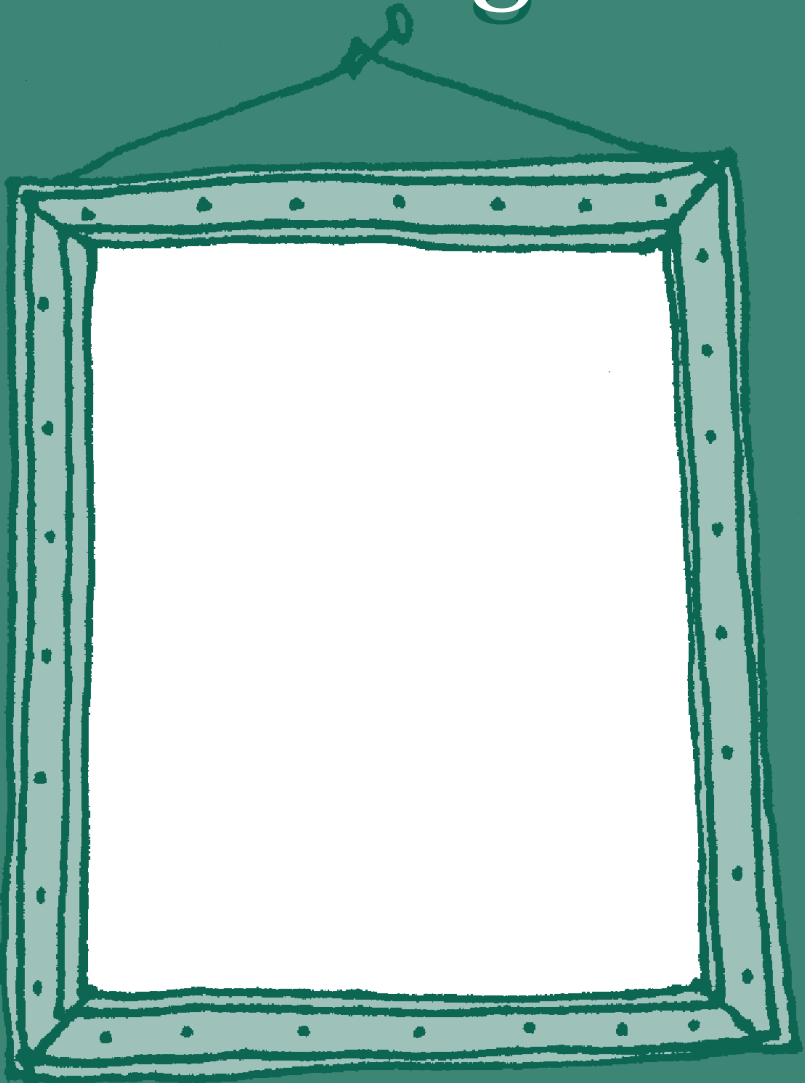




# Getting Ready for Kindergarten!



*Draw a picture of yourself.*



**Edmonds School District**

20420 68th Avenue West  
Lynnwood, WA 98036-7400  
425-431-7176

# Welcome to the Edmonds School District



As a parent, you have been your child's most important teacher. As your student starts a more formal schooling experience, our caring and competent staff will join you in partnership to provide the best education possible for your student.

We have designed this brochure to help you through the registration process, answer some frequently asked questions, and provide you with ways to prepare your child for the many kindergarten activities in which children participate.

We look forward to working with you as we begin this important home-school partnership.

Nick J. Brossoit  
Superintendent

## Kindergarten Programs

The Edmonds School District is pleased to offer parents the following kindergarten options:

**Part Day Kindergarten:** Students attend school five days a week in either a morning or afternoon session. Students are assigned to a morning or afternoon session based on their home address. This program is funded by the state.

**Full Day Kindergarten:** Students attend school five days a week the same hours as students in grades one through six. This program is funded in part by parent-paid tuition. Financial aid may be available to qualifying families. Please see the insert for the current tuition amount, or how to apply for financial aid.

Both Kindergarten programs offer a welcoming, supportive start to school in an active learning environment. Instruction is based on the Edmonds School District Curriculum Frameworks, which are designed to prepare students for first grade. Both programs also participate in library, music, and physical education classes.

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## Kindergarten — the Beginning

**Kindergarten is** — an opportunity for every child to be successful in learning.



## Questions & Answers

### Entry Age?

Students entering kindergarten must be 5 years old by midnight on August 31 in order to start school in September.

Children who will turn 5 between September 1 and October 31 may be tested

for early entrance into kindergarten at the request of the parent.

Please call 425-431-7176 for an Early Entrance Packet.

### Registration?

You may register during the school day at the main office of your home school (please see insert for times at your school). Registration begins in January on the Monday following the District Information Fair. It's important to register early. To find out which school your child will attend, please call our Transportation Department at 425-431-7230.

Please bring the following items with you to complete the registration process:

- Certified birth certificate issued by the County of birth (or passport and/or green card)
- Immunization record — your child may not start school until a completed Certificate of Immunization is on file in the office.
- Home address and phone number with proof of residency such as a utility bill, lease or mortgage papers, etc.
- Work addresses and phone numbers, emergency contact names/addresses/phone numbers, day care information, and name and phone number of child's physician

### Transfer Enrollment?

Please see the insert to this brochure if you wish to register your child at a school other than your home school.

