

## What does VPK mean?

**VPK stands for the Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Program.**

**What is the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program (VPK)?**

**Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK)** is a legislatively mandated program designed to prepare every four (4) year old in Florida for kindergarten and build the foundation for their educational success. The VPK Program gives each child an opportunity to perform better in school and throughout life with quality programs that include high literacy standards, accountability, appropriate curricula, substantial instruction periods, manageable class sizes, and qualified instructors. All eligible four-year-olds are entitled to participate in one of the VPK program options: school year or summer program.

Voluntary Pre-kindergarten or VPK prepares children for school and enhances their pre-reading, pre-math, language, and social skills. VPK classrooms offer high-quality programs that include high literacy standards, developmentally appropriate curriculum, manageable class sizes, and qualified and state teachers.

The VPK Program was created in 2005 to better prepare Florida's preschool age-children for a successful Kindergarten experience. The program focuses in the early literacy skills emphasized by the Florida Department of Education.

**Who is eligible to participate in a provider delivering the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program (VPK)?**

If you live in Florida and have a child who turns four (4) years of age by September 1, your child is eligible to participate in the Florida's FREE Voluntary Pre-kindergarten (VPK) Program.

### **Highlights of the VPK Program:**

- ⇒ FREE for all children who live in Florida and who turn four (4) years of age by September 1.
- ⇒ There is No registration fee or tuition payment for a child to attend the hours scheduled by a provider to deliver the VPK Program,
- ⇒ Parents have the option to register his/her child in a participating private child care or public school provider,
- ⇒ Focus on Early language and literacy,
- ⇒ A VPK Provider Curriculum focuses on reading, writing, and social skills
- ⇒ Prepares children to be ready for Kindergarten.

### **How to Enroll:**

To enroll your 4-year-old in VPK today by visiting: [www.VPKhelp.org](http://www.VPKhelp.org). or [www.familycentral.org](http://www.familycentral.org). to see the monthly schedule of facilities where you can obtain your Certificate of Eligibility.

### **VPK Provider Curriculum**

The state requires that a provider curriculum delivering the VPK Program must be aligned with the state performance standards. Josiah's Christian Academy use the High Reach curriculum in our VPK Class. The High Reach curriculum is outlined to meet the needs of the four-year-old child and to help them prepare for future success. The H.R. curriculum is a state approved curriculum and is developmentally appropriate with a focus on early literacy skills.