



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are thrilled that you are interested in preschool at Zeeland Christian School! ZCS is a place where every child can thrive and grow into the person God created him/her to be. We hope through face-to-face interactions, parent and grandparent testimonials, classroom and teacher experiences, our website and social media platforms you will witness how God is working in the lives of kids and families at ZCS.

Please contact us whenever you have questions or just want to talk more. We are here for you! And feel free to contact any of the members of our leadership team ([zcs.org/staff](http://zcs.org/staff)). You can ask them questions about anything - including their own faith story.

If you are new to the Zeeland Christian community, we encourage you to take a tour of our classrooms. Whether you're new or not, we'd love to get to know you and hear more about your educational desires. Our prayer is that every new family at ZCS feels like they have multiple people they can say "Hi!" to in the hallway.

If you have any questions or are interested in visiting while class is in session, please email Nancy Pyle, [npyle@zcs.org](mailto:npyle@zcs.org) or call our main office at 616.772.2609.

Blessings to you and your preschooler!

Tim McAboy  
Head of School

Nancy Pyle  
Preschool Director

**LOVE GOD • LOVE KIDS • LOVE LEARNING**



## **Zeeland Christian School Overview**

*Zeeland Christian is dedicated to teaching children to love God, love each other and love learning. We do that by nurturing a child's social, emotional, physical, spiritual and intellectual growth.*

### **Options for Kids age 3 and 4**

#### **Threeschool**

A play-based preschool experience designed specifically for three year olds.

#### **Preschool**

A kindergarten readiness program for four year olds.

### **Programs**

#### **English**

Where tradition and innovation meet! The foundation of all our educational programs at ZCS. Relationship-based teaching, project-based learning, a global perspective, daily prayer and devotions are just a few elements of this program.

#### **Inclusive Education**

This beloved program welcomes students with varied abilities into the classroom. Inclusion benefits all students because it teaches that we are all created in God's image and part of the body of Christ. Please contact Tracy at [zcsinfo@zcs.org](mailto:zcsinfo@zcs.org) to discuss how we can serve you and your child.

#### **Spanish Immersion**

Spanish Immersion contains all the elements of our English program with one additional layer - classes are taught entirely in Spanish!

#### **Mandarin Immersion**

Mandarin Immersion contains all the elements of our English program with one additional layer - classes are taught entirely in Mandarin Chinese! (Note: We do not currently offer a Mandarin Immersion Threeschool option.)

#### **Creation Ridge**

This new nature-based preschool program will be held at Ridge Point Community Church.

### **Extended Care at ZCS**

In addition to the classes listed above, we also offer Extended Care for children in threeschool-5th grade at the ZCS main campus. Kids can be enrolled in childcare any time between 7:00AM-6:00PM each day. For more details, visit [zcs.org/extendedcare](http://zcs.org/extendedcare).



## 2020-2021 Preschool Schedule

**Online Registration:** [zcspreschool.eventbrite.com](http://zcspreschool.eventbrite.com)

Visit [www.zcs.org/enrollment](http://www.zcs.org/enrollment) for further information regarding registration.

### **Threeschool Classes** - *Children must be 3 by Sept. 1, 2020*

#### English

Session 1 M/W AM - 8:45-11:30

Session 2 T/Th AM - 8:45-11:30

### **Four-year Old Preschool Classes** - *Children must be 4 by Dec. 1, 2020*

#### English

Session 3 M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

Session 4 M/W/F PM - 12:30-3:15

Session 5 T/Th/F AM - 8:45-11:30

\*Session 6 Mon.-Thurs. AM and one or more Mon.-Thurs. PM Session - 8:45-11:30/3:15

#### Spanish Immersion

Session 7 M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

Session 8 M/W/F PM - 12:30-3:15

\*Session 9 Mon.-Thurs. AM - 8:45-11:30 & one or more Mon.-Thurs. PM Session

#### Mandarin Immersion

Session 10 M/W/F PM - 12:30-3:15

#### Drenthe Site - English

Session 11 M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

\***Session 6 and 9:** All students attend M-Th mornings. Parents may choose 1-4 afternoons for their child, and the specific day(s) is the parents' choice. Classes will run as 4-full-day classes with the same teacher and assistant all day.

