



# Kindergarten| Welcome 2021-22

## CBE Mission

Each student, in keeping with their individual abilities and gifts, will complete high school with a foundation of learning necessary to thrive in life, work and continued learning.

## The Early Years

The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners; that is what sets our early learning programs apart from the rest. At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

## Learning opportunities

In kindergarten, your child will:

- explore and experiment with their environment
- interact with others
- develop decision-making skills
- build communication skills
- develop their knowledge and skills in early literacy, science, mathematics, social studies and fine arts

## Supports and Services

The Calgary Board of Education provides enhanced classroom supports for Kindergarten children. Throughout the year, members of a multidisciplinary team, such as speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists and early learning strategists work collaboratively with the classroom teacher and interact with the children in large or small groups. The CBE is proud of these excellent services that enhance learning for children in our kindergarten programs.

## Parent involvement

There are many ways for you to become involved in your child's education:

- talk with your child each day about what they did at school
- be positive about the school experience
- consider applying to be a volunteer in your child's school
- consider attending and be active in school council meetings

## Designated schools

Visit [cbe.ab.ca](http://cbe.ab.ca) for registration information and use our "Find a School" tool to find your child's designated school.

## Program choices

We provide a variety of kindergarten program options which include:

- Community schools
- Language programs
- Indigenous
- Montessori
- Traditional Learning Centres (TLCs)
- Science
- All Boys (The CBE also has an All Girls program for Grades 4 - 9.)

## Learn more

Additional early learning information and links to useful resources are available on our website. [cbe.ab.ca/kindergarten](http://cbe.ab.ca/kindergarten)



# Kindergarten | Getting Ready

Starting kindergarten is an exciting time in a child's life and there are a number of ways that you can help prepare your child for this important experience. Talking about school and helping your child feel excited about going to kindergarten will make a positive difference.

## Learn about the school:

- take your child to the school playground (when available)
- attend the school's kindergarten information session (when available)
- review the school website

## Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:

- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- make choices and solve problems

## Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in your first language every day
- praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes

## Read to your child every day:

- read stories together in your first language to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

## Build your child's interest in literacy and numeracy:

- make a game of looking for letters and numbers on community signs and in books
- provide scissors and playdough to strengthen fine motor skills
- provide opportunities for your child to draw with pencils, crayons and felt pens
- help your child print his or her first name, if they are interested
- make new discoveries by exploring together in a playful way

Young children need practice and patient encouragement in their learning. Working together and having fun is just as important as completing tasks.

Every child will be welcomed into the classroom as a unique individual with their own strengths. We look forward to learning with your child in the Calgary Board of Education; great learning starts here!

learning | as unique | as every student

