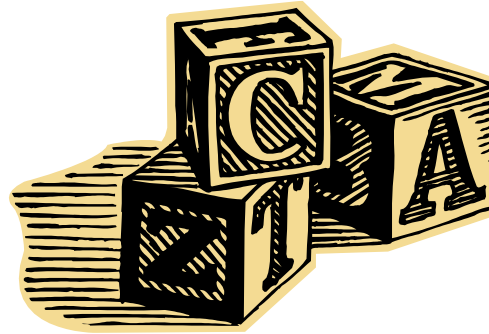


## What are some tips on how to make my transition to school easier?

*As a parent co-operative school, our parents are a huge part of the kids' success. You get to enjoy being a part of this unique community and watching your child grow. Here are few tips to help you get the most of this experience:*

- Volunteer! Parents can be involved on committees, field trips, events, or our Board. Volunteering is not only a great way to meet other families, it also shows your child that you are interested in what they are doing and that helping others is important.
- Attend orientation at the start of year. This is your child's first opportunity to meet their teachers and to make some new friends.
- Familiarize yourself with the parent handbook and ask questions for anything that is unclear.
- Break out your calendar! Schedule in your parent helper days, bingos and casino, cleaning night, and general meetings, plus special events, school holidays and field trips.
- Add [lcds@telus.net](mailto:lcds@telus.net) to your safe-senders list in your email. We keep you well informed through our monthly emailed newsletter and weekly updates.
- Develop a new habit of checking your child's mailbox for take-home artwork and the parent board for new sign-up sheets.
- Update the office if any of your personal information changes throughout the year.
- Inform staff of all known allergies and be sure your child's personal health information is current. If they happen to be sick, please keep them home and let us know. Safety is our top priority!
- Ensure your child has a pair of indoor shoes and a backpack and all belongings are labelled.



### Hours of Operation

Kindergarten:	Preschool:
8:45am - 11:45am 12:45pm - 3:45pm	9:00am - 11:45am 1:00pm - 3:45pm
Monday - Friday	Monday - Friday

We follow statutory holidays and recognize public school winter/spring breaks.  
Program operates from  
September until the end of May.



## Getting Started in Preschool or Kindergarten

13931-140<sup>th</sup> street  
Office: 780-473-7216  
Fax: 780-473-7021

Email: [lcds@telus.net](mailto:lcds@telus.net)  
Website: [www.lcdskids.com](http://www.lcdskids.com)

Congratulations! Entering Preschool or Kindergarten is an exciting time for you and your child; it's an important first step in their journey for lifelong success.

Your child going to school is a huge milestone for the entire family! We want this to be a fantastic year that provides some great memories, so we've compiled some tips to help you make the most of this transition and experience.

### **Is my child ready for school?**

Many parents wonder if their child is ready for a structured school experience. We support all children aged 3- 5 for preschool and kindergarten and many parents are amazed at the growth they see in their child. But in answering this question, we invite you to consider the following about your child:

- Is your child able to use the washroom and do simple tasks for themselves? (Such as, putting their clothes and shoes on.)
- Is your child able to be away from you for short periods of time?
- Is your child able to sit for meals and feed themselves?
- Is your child able to follow simple directions?
- Is your child curious and willing to learn?
- Does your child like to play with other children?
- Is your child able to stay focused on an activity or story for at least 5-10 minutes?

- Does your child get along with other adults? Do they listen to them?

### **Should I enroll my child in preschool, junior kindergarten or kindergarten?**

- Preschool is best for children aged 3 or 4. You may decide how many days per/week will be best for your family. (Please note children must be fully toilet trained prior to attending school).
- Junior kindergarten is a fantastic option if your child is not going to be of age to begin kindergarten but is ready to learn. Your child will join the kindergarten children (4-5 days per week) and will be introduced to the kindergarten curriculum providing many opportunities to learn important skills.
- As per legislation, to attend Kindergarten, your child must be 5 years of age on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the intended school year. Our kindergarten program offers unique small classes that let kids focus on learning in a supportive and fun environment with a small adult to child ratio.

### **How do I register?**

Registration requires only a few items:

1. Completed Registration Form
2. Cheques for the required deposits and fees.
3. Proof of your child's name, date of birth and citizenship. (The following documents verifying birth are accepted: Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Canadian Citizen Certificate, or valid Passport.)
4. Any prior developmental assessments or reports for the child.

### **What can I do to help my child get ready?**

*Attending school may be a big adjustment for your child, but there are a few things you can do in advance to help the transition.*

- Bring routine and predictability into his/her daily life. Regular bedtime hours and daily routines can ensure your child gets enough sleep and can play a part in their day.
- Have your child spend short periods of time away from you to make their transition to school easier. Enroll them in a summer program for a few weeks before school starts.
- Set limits for the amount of time each day for television, computers and video games.
- Get prepared together. Label your child's backpack and indoor shoes, and give him/her responsibility for their belongings.
- Allow your child to take responsibility for dressing. Give them other tasks at home as well.
- Do arts and crafts. Provide experience with crayons, markers, paint, glue and scissors.
- Read to your child and encourage them to read to you.
- Encourage independence and curiosity.
- Once at school, take an interest in their day by asking them about what they are learning. A great conversation starter: "Tell me one good thing that happened today at school."