### **Tuition Rates - Full Year** - *Per month rate based on 12-month payment plan - July-June*

#### **Threeschool and Preschool**

2 Day Session - \$1,152 (\$96/month)

3 Day Session - \$1,638 (\$137/month)

\*4 Day + 1 p.m. - \$2,898 (\$242/month)

\*4 Day + 2 p.m. - \$3,528 (\$294/month)

\*4 Day + 3 p.m. - \$4,158 (\$347/month)

\*4 Full Days - \$4,788 (\$399/month)

*Extended care is available any day from 7:00 AM-6:00 PM, as long as your child is enrolled in one class session.*

*Extended care is currently only available at Central Ave. (main ZCS campus), not at Drenthe or Creation Ridge.*



**CREATION  
RIDGE**  
A Zeeland Christian Preschool

## **Creation Ridge**

[www.zcs.org/creationridge](http://www.zcs.org/creationridge)

### **We are so excited!**

Creation Ridge is a Zeeland Christian School Nature-Based Preschool in Partnership with Ridge Point Community Church and Outdoor Discovery Center located on 155 acres at Ridge Point Community Church.

Creation Ridge preschool classes will provide 3 and 4-year-olds exploratory and sensory experiences in an outdoor classroom and nature-based environment. These experiences bring many benefits to kids and at Creation Ridge, we have the added benefit of learning more about God in the midst of his beautiful creation.

Classes will be available in English and Spanish Immersion.

### **Partnerships**

#### **Ridge Point Community Church**

Ridge Point Community Church approached Zeeland Christian in the Spring of 2019 about the idea of a nature-based preschool on their grounds. ZCS is in the midst of a nature-rich initiative on its own campus and with Ridge Point's emphasis on the Christian aspect of a nature-based preschool, it is a Spirit-led and natural partnership.

#### **Outdoor Discovery Center**

We are excited to partner with the Outdoor Discovery Center Education Network as we launch Creation Ridge in the fall of 2020. Their expertise in outdoor education and nature-based preschool experiences will guide us as we start our own nature-based preschool through Zeeland Christian School.

### **How do Creation Ridge classes look different than other Zeeland Christian Preschool classes?**

- Classes are outside in all weather, except extreme weather conditions.
- There are required outdoor clothing items families need to purchase.
- The majority of class time is outdoors.
- Classes engage in an outdoor classroom and take daily hikes around the property.



**CREATION  
RIDGE**  
A Zeeland Christian Preschool

## 2020-2021 Creation Ridge Schedule

Learn more at [www.zcs.org/creationridge](http://www.zcs.org/creationridge)

### Creation Ridge Classes

**English Threeschool** - *Children must be 3 by Sept. 1, 2020*

Session A T/Th AM - 8:45-11:30

Session B M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

**Spanish Threeschool** - *Children must be 3 by Sept. 1, 2020*

Session C T/Th AM - 8:45-11:30

Session D M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

**English Preschool** - *Children must be 4 by Dec. 1, 2020*

Session E M/W/F AM - 8:45-11:30

Session F M/W/F PM - 12:30-3:15

### Creation Ridge Registration Process

Step 1: Enter the Lottery

- An online form will be available at [zcs.org/creationridge](http://zcs.org/creationridge) starting **Fri., Jan. 17 at 9 AM.**
- Complete the form by **Tues., Jan. 21 at 9 AM**

Step 2: Lottery Selection

- You will **receive an email on Jan. 21 or 22** informing you of your child's class or waitlist placement.

Step 3: Register Online

- **Complete your child's online registration at [www.zcspreschool.eventbrite.com](http://www.zcspreschool.eventbrite.com)** with the password you receive in your class placement email.
- Pay the \$55 registration fee (\$50 is applied to tuition)
- **Finish this registration before 3:00 PM on Thurs. Jan. 23** or your child's spot will be given to another child.

