

Virginia Pre-School Initiative (VPI)



The Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) program prepares children for kindergarten and makes sure they have the basic requirements to get off to a good start when they begin kindergarten. VPI understands that foundational learning is established in the early years; the program was developed to support and guide four-year-olds through specific active learning experiences before they go to school.

What is VPI?

- This preschool program is designed to serve at-risk students who have reached their fourth birthday on or before September 30th and are not served by the Essex Head Start program.
 - The Virginia Foundation Blocks for Early Learning; Assessment, Evaluation, and Programming System for Infants and Children (AEPS); and the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) program are instruments used to engage students in literacy and mathematics.
 - Additionally, students are involved in all of the school wide activities and the class is offered in an inclusion classroom setting.
 - The VPI classroom teachers are highly qualified teachers licensed by the Virginia Department of Education.
- How are children selected?
Children are selected based on the guidelines set forth by the state. The students are screened by a qualified teacher using the assessment tool identified by the state. We offer one VPI class; therefore, we may have a waiting list. The teachers will advise parents of the students selected to participate in the class.
 - What is the cost?
There is no cost for students and families participating in the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) programs.
 - What are the program hours?
The VPI classrooms use the same school day hours and calendar as the school in which they are located.
 - Is Transportation Provided?
Transportation is provided to students.

If you would like more information, please contact the Tappahannock Elementary School at 804-443-5301.

