



## Welcome to Summit Pathways 2021-2022!

Pathways is an arts and early childhood education program and Kindergarten for ages 3-5 at Summit Dance Co. in Marketplace at Redmond Ridge. With 7,000 square feet of space, we transform nightly from dance studios to preschool classrooms, raised garden beds in the spring, an arts center and of course, studio space for dance, musical theater, role play, sports, outside science programs and more. Learning is fun!

[Sign up today for a private tour and talk with our certified teacher.](#) Appointments are open every morning at 8:45am and 9:00am throughout February as well as 1:00pm as requested. Due to the pandemic, we request masks, hand sanitizing and respected distancing.

We are passionate about inspiring children to reach their full potential through individual learning pathways in a fun and nurturing environment. We are committed to enriching children's lives, sparking their curiosity, developing self-confidence and inspiring a love of independent learning through problem solving. We work hand-in-hand with you to ensure your child gains an enthusiasm for reading, enjoys solving math problems, loves science, speaks and writes with confidence, enhances creativity, makes decisions independently, develops physical coordination, practices good study skills, gets along well with others, learns to work in a team and aspires to a lifetime of learning.

Our philosophy is that children learn best through active participation. The most important lessons require thinking and problem solving. It is the process of learning that is most important. This helps us organize the environment, select materials and plan daily activities for fun, interactive learning as well as socialization through friendship-building.

Our seasoned teachers are MERIT-certified, First aid and CPR certified, and experienced education professionals. Miss Tracey, our primary teacher, has an advanced degree in childhood education, while others hold degrees in dance, psychology and education. Training in STE(A)M, Montessori, Piaget and years of teaching preschool gives all of our teachers an opportunity to nurture and share a passion for learning with your child.

You may schedule 2-5 curriculum days a week with optional Summit Dance Co. classes. You also have varied drop-off and pick-up times based on the SDC classes being offered. The program grows with your child while safety and health protocols are strictly enforced.

[Pathways Faculty:](#) Tracey Gilman, Lisa Lucarelli, and Shandie Hensley  
[Summit Dance Co. \(SDC\) Owners:](#) Amanda Kaneshiro and Gayle Leyde

## COVID-19 Protocols

Summit Pathways is adapting to the pandemic environment by strictly following [CDC and King County Health protocols for early childhood education](#). We are taking all procedures and protocols very seriously to ensure the safety of all students, families and staff. Virtual lessons will be available during the pandemic.

Pathways is considered an essential early childhood education program and may remain open in Phases 1 and 2 (+). We will close if there is a state mandate for education and follow every guideline to assure the safety of our students and faculty.

## The ABCs and 123s of Our Program

Our commitment to providing the very best for you and your child consists of:

### **A. The Best Curriculum for Supporting Your Child's Total Development**

1. We incorporate current research as well as early childhood development experts, including Montessori and Piaget, in determining our curriculum. We provide your child with the very best educational opportunities in a fun, comfortable and praise-valued environment.
2. Our curriculum is child-centered so your child will develop their individuality.
3. We provide developmentally-appropriate activities as established by the [National Association for the Education of the Young Child \(NAEYC\)](#), which increase in complexity as your child develops so they will be continuously challenged.

### **B. The Best Enrichment You Can Provide Your Child**

1. We are your child's one-stop enrichment destination, offering: phonics instruction, dance classes, art instruction, story time, creative movement, science, Spanish, sign language, drama and lessons through gardening.
2. Summit Pathways provides you with the peace of knowing your child's total growth will be fostered and nurtured. We focus on physical, emotional, cognitive, linguistic and social development.
3. We save you time and money by providing your child with the best variety of enriching experiences in one convenient location.

### **C. The Best Personal Choice You Can Make for Your Child**

1. You are joining a small community of families and educators passionately committed to bringing holistic enrichment to children.
2. Your child will have the advantage of a professional classroom, studios and gym combined with the security of the Redmond Ridge community.
3. A small class size provides your child with social comfort and security in an aesthetically pleasing environment.

## Summit Pathways Curriculum & Schedule

We are delighted to offer various pathways to education, independence and physical wellbeing. Pathways is a half day program (with optional classes afterwards) allowing children to explore, make discoveries and manipulate materials at a more natural and relaxed pace. The curriculum fosters a child's natural curiosity to direct, extend and enrich their preschool experience with learning, movement and fun.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Summit Pathways follows the Summit Pathways calendar, NOT the SDC dance class calendar. Please see this calendar posted at Summit and [online](#).