#### Tuition Rates - Full Year - *Per month rate based on 12-month payment plan - July-June*

##### **Creation Ridge**

2 Day Session - \$1,352 (\$113/month)

3 Day Session - \$1,838 (\$153/month)

*Extended care is only available at Central Ave. (main ZCS campus), not at Drenthe or Creation Ridge.*



## ZCS Extended Care 2020-2021

Our extended care programs are designed to support family child-care needs. All children must be pre-registered in order to attend Extended Care programs.

---

There is a \$30 registration fee per family, paid online at the start of the school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child in Extended Care, please indicate “Yes” on your online registration form. Then we know to send you the Extended Care registration information later this spring.

---

**Before School Care** - Cost \$6.50 per child/day, \$11.00 for 2 kids, \$15.00 for 3 kids

Offered everyday from 7:00AM-9:00AM

Offered to preschool or elementary students (PS-5th)

Nutritional breakfast provided

**Morning Care** - Cost \$15.00 per child/per day

Offered everyday from 8:30AM-11:30AM

Nutritional snack provided

**Lunch Bunch** - Cost \$7.00 per child/per day

Offered everyday from 11:30AM-1:00PM

Kids bring their lunch from home

**Afternoon Care** - Cost \$20.00 per child/per day

Offered everyday from 11:30AM-3:30PM

Kids bring their lunch from home

Nutritional snack provided

**After School Care** - Cost \$5.50 per child/per hour, \$10/hour for 2 kids, \$13/hour for 3 kids, billed in half hour increments

Offered everyday from 3:30PM-6:00PM

Offered to preschool and elementary students (PS-5th)

Nutritional snack provided

**Full Day Preschool Care** - Cost \$37 per child/per day (Kids can stay for After School Care (ASC), but cost of ASC is the same)

Offered everyday from 7:00AM-3:30PM

Contact Heather Mulder ([hmulder@zcs.org](mailto:hmulder@zcs.org)) with any questions.

Extended care is only available at Central Ave. (main ZCS campus), not at Drenthe or Creation Ridge.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What types of things will my child learn at Zeeland Christian Preschool?

Activities are designed to encourage growth in key developmental areas. A few examples:

#### Threeschool

- Counting
- Early literacy behaviors
- Recognizing his/her name
- Colors and shapes
- Vocabulary development
- Eye-hand coordination
- Taking turns, sharing, helping each other
- Worshiping with friends

#### Preschool

- Letters, numbers, counting, colors, shapes
- Name writing/recognition
- Pre-writing skills
- Language development and self-expression
- Taking turns, sharing, helping each other
- Worshiping with friends

### Are parents expected to help in the classroom?

We ask parents to volunteer as classroom helpers 2 times per school year. A parent or another special friend will help once at the start of the year and once at the time of the child's birthday or half birthday. Kids love the opportunity to show their loved ones what they do at school. If a parent or special friend cannot attend, please let us know.

### How do you handle food allergies?

We take allergies very seriously at ZCS and will work with you to put together a food plan. We will also try to accommodate food allergies when developing monthly menus. However, we do recommend providing "safe snacks" for children with severe allergies.

### Does my child have to be potty trained?

Yes. Children enrolled in Zeeland Christian Preschool must be toilet trained and independent in the bathroom. No pull-ups are allowed. Our staff will coach children in the bathroom but not physically assist them. (An exception can be made for children who have a specific plan with our support services staff.)





## Frequently Asked Questions Cont.

### Are there ways to help reduce the cost of preschool tuition?

There are a few different ways that you can help reduce the cost of preschool tuition:

#### Tuition Reduction Incentive Program (TRIP)

Purpose: To provide current and future families an opportunity to reduce their tuition at ZCS by shopping with participating businesses.

#### How it works:

Families purchase gift cards from participating businesses.

The businesses give back a certain percentage of each purchase to ZCS.

The money given to ZCS goes into each family's account. This is then applied to your tuition balance in July or January upon request. Over time, the money can add up.

