

MGNS Registration for 2025-2026 Frequently Asked Questions

1. What classes will be offered in the 2025-26 school year?

Classes will be the same as the 2024-25 school year.

Toddler Time

Offered daily, M-F, from 9:00 - 11:00

3-year-old preschool

Starfish : MTW mornings 8:45 - 11:45

Penguins: TH-F mornings 8:45 - 11:45

Mixed-age 3-year-old preschool & 4K

Sea Otters: T-F afternoons 12:40 - 3:45

4k kids attend T-Fr, Preschool kids can choose 3 or 4 afternoons per week

4K Mornings

Dolphins: T-F mornings 8:40 - 11:45

2. Where will my child be going to school?

After 65 cherished years, we're thrilled to announce that **Monona Grove Nursery School is moving to a new home at Lake Edge Lutheran Church, just down the street!** Our new space—both indoors and out—will be thoughtfully redesigned to support and amplify our commitment to play-based learning, providing even more opportunities for discovery, joy, and growth. We're still finalizing the timeline for the move, but we'll be sure to keep you updated every step of the way! Please read all about our move on our website.

We are hosting two all-community meetings focusing on our new space, and the move down the block.

When: February 12.

Where: Fellowship Hall at 9 AM and Zoom at 7:30 pm <https://zoom.us/j/92954033508>

3. Is there a registration fee when you apply?

Yes. Each preschool family is required to attach a \$75 registration fee to apply.

There is a \$25 registration fee for Toddler Time families. Registration fees are non-refundable.

Note: This fee is exempted for families enrolling in the 4K programs through MMSD!

4. When can I register my child?

Current families (includes kids currently enrolled):

In Person: Registration begins at **8:00 AM on Monday, February 17.**

It is first come, first served, just inside the purple MGNS school door.

Online: Submit your application online starting at **8:00 AM on Monday, February 17.**

The application will open at 8:00 am and it will be time stamped.

Any registration fees will need to be paid that week via check.

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4. When can I register my child? con't

New and alumni families (alumni families have a preference over new families for that day):

In Person: Registration begins at **8:00 AM on Monday, February 24.**

It is first come, first served, just inside the purple MGNS school door.

Online: Submit your application online starting at **8:00 AM on Monday, February 24.**

The application will open at 8 am and it will be time stamped.

Any registration fees will need to be paid that week via check.

You can send your application in with a friend or family member if you cannot make it in person.

To be considered, all applications must be complete, meaning they include all initials, signatures and have the appropriate registration fee attached or mailed in that week.

5. What is the order of enrollment preference?

**The order of preference shall be in effect for enrollment day but not beyond.*

1st MGNS 2024-25 board members

2nd Current co-op families (enrolled in any program during the 2024-25 school year)

3rd Alumni families (family member enrolled in a previous year)

4th New families to MGNS

6. Is there financial aid available for preschool?

Yes! There are several options for financial aid

State Aid:

MGNS is a 5-star Youngstar school and therefore accepts state aid through the WI shares program. <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/wishares/apply>

City of Madison Childcare Grants:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/commserve/CommunityTAP.html>

MGNS Sunflower Fund:

MGNS also has our own scholarship program called the Sunflower Fund. Typically we are able to fund two scholarships a year (up to 50% tuition each). Applications for MGNS scholarships can be found on our website or by clicking here: [MGNS Scholarship Application](#)

7. Who is eligible for the MMSD 4K program?

MMSD will enroll any student in their community-based programs who is 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2024 and lives within the Madison Metropolitan School District.

There is no tuition for those students. However, MMSD will charge a materials fee and MGNS will charge a field trip fee; families are expected to cover both of those costs.

Students from surrounding communities may also choose MGNS for their 4K experience by applying for open enrollment into the MMSD. This is an easy process that we are happy to assist you with.

4k will be free of charge for those open enrolling in MMSD.

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8. What is the process to register for the MMSD 4K program at MGNS?

It is a two-step process.

1. Enroll in your choice of class with MGNS on the above dates.
2. Complete the online and in person enrollment for MMSD.

9. Is it possible for a preschooler to attend MGNS 5 mornings a week?

Yes! A family can sign up for both the Penguin and the Starfish class, and come to school Monday-Friday mornings. Please note that the student would be part of two different classes with two different sets of teachers - but it works! You will also need to do helping parent duties in two classes.

10. We would love for our child to come to MGNS for 4K but we live in Cottage Grove (or Monona, McFarland, Sun Prairie, etc.). Can we still attend MGNS for 4K?

Yes! Through the process of open enrollment, you can apply to the Madison School District for the 2025-26 school year and attend MGNS as a MMSD student for free.

The open enrollment process is relatively simple, and Sue can walk you through it. In addition, we have had several current 4K parents who have been through the process and can answer questions. There is information about MMSD enrollment and Open Enrollment on our bulletin board, and will be sent home with all kids who apply for 4K and we encourage all of our MGNS families to investigate it! DPI website for Open Enrollment is <https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>

11. What are the age requirements for enrollment?

4K kids must be 4 years old by September 1, 2025

All kids enrolling as tuition-paying preschoolers must be at least 3 years old by December 1, 2025

All students for preschool and 4K must be potty trained.

Toddler Time kids come with a grown up, and therefore can be any age!

12. What is Toddler Time?

Toddler Time is for kids and their grown ups to come together. It is an introduction to preschool.

There is a \$25 non-refundable registration fee. Registration is for the entire school year.

Most kids come 1 day/week, but some come 2 and your 2nd day is ½ off.

Your yearly tuition can be paid in 10 monthly installments- just like preschool! Toddler Time kids will register in our online system (ELV) so that they can make payments and receive school wide texts (sent in the event of a school closure or illness)

13. Will there be Lunch Bunch this school year?

No. With our upcoming move, we are not able to offer this program in the 25-26 school year. Once we are acclimated to our new space we look forward to resuming Lunch Bunch in the future!

14. What if I have additional questions?

If you have additional questions please email School Director, Sue Carr at suec@mgns.org.

Sue and her teaching team would love to help you with this process!