



Kindergarten Orientation Package

Sibylla Kiddle School



Calgary Board
of Education

Key Items



- Introductions
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- First day of kindergarten
- Important dates & times
- Communication Information
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for families
- Questionnaire

Introductions



- Mr. Emery – Principal
- Ms. Lundgren – Incoming Principal
- Mrs. Horne – Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Hegadoren – Kindergarten Teacher
- Ms. Donamo – Kindergarten Teacher
- Mrs. McNaughton – Administrative Assistant
- Ms. Magdy – School Secretary

Learning Through PLAY



Play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly by formulating a **hypothesis**, **engaging** in experimentation and exploration, **discovering** patterns and creating **theories**



In kindergarten, your child will have opportunities to engage in tasks promoting a variety of skills including:

- Cooperating, sharing and taking turns
- Exploring new materials and ideas
- Expressing themselves in a variety of ways such as through the use of art, building, movement, singing and speaking activities
- Enjoying books, stories and literature
- Taking care of themselves and their belongings
- Literacy and numeracy skills

Early Literacy & Numeracy



Developing strong oral language skills is a large part of the kindergarten curriculum and foundational to later reading and writing skill development. In kindergarten, both literacy and numeracy outcomes are addressed through a combination of direct teaching and intentionally designed play-based centres.

Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

First Days of Kindergarten

**First Day of
KINDERGARTEN**



For the first day of classes, and every day that follows, please be sure to send your child to school with:

- A **backpack** large enough to hold a library book, a 'Home and Back' folder, a lunch bag, a snack container and a water bottle.
- Pack a full lunch and 2 extra snacks (1 snack for morning and 1 snack for afternoon) Please note we are a nut aware school.
- Indoor **running shoes** with Velcro fasteners
- Items for the **weather** (i.e. hats, mittens).
- Clothing that is appropriate for **playing, creating, and exploring!**
- **Spare set** of clothing (socks, pants, shirt, undergarments)

*****Please label all clothing, backpacks, shoes, lunch boxes and snack containers with your child's name*****

Staggered Entry



We will begin the school year in a 'staggered entry' format. Please note the date and timeslot below for your child's first day of school.

Monday/Wednesday Class

Monday, August 31, 2026

8:15 – 10:00 – Last names A to M

12:45 - 2:30 – Last names N to Z

Tuesday/Thursday Class

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

8:15 – 10:00 – Last names A to M

12:45 - 2:30 – Last names N to Z

Regular Classes Begin:

Mon./Wed. Class: Wednesday, September 2 – 8:00AM – 2:30 PM

Tues./Thurs. Class: Thursday, September 3 – 8:00AM – 2:30 PM

Every Friday dismissal is at 12:00PM



Pick-Up and Drop Off Procedures



Students can be dropped off and picked up at the kindergarten doors. Teachers will receive students at the door at 8:00am and will directly dismiss to parents/caregivers at 2:30pm.



Soft entry begins at 7:50am where all students are welcome to enter the school. Please note that supervision outside begins at 7:45am for students.



For those students arriving/departing by bus transportation or First Class, there will be an adult to greet your child each day and will accompany them to the kindergarten door. At the end of the day, students will be accompanied and supervised as they load onto their departing busses or to First Class.

If your child will be away from school for any reason, please email the school at SibyllaKiddle@cbe.ab.ca.

If your child is late for school, please check in at the office.



Important Times & Dates



The 2026-2027 School Calendar will highlight school hours, important dates and Friday schedule for M/W and T/TH classes.

Example calendar below. Please check the school website in June for confirmed calendar.

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Kindergarten Monday / Wednesday / Friday

Kindergarten students assigned to Monday / Wednesday will attend all Friday's listed in **white & orange** from the above calendar. They will NOT attend Friday if coloured green or blue.

Kindergarten Tuesday / Thursday / Friday

Kindergarten students assigned to Tuesday / Thursday will attend all Friday's listed in **green** from the above calendar. They will NOT attend Friday if coloured white, blue or orange.

School Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM

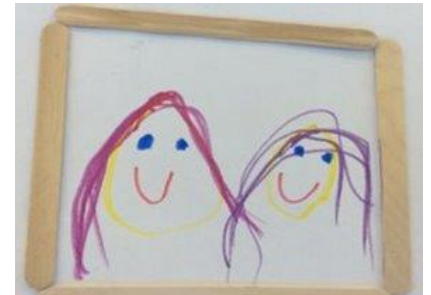
Friday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Communication



School Messenger will be the primary way we communicate with families. You must subscribe for emails, to receive all communication from the school. To subscribe, visit: www.cbe.ab.ca/subscribe

Sign up for **MyCBE** to access information about your student's progress, school conferences, register for school bus transportation and lunchroom information. Please refer to the following pages for steps to initiate an account.



Volunteer Clearance Process



A Calgary Board of Education Police Clearance is required to volunteer at your child's school (Police Clearances from other organizations are not accepted).

Bring a piece of Government issued ID to the school office to begin the process.

It can take several weeks for the paperwork to be cleared. To avoid disappointment, you may want to begin the process before your child begins kindergarten.

NOTE: When you receive the final clearance paperwork you must submit it to the school office within 6 months for it to be valid.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

You are your child's first and best teacher!



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:

- dress themselves (zippers, buttons, shoes)
- use public bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine
- pack and unpack their backpack



Ways to be Involved



At School:

- Volunteer in the classroom or on Field Trips
- Join us for assemblies and school-sponsored events
- Attend School Council meetings and events

At Home:

- Read daily
- Watch for notices and important information in your child's Home and Back Folder
- Talk about everyday experiences and reference online classroom updates and emails
- Ask your child: "What can you tell me about your day?"

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

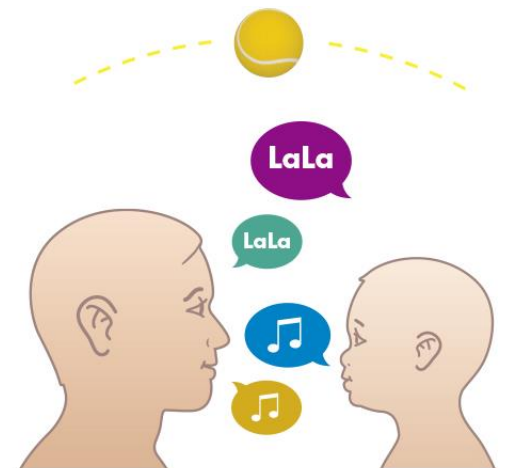
- Read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- Enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- Encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
-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

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



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



Additional Resources



[The Calgary Public Library – Kindergarten School Readiness Video](#)

[The Calgary Public Library – Kindergarten Tips to Get Ready for School](#)

[The Calgary Public Library – Kindergarten Book Bag](#)

[The Calgary Public Library – Kindergarten Booklist](#)

[I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource](#)

[Active for Life](#)

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division

Supporting Your Child's Learning



- ✓ Stay Connected – Your child's teacher will provide you with contact information in late August. Feel free to contact them (or the school) with any questions you may have.
- ✓ Access – The school website can be accessed for pertinent school information at: <https://sibyllakiddle.cbe.ab.ca/>
- ✓ Attend – There will be opportunities to attend meetings to review your child's goals and progress on a regular basis throughout the school year. Dates for formal meetings will be identified on the 2026-2027 School Calendar.
- ✓ Join School Council – Become a member when school returns in September.

A Sincere Welcome!



We sincerely welcome you as you begin your child's learning journey!

We are looking forward to having you join our school community and wish you many happy and rewarding experiences with us throughout the school year!

