



# Kindergarten



**CAMPBELL RIVER**  
School District 72

Starting kindergarten is an exciting milestone, but we know it can also create some anxiety for both children and parents. We want to help ease some of those worries! This flyer provides some simple ways that you, as a parent, can help prepare your child for kindergarten and some information about what you can expect.

## HOW TO PREPARE

As a parent or caregiver you can help your child get ready for kindergarten by:

- Staying positive and cheerful. Talk to your child about the exciting things they will learn.
- Practicing putting on and taking off shoes, packing and unpacking bags.
- Working on zippers, velcro, laces, buttons, snaps and other fasteners on clothing and bags.
- Encouraging independence in opening and closing food containers, using a fork and spoon, peeling fruit and wiping up spills.
- Allowing your child to become independent with bathroom routines in various settings.
- Teaching other basic hygiene like how to cover their mouth when they cough and how to blow their nose and put the tissue in the garbage.
- Choosing a backpack that your child can easily carry, open and close.
- Choosing shoes that your child can safely wear on the playground and in the gym.



We understand gradual entry can be challenging for families with childcare. **Thank you for helping us support your child's positive start to school!**

## TIPS FOR A GOOD START

As the start of school gets closer and as it starts in September:

- Visit the school over the summer to play on the playground. This will help your child start to feel comfortable on the school grounds.
- Keep food choices simple when packing their snack and lunch.
- Cut up fruit vegetables and sandwiches into bite size pieces.
- After the first day, make your goodbye cheerful and brief. Don't come back after your goodbye and don't slip away unnoticed! Let your child know that you'll be waiting when school ends, and be sure to be on time for pick up!

## WHY GRADUAL ENTRY?

Gradual entry eases the transition to school by:

- Setting the foundation for a comfortable and secure beginning to your child's school career.
- Giving children an opportunity to adjust to their teacher, classroom, and peers in a smaller group and for a shorter period of time.
- Providing time for a "welcome" conversation between the child, parent and teacher. You can begin to get to know each other and share important information about your child.
- Enabling the teacher to work with small groups of children in order to build positive relationships, familiarize students with classroom routines and introduce basic procedures.

**The school will provide more info about gradual entry and your child's entry schedule.**





# OUR BELIEFS AROUND FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN



**Respectful relationships with children and their families are vital.**

We create an environment that is welcoming, nurturing, safe and respectful for children and their families.



**Most learning in the kindergarten program occurs during play.**

**All children have potential to learn.**

We take children from “where they are” developmentally and help them take their next steps.



Through play-based exploration and inquiry the kindergarten program supports development of communication, thinking, and personal and social responsibility. (BC Curriculum Core Competencies)

**Learning environments foster respect for all learners.**

- All students will have opportunity to better understand and respect a variety of cultures, both their own and others.
- Indigenous perspectives are an important part of the historical foundation of BC and Canada and are integrated into the curriculum. (BC Curriculum Parent Guide)



**Oral language and other forms of representing are the foundations of literacy.**

These beliefs were co-created prior to the implementation of full-day Kindergarten in British Columbia with our early learning, Indigenous, and School District 72 communities.

