

Kindergarten Registration FAQ's

How do I know if my child is old enough to start school?

The Education Act has set the age of school entry as **5 years**. Children may attend school if they turn five years old on or before December 31st of that year. There is nothing in the Education Act which allows for earlier entry for those children who are born in January or February. The Act does however allow the parents of children who are born later in the year (September 1st to December 31st) the option to defer Kindergarten entry for one year. This is at the discretion of the parent. Again there is no variation in the Act to allow parents to defer entry for children born late in August. While we receive many questions about this, it is determined by legislation and the school district cannot vary from these criteria.

When should I register my child for school?

Registration for Kindergarten for the following school year takes place in October during the week following the Thanksgiving holiday (Tuesday-Friday). Visit your neighborhood school during normal school hours and the school's administrative assistant will guide you in the registration process. While this may seem early, it allows parents and children to take part in the transition to school activities which take place throughout the year. Advertisements are placed in local papers and schools send out information to families using voice mail and their school newsletters to help ensure all eligible children are registered and invited to events.

What do I need to bring with me to register my child for kindergarten?

Parents must bring their child's birth certificate and immunization record in order to register their child for kindergarten. While you do not have to provide your child's Medicare card the school may request to have a copy to have on file in case of a medical emergency. The medicare card cannot be used as proof of age.

Immunization Record

It is important to have all of the necessary immunizations prior to school entry and to have the record with you when you register your child for school. Please check with Public Health or your family doctor to ensure that your child's immunization record is complete.