### **Monday – Friday Summit Pathways Curriculum**

Our schedule is designed to suit your needs – choose your path! Regardless of your child's age, you have a choice in the number of days you would like your child to attend: two, three, four or five days a week. Kindergarten must attend 4-5 days a week.

8:45-9:15am	Early Arrival Option - Exploration and Tumbling class (Summit Dance Co. - Extra SDC Tuition or \$20 Drop-in)
9:15-9:25am	Welcome Activities
9:25-10:00am	Welcome Circle (Example: Spanish, Sign Language, Music or Unit Story)
10:00-10:45am	Individualized Instruction or Small Group Instruction (Math, Language, Phonics, Writing or Drawing); Potty Break
10:45-11:00am	Free Choice Activities (Problem Solving, Following Directions, Practical Life Experiences, Arts & Crafts and Self-Serve Snacks)
11:00-11:15am	Social Interactive Play (Role Playing, Language Development, Cooperation or Negotiation)
11:15am-11:45am	Enrichment Classes (Drama, Science Discovery, Large Motor Development, Creative Movement, Music and Song)
11:45am-12:05pm	Lunch & Reading (Social Sharing or Lessons on Table Manners)
12:15-12:35pm	Exploration (Gym Sports, Gardening, Outside Play, Role Playing, Motor Development or Nature Appreciation)
12:35-12:45pm	Language/Story and Dismissal
12:45-1:30pm	Late Pickup Option or Exploration Class (Summit Dance Co. - Extra SDC Tuition or \$20 Drop-in)

*This schedule is only a guideline for each day. We change based on the needs and interests of the children. There is always time set for individual needs, age/ability needs and all group activities.*

## Additional Kindergarten Curriculum

The kindergarten curriculum is a continuation of our preschool program. We believe children to be active learners and create lessons and activities that will support fun while learning. Because of our small class size, we create an individualized learning plan for each student. Our curriculum is based on the Washington state learning standards for K-8. Those enrolled in kindergarten must be enrolled for 4-5 (recommended 5) days a week.

Kindergarten has themed units which integrate art, music and nature with academic skills. Activities are tailored for kindergarten learners with focuses on seven key areas of learning:

**Literacy:** A large part of the kindergarten curriculum, literacy includes daily read alouds, guided reading groups, phonics instruction, alphabet practice, handwriting practice and comprehension activities. Our “kid writing” curriculum helps children practice writing skills and the development of grammar conventions.

**Math:** Daily math games, puzzles and small group math practice with hands-on activities help students practice counting and numeration skills.

**Science:** Units on plant and insect life and when possible, we love to get outdoors to enjoy some nature activities. Science activities and lessons teach children about the natural world we live in.

**Creative Arts:** Music time with singing and musical instruments, dramatic play, dance classes, drawing, painting and arts & crafts. Children get to explore their creative and motor abilities through body movement and skills such as cutting and gluing.

**Movement:** We have lots of space for active play activities! Children can practice running, jumping, ball bouncing and bowling in our large movement area to develop strong and active bodies.

**Health:** Our units on germs, healthy foods and more teach students the basics on caring for their own and communal health.

**Social/Emotional:** Children work in small groups to allow for social interaction with peers and learn how to work together to solve problems. Sharing time during morning circle allows children to individually express thoughts and ideas to peers and teachers.

## End-of-Year Celebration

Every year Summit Dance Co. holds a recital to allow the dancers to show off what they have been working so hard on. Pathways students also get the opportunity to be a part of the show - on stage! They will all perform a song and dance. We will also be announcing our graduating students. It is so important for these children to be recognized and applauded for completing the program as well as learning the skills of presentation and performance.

SDC classes are performing classes at the end of the year, so keep in mind if your child is enrolled in after school classes (Twinkle Stars Tap/Ballet, L'il Hip Hop Stars or Tiny Tots), they will be performing dances for those classes as well. Pathways students get a 10% discount on SDC tuition rates. See a full offering of SDC classes at [summitdanceco.com](http://summitdanceco.com).

