



Needham Children's Center, Inc.

"Our family loves the NCC Afterschool program! The teachers are so creative when planning the activities/crafts and keep the individual interests of the kids in mind to make sure all participate and are included. I am constantly surprised by the projects that come home: rice krispie treat robots, Thanksgiving placemats, marshmallow dreidels, slime, sundials, and more! At least once a week, my kids complain that I am "too early" when I pick them up. I also can't say enough about the teachers themselves as they don't just take care of my kids, but they care for and love my kids."

Dear Pre –K and Kindergarten Parents,

I would like to introduce myself and give you some information about our school-age program here at NCC. My name is Denise Linden, I am the Afterschool Coordinator. I grew up in Needham and lived here for 35 years. Some of my fondest memories were made at Rosemary pool. I have been at Needham Children's Center for the last 10 years and love this special group of children. One of my favorite parts of the day is picking up the children in our vans and hearing about their school day.

Our Afterschool Team: We have a wonderful group of teachers; their commitment to teaching is what you see throughout our program. Afterschool is dedicated to this special age group through social play, friendships and sharing with our peers. Mary Beth and Rebecca join me and our friends, along with college and high school assistants. This blend is perfect and so fun for the group, we truly have a blast!



Afterschool is designed for children, kindergarten through grade five. We are able to accommodate children attending Needham Public School as well as St. Joseph School in Needham. Our program is fun, low-key, and neighborhood-like. Activities are developmentally appropriate and provide ample time for in-depth exploration of topics. Curriculum includes a strong emphasis on our local and global community, as well as reinforcing academic and social skills. Our environment is a perfect match to each child's school day.

Hours

Normal Operating hours: 2:30 – 5:50pm

Early Release days: 12:15 -5:50

No school, snow, and vacation days: 8:30am -5:30pm

(This will change to 5:50pm as covid policies loosen)

Our Typical Day: Children arrive to NCC by our own vans where they are greeted by the Afterschool team. We then gather on the playground and have an afternoon snack. We spend about 45min to 1 hour outdoors, weather dependent. Children can either play on the playground structures or join in a team game of soccer, basketball, kickball or street hockey (to name a few).

We venture inside for Free Play and explore so many different activities. Arts and Craft, clubs, homework, block and Lego masters, board games, singing and dancing are some of our favorites.

Each year, the children and teachers create clubs for in-depth participation in an area of interest. Older children are given the opportunity to mentor and “buddy” with younger students in a collaborative manner. Our teachers respect the power of play and foster the development of children through a carefully planned, flexible program.



February and April vacations: Afterschool at NCC is open from 8:30-5:30 on vacation days! We typically do a lot of different activities, such as: Pajama days, puppet shows, Lego and comic book making, crafts and talent shows. We have gone to Lego Land, Fun & Games, Natick Outdoor Farm and Wheelock Family Theatre to name a few (hopefully we can get back to those types of activities soon).

Early release/no school days: NCC Afterschool is open on no-school days, early release days and snow days. Yoga, pizza days, community hikes, local playgrounds are a few of the fun activities offered.



Extras: We are willing to transport and arrange opportunities for our children to take part in local walking-distance extracurricular activities, such as swimming lessons at the YMCA and martial arts right here on Great Plain Ave. We have even had a martial arts instructor come to us, and the kids loved it. All extra activities are reviewed on an individual basis by our program leader, and we will do our best to accommodate. Staffing and schedules must align.

Charles River Ballet: This fabulous ballet school is in our building; Emily Umland has a wonderful program for all ages. We are more than happy to help make the transition to ballet on their scheduled day.

I love to show off our program, so please contact me anytime if you have any questions. We are looking forward to having your children join our crew and look forward to a fun-filled school year ahead!!!

Sincerely,
Denise Linden, Afterschool Coordinator
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