologies. This school is an environmentally friendly space, using solar energy as its central power source. The school is also equipped with led lights instead of fluorescent as another form of green technologies. Helping the environment is a priority that teachers lead students to value as they grow up. All the staff at Sweet Dreams Preschool will ensure students are taught the importance of keeping the environment clean, and as well as the reduce, reuse, and recycle rules. Children are taught what items are recyclable and what are to be thrown away. They use reusable items daily such as straws, water bottles, and much more. They are taught to remember what item goes in what bin, and the importance of keeping the planet clean. As far as green technologies go, Sweet Dreams Preschool uses solar energy and renewable sources to power the school.

The facility is also heavily involved within the community. The school has its very own vegetable garden that the students help grow in the spring months. Once grown, the vegetables are donated to homeless shelters and local restaurants in the area. Also, in fall and winter during the holiday seasons, the school holds donations of canned goods, clothing, and toys for the less fortunate. Not only this, but the school is open to the community after school hours. People are welcome to hold charity events and CCD classes in the preschool building with granted permission. The preschool's own playground equipment is even open to the public after school hours. Every weekend the school is open for a city-wide trash clean-up event. This way, students will be taught the importance of working with community service and helping the less fortunate. The school is also involved in events for the community to give back to the school. Some of these events include a bake sale, movie nights, and bingo nights. Some of the money raised in these events are not only used for the school, but some are also donated to local charities.

Although this school has a lot to offer, it is not a specialty school. It does not have one set topic put in place such as art or science, but rather would like to give children an opportunity to explore different subjects. Sweet Dreams is just classified as a preschool, or care facility. While it may seem like just a place for parents to drop their kids off to be watched, Sweet Dreams has a mission to prepare kids for their future school years. The school takes pride in teaching their students from a young age the importance of creativity, community, taking care of the environment, accepting all types of people, and having fun!

Finally, it may be concluded that Sweet Dreams Preschool is a safe, friendly, and affordable place to send your children. This school will not only take care of their students but ensure they are prepared for their step forward into kindergarten. The school hopes it can be the

one for your child and has an overall mission to form your young one into a better version of themselves as they move on to their future education years.

Group Evolution:

As a group, we all think we learned more about each other as well as ourselves. We think we all did our best and contributed as much as we could to the parts we volunteered to complete at the beginning of the project. We learned about our strengths and weaknesses as well as discovering our new ones. Working so hard has brought us a better understanding of the idea of stress. We have experienced a lot of it and have gotten to realize the ways we can cope with it.