

DID YOU KNOW?

It is that time of the year to start planning for your child's transition to Kindergarten.

The transition to Kindergarten is a time that presents changing demands, expectations, and supports for children and their families. When children experience discontinuities between early learning settings and kindergarten, they may be at greater risk for academic failure and social adjustment problems. Thus, building and implementing a seamless kindergarten transition can make a significant difference for children's on-going school success.

Tips for Kindergarten Transition if your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)

- Be sure to have a copy of your child's IEP.
 - It is a good idea to have an electronic copy saved to your computer or device as well for quick and easy access and sharing.
- When touring or looking at school options for your child, ask how special education, speech and language, as well as related services may be provided.
- Reach out to your child's new school and request to set up a meeting with their kindergarten teacher and IEP team to go over the plan prior to school starting.
 - Be prepared to tell them all of your child's strengths and how they learn best.
- Visit your child's new school with them, so that they can become more familiar and learn about new expectations and routines in kindergarten.
- Ask your child's kindergarten teacher about the different activities they will be doing during the day so that you can talk to your child and prepare them before school starts.
 - These activities may include participating in larger groups, following group directions, attending meal times, going to the bathroom, and possibly following school bus routines.
- Follow up with your child's new school to be sure their records have been transferred before kindergarten starts.
- Review your parental rights and be prepared to advocate for the support and opportunities your child needs to participate and learn best in kindergarten.

Health Requirements –Health Wise schools will require an updated immunization Record.

Children between the ages of 4-6 should get their 5th Dtap, 4th IPV (polio), 2nd MMR, and 2nd Varicella.

REMINDERS



Closed for Winter Break

December 20th - 31st

Health & Safety

Traditional Toys in a Digital Era

Studies show that 96.9% of children start to use tablets and cellphones before 1 year of age. This increase in screen time over the past decade has been associated with an overall decreased physical play.

Importance of Play

Play is essential in facilitating optimal child development starting at a young age. Toys serve a supportive role in enhancing children's social development, language, fine/gross motor skills, cognitive development and problem-solving skills. Virtual toys, such as tablets don't facilitate the same growth and development that the child can gain from traditional play and toys.

Toy Buying Tips!

Promotes imaginary play to cope with real life events and feelings.

- Dolls, action figures, cars, utensils
- Promotes problem solving skills, early math skills, and fine motor skills.

- Blocks, shapes, puzzles, trains
- Art promotes creativity and improves fine motor skills.

- Play-Doh, coloring books, painting, markers, stickers

Promotes face-face play interaction while building social and language skills.

- Physical card and board games, toy letters and books

Encouraging physical activity and developing gross motor skills.

- Tricycles, push and pull toys, balls

RESOURCES-

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/baby/Pages/What-to-Look-for-in-a-Toy.aspx>

School Districts and Charter Schools

More valuable information and resources to come.

Aurora Public Schools

webmaster@aurorak12.org

Cherry Creek Public Schools

<https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/domain/1145>

Denver Public Schools

School Choice Hotline: 720-423-3493

Charter Schools

Academy of Advanced Learning

<https://www.aalk8.org/>

Aurora Academy

<http://www.aacademy.org/>

Global Village Academy

<http://aurora.gvaschools.org/>

Lotus School for Excellence

<http://www.lotusschool.org/>

Rocky Mountain Prep

<https://rockymountainprep.org/schools/fletcher/>

Vanguard Classical

<https://www.vanguardclassical.org/>

Vega Collegiate Academy

<https://vegacollegiateacademy.org/>