## Admissions Process and Payments

Summit Pathways is appropriate for students who are nearly three years old (2.8 and potty-trained) to students in kindergarten. We accept applications for children who miss the school cut-off but who turn three by December 2021 and are emotionally ready for instruction. Our Pre-Kindergarten program for older fours and fives offers appropriate challenges as well as many opportunities for this age group to develop confidence, maturity and leadership skills before entering kindergarten.

In order to begin the admissions process, please submit a completed application form online and provide the appropriate registration fee through auto-pay or check. Before completing the forms, please make certain that they are dated with the school year for which you are applying. Fees will not be charged until it is determined by us that we have a position for your child. There is no cost to you if your child is not accepted for enrollment. Spaces are limited as we prefer small classroom experiences with low child to teacher ratios.

### Tuition

Pathways tuition ranges from \$375 to \$1100 per month depending on your enrollment choices. Summit Dance Co. classes are billed at [SDC tuition rates](#) with a 10% discount. There is no additional registration fee for Pathways students taking SDC classes. We also provide a 10% sibling discount on Pathways tuition. Your Pathways tuition remains the same each month. There is no credit given for vacations or illness. The Pathways tuition is divided into ten equal payments with your initial deposit acting as the 10th payment.

- 2-Days: \$375.00/month (plus any optional SDC class tuition)
- 3-Days: \$550.00/month (plus any optional SDC class tuition)
- 4-Days: \$725.00/month (plus any optional SDC class tuition)
- 5-Days: \$875.00/month (plus any optional SDC class tuition)

### Deposits and Fees

A non-refundable registration fee (\$100 or \$75 for returning students) is charged on auto-pay with your school application. A separate non-refundable deposit of one month's tuition is required upon acceptance to Summit Pathways and guarantees entrance. This deposit will be applied to your tenth payment of the school year (June 2022). In the case of mandated full-month pandemic closures, payments will be refunded for months closed.

### Payment Schedule

- **Payment #1:** \$100 Registration Fee/ \$75 returning student due upon application
- **Payment #2:** One month tuition as a non-refundable deposit for June 2021 tuition due upon acceptance
- **Payment #3:** First month (September) tuition due on August 1st
- **Payment #4-11:** October 2021 forward: Monthly tuition payments for Pathways (and SDC classes if applicable) due on the first of each month
- **Payment #12:** Recital Fee and Costume Deposit (for students enrolled in SDC performance classes); Pathways students who do not take SDC classes only pay for their tickets to performance, unless in other SDC classes, due in January
- **(Payment #2):** Initial deposit applied for June 2021 tuition, no payment due at this time

## Additional Policies and Notes

### Toilet-Training Policy

Children are required to be toilet trained. In the event that they are not reliably using the toilet, they will be required to attend in pull-ups and to go home prior to lunch or immediately following a non-toilet bowel movement. If a child shows no readiness to use the toilet, it is often an indicator of a lack of readiness for a structured preschool setting.

### Absence Policy

Your monthly fee remains the same according to the path you have chosen. If your child is absent due to illness, vacation, etc. full tuition is still due. You are paying for a position in the school which will remain vacant during your child's absence and held for your child's return.

If you are late for pickup or arrive earlier than scheduled, your child will automatically join the SDC class in session or be provided care. You will have to wait for the class to appropriately end before removing the child. An automatic \$20 drop-in rate will be applied.

### Vaccine and Illness Policies

**All students must be current with vaccines and boosters. Please provide medical record verification upon enrollment.**

For the health of your child and the other children in the program, please keep your child home when showing signs of illness or if the following situations exist:

1. Child has a fever, vomiting or diarrhea or has had one in the past 24 hours. Your child's temperature will be taken upon entry each day throughout the pandemic.
2. Child has a cold which interferes with their full participation in program activities.
3. Child has colored nasal discharge or persistent cough.
4. Child is fussy, tired, cranky or generally not themselves - often the first symptom of oncoming illness.
5. Child has symptoms of a communicable disease.
6. Child is taking medication which affects their full participation in the program.
7. Child is in quarantine for household exposure to Covid-19 or is in quarantine for travel out of state as mandated by Washington State Department of Health.

If a child becomes ill with any of these symptoms while in attendance, the parent will be called to come and get the child immediately. The child will be placed on a rest mat near staff but away from the other children until the parent arrives.

