

Policy on Social Skills Development,  
for 4 and 5 year old students at Cassidy School

The Cassidy School Council recognizes that play is the primary avenue to young children's (4 – 6 years of age) learning and development. It is during these times that children learn to construct meaning in their relationships with others. In elementary school young children gain - or they do not gain - the skills that they will need throughout their school years and throughout their adult lives. This is where they gain - or do not gain - fundamental knowledge of themselves, of our country, and of our common heritage. It is also where they develop - or do not develop - the personal qualities, the habits, the values and the demeanor that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Opportunities for young children to learn through creative play is encouraged, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. All creative play will occur under the direct observation and supervision of the teacher.
2. Teachers will reinforce appropriate elements of the Social Skills and Practical Living curricula during this time.
3. Any appropriate curriculum may be delivered within the classroom or outside of the classroom.
4. Recess or any other break from instruction is not permitted.
5. The Cassidy School Council is committed to providing a full three hours of instruction for half-day students and six hours of instruction for all full-day students.