

KINDERGARTEN

Background

Good Spirit School Division believes in building strong foundations for bright futures. As such the Division is committed to providing high quality early learning environments for Kindergarten students to support readiness for learning.

Procedures

1. Children who turn five by December 31 will be admitted to kindergarten for that school year. Attendance in kindergarten is highly encouraged, but not compulsory.
2. The Division provides kindergarten classes that are all-day in duration, and every second day in frequency for the entire school year.
 - 2.1. Kindergarten will begin on the first or second student day as outlined by the Division's calendar.
 - 2.2. Kindergarten teachers may implement staggered starts during the first week of school with smaller groups of children provided all students are attending all Kindergarten days by the second week of school.
 - 2.3. The last day of Kindergarten will be the last or second last student day as outlined by the Division's calendar.
3. Evaluation of student progress will focus on the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth of each child, and in accordance with the Division's *Guidelines for the Use of Reportfolios in Kindergarten*. Progress reports will consist of Early Years Evaluation (EYE) results, a report on Learning Behaviours, and Student Reportfolios. These reports will be discussed with parents at fall and spring reporting periods.
 - 3.1. Most commonly the teacher, parent and child will review the three reports together. Connections to the curriculum and to other reports are regularly made and explained in these conferences.
 - 3.2. The teacher and school administrator will work together to determine how reporting conferences will be organized and the level of student involvement.
 - 3.3. The Reportfolio is a collection of work from each term that should connect to Kindergarten learning goals as well as EYE assessments. It is important in all GSSD reporting to provide a good representation in evidence of the child's work.
 - 3.4. For spring student led conferences, students may be prepared to tell their parent(s) about the work included in their Reportfolio. Teachers will prepare

students for this task and will have them practice to prepare for student-led conferences.

- 3.5. Reportfolios will be sent home with the parent after the conference. Parents should come in to see and discuss the Reportfolio before it is sent home.

4. Kindergarten Orientation

- 4.1. A Kindergarten Orientation will be held at each school in May or June, and dates will be publicized by each school. The following are options for conducting orientations:

- 4.1.1. In the event a teacher is a full-time Kindergarten teacher, they may cancel one day of Kindergarten in order to host a Kindergarten Orientation in their classroom. In the event a Kindergarten day is cancelled for orientation, this should be communicated to parents at the beginning of the school year.

- 4.1.2. Schools with only one Kindergarten class should hold their orientation on a non-Kindergarten day and may access a half-day sub to cover the Kindergarten teacher's other assignment.

- 4.1.3. School may choose to hold their Kindergarten Orientation in the evening.

- 4.2. Kindergarten Orientation provides an opportunity for students and parents to meet the school staff and to alleviate some of the first day anxiety for children and parents. Orientation events will provide an opportunity for schools to:

- 4.2.1. Provide supply lists for students

- 4.2.2. Show students around the school and classrooms

- 4.2.3. Introduce Kindergarten teachers, support staff and administrators

- 4.2.4. To answer parent questions

Legal Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 163, 168, 175, Education Act, 1995
Registrar's Handbook for School Administrators

Updated: August 2017