### Medication Policy

Prescription or non-prescription labeled medications will be given only with written parental permission. Parents will be required to fill out a Medication/Treatment Authorization form before any prescription or non-prescription medication will be administered to the child. All medications must be properly labeled, with written instructions on how and when to administer, as well as symptoms to recognize and doctor information. Medications will be left secured at the front desk with Summit Dance Co. staff. Do not leave medications of any kind in your child's bag or pocket.

## **Behavior Management and Discipline Procedures**

One of the goals of the program is to provide children with the opportunity to express their feelings in appropriate ways and to solve social problems constructively. Children are given guidance in how to accept and express their feelings by verbalization. Our goal is to prevent unacceptable behavior from occurring by setting limits, guiding actions and redirecting children before a major conflict occurs. Our intent is to curb the behavior without breaking spirit and to develop respect for one another.

We will follow these guidelines:

1. Identify the behavior that is causing conflict.
2. Recognize the child's emotion and select an alternative outlet. Help the child work through their feelings.
3. Give time for redirection.
4. If unable to let go, then private time on a mat with a book and supervision - parents will get a note of any mat time. Please expect a few... we all have days when mat time is needed!
5. If behavior continues, a warning to call parent while waiting on a chair. If behavior continues, a call will be made.
6. Parent and teacher discuss further action, or teacher requests pickup and return another day.

## **Withdrawal and Termination Policy**

It is assumed that enrollment is for a complete school year, September 2021 – June 2022. If you should need to withdraw your child before the end of the school year, we request that you notify us as soon as you know the last date your child will be attending. Your 10th month deposit will not be refunded, as it is only applicable for the last payment of the school year.

Conditions that will cause your child's participation in the program to be terminated:

1. Behavior problems that cannot be resolved within a designated time frame. We reserve the right to terminate participation immediately if we consider the behavior to be severe or to represent a safety issue.
2. All Summit families are required to be on autopay with a debit or credit card on file. If non-sufficient funds occur you will be notified and are requested to update your account information. If not paid in full by the 15th of the month a \$40 late fee is applied. If a pattern of non-payment occurs termination is an option.
3. Consistent late pickup of your child after chosen pickup time.
4. Unresolved disagreements between parent(s) and Pathways staff over policies.
5. The child is not toilet trained and it is determined by the teachers that the situation is indicative of a lack of school readiness.

## **Child Abuse Reporting**

We are required by law to report suspected child abuse and neglect.



### Medical Emergency Procedures

If a life threatening emergency occurs while your child is in our care, our procedures are as follows:

1. In life threatening or emergency situations, 911 will be called immediately
2. First Aid/CPR will be administered, as appropriate by certified staff
3. Parent will be notified
4. Child will be transported to designated hospital if emergency responders deem appropriate
5. Emergency will be documented and filed in child's file and given to parent

### Minor Incidents/Injuries:

1. First Aid will be administered as appropriate by certified staff and documented for the parent.

### Disaster Response Plan

We have followed the Federal Emergency Management Agency preparedness guidelines. In the event of a disaster, we have stored the six basic supplies as recommended: water, food, first aid supplies, clothing, bedding and tents for shelter. Our plan for contacting parents is the same as stated in our emergency plan. We will conduct emergency drills regularly as well.

### Weather and Emergency Safety Policy

In the event of a storm involving snow, ice, flooding, high winds or power failure, our closure decision will be based on the [Lake Washington School District's](#) late start or closure decision. In the event of CDC or King County Health recommendations mandating school closures, we will abide by the recommendation for LWSD.

LWSD has crews checking the safety and road conditions in the early hours of the morning, and makes their decisions accordingly. Transporting your child in unsafe conditions is not in anyone's best interest, so we will leave the decision to the experts. When possible, we will post school closure information on the SDC website. However, if you don't see any closure information, please check for Lake Washington School District elementary school closures or late start statuses to determine what our status will be on any given day.

In the event that a school day must be cancelled or shortened, no make-up days or credit will be given for days since it is out of our control. However if more than 2 days are cancelled or shortened, then make-up days will be announced for optional participation.

### Nondiscrimination

Summit Pathways provides an ongoing anti-bias curriculum which helps children become aware of the uniqueness of every individual. There will be no discrimination against children, families or employees because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, age, presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or due to the need of a service animal. There will be reasonable accommodations made for limitations of children or employees with disabilities.



