



Head Start Program

Mason County

Family Transition

Handbook

2024-2025

Updated April 2024

Gateway Head Start would like to thank you for participating in the Head Start program. We hope that your child leaves our program with the school readiness skills that he/she will need to help them to become a successful adult.

Mason County Head Start Center

800-927-1833 EXT 6900 or 6901

Tiffany Samaniego- Senior Director of Early Childhood

Jacob Litteral- Director of Program Operations



Head Start Staff

Teachers

Helen Evans
Lauren Fritz
Dawnya Highfield
Megan Clark

Assistant Teacher

Michelle Day
Courtnae Burriss
Ashley Shope
Brittany Tackett

Floaters

Raechel Abel
Jeanetta Ruark
Courtney Wilson

Family Service Advocates

Tammy Walker
Shelley Maynard

The purpose of this packet is to provide families that are moving from our Head Start program to Kindergarten with valuable information. We work in collaboration with the school district to promote a smooth and seamless transition. A clear understanding of policies and expectations of the district will avoid anxieties that often accompany change. We encourage you to carefully review the packet in order to be well informed as your child moves to the next phase of their education.

Thank you for being a part of the Head Start program and we wish you and your family success in all your future endeavors.

A child's mind is not a container to be filled, but rather a fire to be kindled.~ D. Brandle

Mason County Board of Education
Phone: (606) 564-5563

Superintendent

Rick Ross

Special Education Director

Lisa Applegate

Transportation Director

Jonathan Thomas

Straub Elementary
Phone: (606) 564-9047

Principal

Katie Mason

Guidance Counselor

Leslie Jackson

Assistant Principal

Matt Voiles

School Nurse

Cara Graves

Kindergarten Teachers

Michele Harriss

Amy Conley

Brandis Cox

Tammy Gallenstein

Maria Hitt

Cassandra McCann

Beth McCord

Ashlee Pollitt

Angela Yelton

Kindergarten Teacher Assistants

Peggy Hopkins

Brandi Brooks

Rhonda Whisman

Jessica Barnett

Linda Applegate

Brooke Black

Lacee Mains

Jenna Wallingford

Kalyn Emmons

Family Resource Center

Melissa Simmons

Melissa Grandison

**Mason County School District Calendar
2024-2025**

This calendar is subject to change



August 26th	First day for students
September 2nd	Labor Day Holiday
October 7th - October 11th	Fall Break No School
November 5th	Closed- Election Day
November 27th - November 29th	Thanksgiving Holiday Break
December 20th	Early Dismissal- 1 pm
December 23rd - January 3rd	Christmas Break No School
January 20th	Martin Luther King Day No School
February 17th	President's Day No School
March 31st - April 4th	Spring Break No School
May 23rd	Last Day for Students

Straub Elementary Daily Schedule

7:20-7:55	Parent Drop Off
7:35-8:20	Breakfast
8:00	Instructional day begins
11:45-12:10	Lunch
3:05	Pick up begins
3:00	Instructional Day ends

Food Services

Prices at all schools

Students Breakfast and Lunch FREE

Adult Breakfast \$2.75

Adult Lunch \$4.00

If your child has a food allergy a doctor's excuse is required in order to make necessary accommodations.

Mason County Schools Board of Education

2023-2024 School Year

Karen Osborne, Member

karen.osborne@[mason.kyschools.us](mailto:karen.osborne@mason.kyschools.us)

Vicki Lowe, Member

vicki.lowe@[mason.kyschools.us](mailto:vicki.lowe@mason.kyschools.us)

Ron Rosel, Member

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Lamont Johnson, Member

lamont.johnson@mason.kyschools.us

Dr. Michael Coleman, Member

michael.coleman@mason.kyschools.us

Family Resource Center

Melissa Simmons

The goal of the Mason County Family Resource and Youth Service Centers is to serve as the “hands and heart” of the community by reaching out to students and their families and providing resources and linkage to the appropriate agencies for assistance with their needs. The major emphasis of the Centers is to enhance and promote the growth and development of families in order to ensure that all students can succeed in school. For more information, or assistance:

Straub Family Resource Center - serving Straub Elementary
Melissa Simmons, FRC Coordinator - 606/564-5683 / Fax: 564-5320
387 Chenault Drive, Maysville, KY 41056
Hours of Operation: 8 AM to 4 PM - with additional hours as needed.

PROGRAMS / SERVICES OFFERED

Back-to-School Fair (FRC & YSC)

All Pro Dad & iMOM Programs at MCIS (FRC)

Parent Workshops @ Straub (FRC)

Grandparent Support Group Meetings (FRC & YSC)

Healthy Snack Weekend Backpack Program (FRC & YSC)

Big Smiles In-School Dental Program (FRC & YSC)

Blue Ribbon Kids Fest - Reading Literacy Festival (Mason County Early Childhood Council / FRC)

Building Blocks: A Baby & Child Gala (Regional Prevention Center / FRYSC)

Red Ribbon Week (FRC & YSC)

Truth or Consequences (Mason County Extension Office / YSC)

Operation Preparation (YSC)

College Fair / College Application Week (YSC)

Health Fair (YSC)

STOP - Drug & Alcohol Prevention Program (FRC & YSC)

TATU - Teens Against Tobacco Use (YSC)

Drug House Odyssey - Drug & Alcohol Prevention Program (YSC)

Summer Enrichment Camps (FRC & YSC)

Career Week @ Straub Elementary (FRC)

Community Christmas / Christmas with Cops (FRC & YSC)

Plant the Dream (YSC)

Character Education Activities / Programming (FRC & YSC)

Early Childhood Education / Birth Packets (FRC)

Volunteer Program (FRYSC in collaboration with Mason County Community Education)

Barker's Bus Bucks - Bus Behavior Program @ Straub (FRC)

25 Things

Your child needs to know before entering kindergarten

- Say his/her name
- Identify specific body parts (wrist, heel, chest)
- Stand on one foot
- Walks backwards heel to toe
- Identify primary and secondary colors
- Draws shapes
- Draw detailed person
- Print name (first and last)
- Count in order to 30
- Count objects
- Identify uppercase letters
- Identify lowercase letters
- Write uppercase letters
- Write lowercase letters
- Puts things away after use
- Open doors
- Stay on task for at least 20 minutes
- Feed himself/herself with utensils
- Dress himself/herself without assistance
- Play well with others
- Understand that books are read left to right
- Read words
- Distinguish fact from fiction
- Retell stories

All children who are 5 years of age on or before August 1st are eligible for kindergarten.