**Kindergarten is** — a time when children are supported in recognizing their own worth.

**Kindergarten is** — the bridging between the home and the school for each child.

## Transportation?

Those eligible for bus transportation will be sent a bus pass by the 3rd week of August if registration occurs by the middle of August. Students registering after the middle of August will receive a bus pass at the school.

## Orientation?

Your school will notify you of the date and time of Kindergarten Orientation before school begins in September.

## Attendance and Changes in Routine?

Regular attendance is essential, and plays an important part in the development of your child's attitudes toward school life. Irregular attendance causes a student to miss valuable learning time, and requires a period of readjustment which slows learning.

Please don't be tardy! The start of the school day is important to your child's learning, and it is disruptive to the class if a child arrives after the session has started.

## Lunch?

Children in full day kindergarten will eat lunch at school. Students may bring a lunch from home or buy a school lunch. If you believe you are eligible for free or reduced lunch cost, please complete and turn in the required form from your school.

## Developmental Concerns?

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact the Edmonds School District Childfind at 425-431-7208. Early detection and intervention increases children's chances of school success.



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**Kindergarten is** — an opportunity for experiences that prepare children for learning throughout school and on through life.

**Kindergarten is** — the beginning — the initiation into the love of learning — the first formal step of the many to be taken to become an educated, contributing member of society.

## Fun Activities to Do Together

“What does my child need to know and be able to do to enter kindergarten? The important things to do? Spend time together, go places and talk about those experiences. Read to your child, and play simple games. Help your child learn new social and independence skills. The ideas shown on this page are not a checklist of things your child must know. They are suggestions for having fun and learning together and will also help your child’s readiness for school.



### Math:

When children count, solve problems, compare objects, and recognize shapes and patterns, they are using math to make sense of numbers in their every day lives.

- Count all the steps in your house
- Sort blocks by color, shape, and size
- Cook together using an easy recipe
- Go on a shape hunt outside
- Find numbers in magazines



### Science:

Children develop a beginning understanding of science by asking questions and making observations about their world.

- Visit a greenhouse
- Play with bubbles
- Mix paints or colored water to make new colors
- Go to the park and watch the squirrels
- Experiment with mirrors



### Large Motor Skills:

Developing large muscle control enables children to be physically fit and to be able to run and play with others.

- Thrown bean bags into hoops
- Play Red Light, Green Light
- Set up an obstacle course with buckets and cones for children to run around
- Bowl with a ball and milk cartons
- Fly, crawl, run, and move like certain animals



### Language & Literacy:

Language is developed by listening and communicating with others. Songs, rhymes, reading together, and playing with letter sounds set the foundation for literacy.

- Play I Spy — describe objects you see in the room
- Sing songs while riding in the car
- Make stick puppets and tell a story
- Talk about things that make you happy
- Read a book to your child when you visit the library



### Social Studies:

Children gain a broader view of their world as they learn about self, family, community, and cultural traditions.

- Make a map of your house or neighborhood together
- Walk around the block noticing what’s new and different
- Visit an outdoor fruit and vegetable stand
- Look at family photos
- Find magazine pictures of people showing various emotions



### Fine Motor Skills:

Opportunities to develop small muscle coordination help children as they learn to use a variety of tools to cut, draw, write, and tie.

- Paint on the sidewalk or house with a brush and water
- Make pipe cleaner sculptures
- Finger paint
- Make a collage with torn paper
- Play with play-dough



### Self-Help Skills:

Self-help skills are necessary in order for children to be independent, healthy, and safe in their everyday lives.

- Teach children to dress independently
- Give your child simple chores
- Teach names of relatives and neighbors
- Teach thorough hand washing
- Develop a routine for picking up belongings



## How You Can Help

Your **attitude** toward school will be reflected in your child. Children will look forward to kindergarten with pleasure if they are told of the pleasant and interesting things that go on there and the many new friends they will make.

**Parent involvement** is essential for an effective educational program. As a parent, get acquainted with your child's school and teacher. Attend parent meetings at the school. If you are willing to help in the classroom or at school, please contact the teacher or your school's Volunteer Coordinator.

The **papers** your child brings home are very important. Be sure to look over the work and make some positive comments. A little praise will work wonders and increase self-motivation. Children gain in both skill and confidence through sharing their experiences.

Teach your child to be **independent**. Kindergarten children need to be able to button, zip, tie shoes, and put on coats, hats, gloves, and boots. Help your child to learn **healthy home habits** that carry over to school, such as: putting away toys and other belongings; listening to others and following directions; helping with tasks around the house; helping and caring for others, including pets; and having regular routines including limiting television to certain scheduled programs, and regular times for going to bed, getting up, and mealtimes.



## Parent Conferences

Parent conferences, usually scheduled at the end of October, are scheduled so that the teacher can meet with each parent to discuss each child's progress in kindergarten. Individual conferences may be arranged with the teacher at any time. Report cards are sent home in late January/early February and on the last day of school.



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