## Parental Involvement

Due to the current pandemic, protocols for a healthy and safe environment we are postponing parent involvement.

During normal school days (pre and post-pandemic!):

Every morning at arrival, a parent or approved adult brings the child into the building.

1. You walk your child to the refrigerator. Please stack your lunch box in the refrigerator.
2. Have all belongings in a bag, (socks are the best footwear to bring along).
3. Must have your child use the toilet and wash hands to start the day!
4. Bring your child to Pathways Preschool door promptly at 8:45am for the early SDC class or 9:15am. Your teachers will open doors and greet you!

We encourage a partnership with all parents in the program. Please volunteer to share with the children. The one who will be the most proud of you will be your own child! We have an open door policy once state mandates change. In phases I, II and III we have a closed lobby. This is temporary.

Once we are post-pandemic we will return to our welcoming environment:

1. Parents are welcome to visit by checking-in at the front desk. Please call ahead when longer visits are expected so we can plan an introduction to the children.
2. Parent/teacher conferences are held once a year to foster communication, identify strengths and areas of growth. We also use this time to set goals.
3. The family's right to privacy and confidentiality will be respected regarding the information they share.
4. Parents will be provided information about the program in a periodically published newsletter.
5. Parents' personal evaluations of the program are considered very valuable and will be welcomed. We want you to trust us and know we are passionate about the Summit Pathways curriculum and program. We have your child's best interest at heart.
6. Parents are encouraged to share their stories and special talents with the children in the program. The possibilities are endless: sharing about traditions, vacations, occupations, heritage and family, cooking, reading a book, singing, etc.

## Field Trips and Outreach Programs (postponed during pandemic)

There may be occasional group outings planned for you and your child to visit various local destinations such as farms, children's theaters, bakeries, parks, fire stations, etc. Even though these trips are typically scheduled during normal school hours, they are non-school functions. You will be solely responsible for your child's transportation and supervision if you choose to participate. Participation in these group visits is completely optional. School will be in session as normal for those who wish to have their child remain under the supervision of the school staff. Outreach programs and field trips may require an additional fee.

## Cultural and Religious Outreach

We encourage families to share their celebrations, traditions and customs with the class. The curriculum will include the use of *The Virtue Guide*. Its purpose is to bring character training into children's lives on the premise that the world needs people who are willing to

take personal responsibility and to reach out to others in kindness and love. Honor and celebration of differences brings knowledge and understanding.

### Drop-In Classes

Additional drop-in classes are billed on the day of the request. There are no refunds. SDC classes have a commitment to the end-of-the-year show and will require enrollment, SDC tuition (monthly) and show fees (due in January). Music, Yoga, Acro and Tumbling are non-performing classes, so regular attendance is highly encouraged, but not required.

### Snacks and Lunch

Your child will be provided one snack per day. Dietary restrictions are followed. You will also be required to provide a nutritious lunch or a large wholesome snack each day. We ask to pack nut-free lunches due to common nut allergies. All lunches are brought in a Bentgo lunch box (provided to you at the Meet and Greet staff event) for easy storage in our refrigerator. Please include your child's name on their lunch box, and we encourage personalization (such as stickers, decoration with permanent markers, etc.).

### Calendar

[Pathways Preschool and Kindergarten Meet and Greet: Monday, August 30, 2021](#)

[Pathways Preschool begins: Tuesday, September 7th, 2021](#)

Important dates and closures can also be found on our [website](#). The Pathways calendar does differ from the regular SDC class calendar, so please use both as necessary.

### Summit Pathways Location

This preschool takes formation nightly at Summit Dance Co. We have access to 7,000 square feet with 4 large studio spaces, a kitchenette and 3 bathrooms: 5 toilets and sinks. The Rainier studio has every preschool wish: brightly colored alphabet, sensory table, small student study tables, library center, make-believe and occupation center, math and science center, animal center, construction and building center, art center and circle time. The Olympic studio is set up for large motor skills: gymnastic mats, soccer nets, dance, tents, obstacle courses for movement and interactive play (arranged according to curriculum).

Email or call us with any questions. We welcome your child to join Pathways and Summit Dance Co. Come join the fun!

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