*"I highly encourage ZCS families to participate in TRIP since it is a very easy way to earn free money toward tuition. We primarily use TRIP for groceries and gas each week. With that alone we earn over \$500 per year toward our kids' tuition!" - Traci, ZCS Mom*

Interested in participating in TRIP? Register online at [www.zcs.org/trip](http://www.zcs.org/trip)

\*Families who register for TRIP when they enroll the first student in Zeeland Christian Preschool or Young Fives receive a \$500 tuition voucher when their oldest reaches 1st-grade!\*

### Ready for School

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Ready for School Tuition Assistance, 2019-2020

Ready for School is an organization in the Holland/Zeeland/Hamilton area that provides scholarships to three-year-olds based on income. The application process occurs online and is very straightforward. You apply directly with Ready for School, and then if approved for a scholarship, you just contact Nancy Pyle to let her know to be in touch with Ready for School to confirm your school of choice is Zeeland Christian. Here is the family size/income chart for the 2019-2020 school year. The updated chart for 2020-2021 will be available in April.

	Ready for School (\$400 per semester)	Ready for School (\$200 per semester)
Household Size	Annual	Annual
2	42,275	50,730
3	53,325	63,990
4	64,375	77,250
5	75,425	90,510
6	86,475	103,770
7	97,525	117,030
8	108,575	130,290





## Frequently Asked Questions Cont.

### How does ZCS keep the building secure?

Exterior doors at ZCS are kept locked during school hours except during drop-off times. Visitors must enter through the main ZCS office (off Central Ave.), sign in, fill out a name tag, and then sign out when they leave.

### What should I expect between registration and the first day of school?

Jan 30, 7:00 PM. Register online ([zcspreschool.eventbrite.com](https://zcspreschool.eventbrite.com)).

March: Watch for a "Welcome" email from preschool staff

June: You will receive a class list and misc. enrollment forms by email.

July: Misc. forms are due back to ZCS

Aug.: Your child's teacher will mail you a back-to-school letter

Aug.: Parent meetings

Sept.: Preschool begins!

### What path should my child take to get to kindergarten?

There are lots of paths that parents choose for their child's journey to kindergarten. Parents make choices based on their child's birthdate, time at home vs. time at preschool/childcare, family schedules, and more. There isn't a right or wrong answer on what's best for YOUR child. The state of Michigan requires that a child turns five by September 1, of the year he/she enters kindergarten. That means that all children should be five, turning six, during his/her kindergarten year. (Some children with late summer birthdays start kindergarten as six-year-olds.)

See page 9 for more details on the different path options to Kindergarten.



## Paths to Kindergarten

This is the traditional path that many families have chosen for their children.



Threeschool is a great opportunity for children to learn how to “do school” before they begin the Kindergarten Readiness structure of Preschool. Our teachers have found that children who complete Threeschool are very well prepared for Preschool.



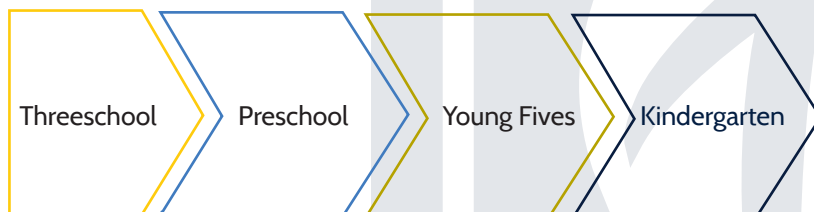
This is a good option for children who have birthdays between September 1 and December 1. If you think your child will benefit from a year of Young Fives (5 mornings a week), give your child a year of Preschool before beginning Young Fives.



If your child has a fall birthday but you are not ready to start them in Young Fives, start your child in Threeschool and then work with the classroom teacher to determine if Preschool or Young Fives is the best option for your child for the next year.



This option includes three years of schooling before Kindergarten, but it may be a great option for a child with a summer birthday who enters Threeschool as a young three-year-old. Even after the year of Preschool is finished, Young Fives is an option to give the “gift of a year” to a child who still needs time to grow and develop skills before entering Kindergarten.



If your child has had good educational experiences outside of a school setting, he/she may do well with a year of Young Fives and then Kindergarten.

