

What Do I Need to Know as My Child Enters Kindergarten?



What are the required health forms to enter kindergarten?

- Physical exam within one year of entering kindergarten
- Up to date immunizations
- Dental exam

Is parent involvement a part of the kindergarten program?

Research shows that students with involved parents/guardians are more likely to earn higher grades and test scores, attend school regularly, have better social skills, and enroll in higher-level education programs. When schools and family are partners in education, everybody benefits, children have a higher quality educational experience and school become more effective learning institutions.

The most important aspects of parent involvement happen at home. Children are better able to concentrate and learn when they have a good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast, have been read a book to the night before and have a calm and predictable home routine.

Parent involvement at school shows your child that education is important to you. When your child sees you participating in school events, your child understands

that school is important. Other ways to be involved at school include volunteering, joining the PTO, attending field trips, and participating in classroom and school activities.

The most important way to be involved at school is to have meaningful two-way communication with your child's teacher. Notes, emails, and phone calls are all effective ways to stay connected.

My child is asking questions about who their teacher will be and is nervous to leave their Preschool Teacher. How can I help?

Talk to your child about all the things he/she has learned in preschool and how your child has grown. Reassure your child that in kindergarten they will learn many new things and make many more new friends. Tell your child where he will be going to school and visit the new school.

Transitions are a natural part of life. If you reassure your child and explain what to expect, your child will be better equipped to move through the Preschool to Kindergarten transition process.

Where will my child be attending kindergarten?

Your child's placement will be in the neighborhood Kindergarten- Grade 5 elementary school. If you are unsure of your neighborhood school, please call registration at (856) 589-6644, ext. 6698.

How will kindergarten be different from preschool?

The major differences are:

- There is not a nap time
- Children eat in the cafeteria
- Kindergarten classrooms are more structured and have shorter periods of Free Choice Play and Outside Play Time
- The children receive Specials: Art, Music, Library, Physical Education, and Computers

Will my child have an opportunity to meet their teacher before the first day of kindergarten?

Yes, letters will be sent in August with information for “Meet the Teacher.”

How can I help my child be “Kindergarten Ready?”

- Your child can answer the question: “What is your name?” (Response includes using their first and last name)

-Teach your child their address

-Your child can use the bathroom with independence and will ask to use the bathroom

-Your child can wash their hands with soap and water counting to 20 while washing and then drying their hands

-Your child can put their outerwear on and take their outerwear off with independence

-Make sure your child’s backpack is not too big or too small. *Big enough to carry their lunch and school necessities.*