

Mrs. Hills Kindergarten Disclosure

Philosophy: Here at Quest, “It’s **ALL** about the children.” I share this as part of my personal philosophy, and for this reason I chose to work at Quest Academy. I hope to transfer my love of learning to my students with a tender, but firm approach. I realize that children are on many different levels at this age, and with the use of differentiated instruction, we can work to help them progress individually. I am so excited about the opportunity to facilitate the learning in our Kindergarten classroom!

School Wide Rules: There are five basic rules in our classroom and school:

1. Silent Movement
2. Raise Hands
3. Self Start
4. Follow Directions
5. 12 Inch Whisper

Dress: Please send your child dressed appropriately for the weather and for the school’s dress code. Students who are not in school dress code will be required to call home so that a change of clothing can be brought to him/her. This will include socks and belts. The school dress code can be found in your parent handbook. Please note that light up shoes are not allowed and may be a distraction.

Grading: Grades can be found on Aspire, so please sign up for that through the school; the office can help you get started. Grades will be updated by Sunday of each week. If I feel your child is struggling, I will do my best to work with him/her and keep you informed through parent conferences to provide the student with opportunities to improve.

Grading in Kindergarten largely involves the child putting forth their very best effort. Evaluations provide us with information about your child’s knowledge and identify areas that may need improvement and also help me target my teaching. We will be using state standards in our grading system to identify the core standard taught and the level of mastery your child earns. I want each child to leave my class feeling like they can accomplish anything they set out to do. Please let me know if there is any concern at any time!

Homework: My goal is to create a love and desire for learning, especially reading. Research indicates that the best way to help your child become a successful learner is to READ at home. Each child will be required to read 20 minutes each day. This includes a parent or family member reading to your child, as well as listening to your child read the baggie books (which are assigned on their reading level), and any other book choices.

Quest policy indicates that **your Kindergarten child should NOT be required to spend more than 10 minutes on daily practice homework.** Homework is a wonderful way to help students review, practice and prepare for the lessons learned at school. I am an advocate for homework. I feel it's important for a parent to observe and coach your child as they review and practice. Homework will be given on Monday and Due back on Friday.

Each night your child will bring home his/her Take-Home Folder. One pocket will include papers that can remain at home (completed assignments, letters to parents from me or the school, etc.). The other pocket will include papers that need to be completed and sent back to school (homework, permission slips, questionnaires, etc.) This folder will include your baggie books, reading calendar and a few other important things. (Its permanent home should be your child's backpack so it can come to school with them and go home with them.) It is important that this folder be checked each night by a parent, as it will help to maintain communication between you, your child, and our school/classroom. Please remember that homework is a part of your child's grade. Thank you for your efforts in this!

Birthdays: Birthday Gifts-Administration has asked that students not bring in any food-type treats. One suggestion is that a book be donated to our class library in lieu of treats. Others have provided a small toy or party favor. Please do not feel "obligated" to have your student bring in anything for their birthday. Your child's birthday will still be acknowledged. If you choose to do so, we have 22 students in our class. To avoid any hurt feelings, please mail birthday invitations to classmates' homes. Do not have your child distribute his/her invitations before or after school, as this may also cause hurt feeling.

Show & Teach: This version of “show & tell” allows for sharing while learning. My goal is to teach the students the process of discovery. Discovery involves asking questions. I will send home the bucket with one child at a time. The instructions will be on the bucket. Your child may bring only one item and No toys! Your child should be prepared with three clues. The class will have the opportunity to ask questions before the item is shown. This helps children develop the ability to think, ask questions, speak before a group, and analyze information. I will rotate the bucket so the children will each have opportunities throughout the year to teach us.

Behavior/Rewards: Kindergarten is a chance to learn great social skills. I follow the Love and Logic principles of discipline. Kindergarten children can learn expectations and gain an understanding of following those expectations. It takes some practice for the children to gain the experience, but a classroom set up with clear expectations fosters learning. There are a few rules and many procedures, and we will spend many weeks practicing these. It is important to me that my students love coming to school and feel excited about the new things they are learning. I teach respect by example and I want them to feel loved and respected. It is my goal to teach my students the “good feeling”, or intrinsic reward, that comes from making good choices. If a child makes a sad choice, there will be a consequence for their choice. Should a situation arise when your child demonstrates extreme behaviors, I will set up a conference with you.

Classroom Supplies: My supply list is provided on my blog under the Parent Information Tab. Supplies are considered donations, but these supplies greatly contribute to our classroom functioning smoothly. Thank you for your generous donations!

School Calendar: Please be sure to check the school calendar for “Early Out” days and “No School” days. You can view/obtain a copy of the calendar from the Quest Academy website: www.questac.org I hope you will become very familiar with our website, as it is our primary form of communication with our parents. Let me know if you need help.

Contacting the Teacher: Parents may contact me by email, in person after school, or by calling Quest Academy at 801-731-9859. My email address is chill@questac.org. I will respond as soon as possible, but please allow at least 24-hours for a response. If your in-person visit with me is expected to last for more than 2-3 minutes, please schedule a time to visit with me, otherwise just stop in, and I will help you as best I can. You might receive a text alert from me if I need to reach you immediately. Please reserve my cell phone number as a last resort of contacting me.

Make-up Work: When your child is absent, I will allow them to make up any work they missed, preferably as soon as they return to school so they can keep up with the pace of instruction. If extra time is needed, I can work with you on an individual basis. If he/she misses a test, I will have my aide help with the make-up work.

Illness: We do our best to prevent the spreading of germs in Kindergarten. We use sanitizer often and encourage proper washing when using the restroom (although we cannot always verify it). I teach the children proper nose blowing, sneezing and coughing, followed by sanitizing. We also learn what to do if they need to vomit. I realize you don't always know for sure, but please do not send your child to school if you suspect they are ill. Please also keep them home if they have had a fever in the last 24 hours. Be sure they have had antibiotics for at least 24 hours prior to sending them if they have had a contagious disease such as strep throat or pink eye. Always ask your doctor the appropriate time frame before sending them to school.

Volunteers: I encourage your involvement in your child's education. I have an open door policy, and welcome your involvement through volunteer work. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer some of your hours in the classroom or even do work for me at home. Unless you are volunteering, please refrain from visiting the classroom for the first 2 weeks of school. It is difficult for some children with separation anxiety to see their parents while making the adjustment to being at school.

RETURN THIS PAGE TO MRS. HILL

As a parent or guardian of a student at Quest Academy Charter School, I acknowledge that I have read and shared with my child the *Disclosure Information for Mrs. Hill's Kindergarten Classroom 2017- 2018*. I also acknowledge that I can access another copy on Mrs. McBride's blog if needed.

Date Signed _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____