



Welcome to Pathfinders!

Dear Pathfinders Families,

Welcome to the Pathfinders Classroom at Future Generation Early Learning Centers! We are so excited to welcome your child and your family to a year filled with exploration, discovery, friendships, creativity, and growth.

The preschool years are an incredible time. Children are becoming more independent, asking bigger questions, developing stronger friendships, testing their ideas, and discovering just how much they are capable of doing for themselves.

That's exactly what being a **Pathfinder** is all about.

At Future Generation, we believe children learn best when they feel safe enough to explore, confident enough to try, and loved enough to know that mistakes are simply part of learning. Together, we will help your child find their path as a learner, a friend, a problem-solver, and an important member of our classroom family.

Where Our Core Values Come to Life

Our Future Generation core values — Family, Love, Create, Engage, and Serve — aren't simply words. They guide the experiences and relationships we create with children every day.

Family — Your family becomes part of our Future Generation family. We believe children are most successful when families and teachers work together.

Love — Children learn through relationships. Our teachers create an environment where children feel safe, valued, respected, encouraged, and genuinely cared for.

Create — Pathfinders are creators! Children are encouraged to build, paint, pretend, design, experiment, imagine, and turn their ideas into something meaningful.

Engage — Preschoolers need to be active participants in their learning. We provide opportunities for children to touch, move, investigate, question, explore, and make choices throughout their day.

Serve — Children begin learning what it means to be part of a community. We encourage kindness, empathy, helping others, caring for our classroom, and understanding that everyone's contribution matters.

Learning the HighScope Way

Our Pathfinders Classroom proudly implements the HighScope Curriculum, where children learn through active, hands-on experiences.

Rather than telling children exactly what to do and how to do it, our teachers create an environment where children can make choices, follow their interests, explore materials, solve problems, and develop their own ideas.

Throughout their day, Pathfinders have opportunities to:

- Make meaningful choices
- Explore open-ended materials
- Develop language and communication skills
- Build early literacy and math concepts
- Investigate science and the world around them
- Express themselves through art, music, movement, and dramatic play
- Strengthen fine- and gross-motor skills
- Practice problem-solving
- Build friendships and navigate social situations
- Recognize and manage emotions
- Develop independence and responsibility
- Learn to work as part of a group
- One of the most important parts of our HighScope day is Plan-Do-Review.

Children plan what they would like to do, do it during work time, and then review and talk about their experiences afterward.

It may look like play — and we certainly want it to feel like play to your child — but tremendous learning is happening along the way.

A Classroom Designed for Exploration

Our Pathfinders environment is intentionally arranged into clearly defined interest areas that encourage children to explore different types of materials and experiences.

Depending on the classroom environment, children may explore areas for blocks, dramatic play, toys and manipulatives, art, writing, books, technology, music and movement, and sensory experiences.

Materials are intentionally placed where children can see them, reach them, make choices about them, and independently return them when they are finished.

You'll often hear us remind our Pathfinders:

“I find it. I use it. I put it back.”

This simple HighScope practice teaches much more than cleaning up. It develops independence, responsibility, organization, decision-making, and respect for our shared classroom environment.

A Day They Can Count On

Young children thrive when they know what to expect.

Our HighScope daily routine provides a consistent yet flexible rhythm to your child's day. Children begin to understand what happens next, which gives them a sense of security, confidence, and control over their environment.

Within that predictable routine, there is plenty of room for children's ideas, interests, discoveries, and those wonderfully unexpected moments that make preschool so much fun.

Celebrating Your Child's Growth

Every child develops differently, and we believe those differences should be recognized and celebrated.

Throughout the year, teachers will observe your child during natural classroom experiences and document their development using COR Advantage, HighScope's child assessment system.

Rather than relying on worksheets or tests, teachers observe what children actually say, do, create, attempt, discover, and accomplish throughout their day.

These observations help us identify your child's strengths, interests, emerging abilities, and next developmental steps.

We will share your child's progress with you throughout the year, including during parent-teacher conferences.

Families Are Part of the Journey

You know your child better than anyone, which makes you an important part of our teaching team.

Please use Tadpoles to communicate with us, share information from home, ask questions, and stay connected to your child's classroom experiences.

We also invite you to become part of our classroom community. Come share a favorite story, tell us about a family tradition, introduce us to something special about your culture, or participate in a classroom experience.

At Future Generation, we believe that school and family should work together — not separately.

Most importantly, thank you for trusting us with your child. We understand what it means to place someone you love in another person's care, and we never take that responsibility lightly.

We can't wait to watch your child explore new ideas, make friends, solve problems, build confidence, become more independent, and discover their own path.

Welcome to Pathfinders — let the adventure begin!

Working Together,

The Pathfinders Teaching Team

Future Generation Early Learning Centers

What Your Pathfinder Will Need

PLEASE LABEL ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS.

Please send the following items on or before your child's first day:

- 1 complete change of seasonally appropriate clothing, including socks and underwear
- 2 additional pairs of underwear
- 1 standard fitted crib-size sheet for the rest mat
- 1 small receiving-size blanket for rest time
- 1 book bag/backpack
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 child-size toothbrush with a cover
- 1 tube of child-size toothpaste
- 1 package of wet wipes
- 1 family photograph

Please check your child's extra clothing regularly to make sure it still fits and is appropriate for the season.

Classroom Safety

Our classroom is a nut-free environment. Please speak with your child's teaching team or Center Director regarding allergies, dietary restrictions, or other individual needs.

We look forward to an amazing year of Family, Love, Creating, Engaging, Serving — and Finding Our Path Together!