



Kindergarten Orientation

Andrew Sibbald School
2026



Calgary Board
of Education

Land Acknowledgement



- [Andrew Sibbald Land Acknowledgement](#)

Agenda



- Introductions
- Your child's team
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Kinder communication
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- First days of kindergarten
- Intake meetings
- Transportation
- Noon supervision
- EAL Learners
- Resources
- Questions

Introductions



- Mary-Elizabeth Kaiser
 - Principal
- Debbie Bauman
 - Assistant Principal & Kindergarten Teacher
- Janessa Hayes
 - Kindergarten Teacher
- Roberta Dupuis
 - Admin Secretary

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

Thank you for choosing Andrew Sibbald. We look forward to getting to know your child!



You are your child's first teacher and an important partner to your child's teacher in their education.

We look forward to working with you and your family throughout the year.

Your Child's Team



Classroom Teacher
Music Teacher
Education Assistants
Assistant Principal & Principal
Lunchroom Supervisor
Library Assistant
Office Staff

Your child's classroom teacher is always your first go to.

Learning Through **PLAY**



More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, 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.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through PLAY



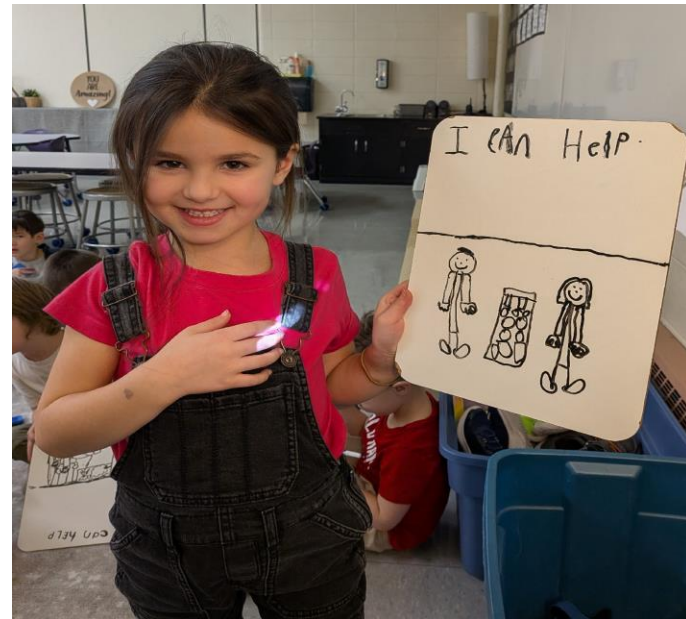
Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy



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)

Kindergarten Communication



We communicate our ideas, feelings, challenges and stories.



We choose kind and thoughtful words when we communicate.



We grow our vocabulary.



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and tidy up
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



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



Bell Times & Communication



Monday-Thursday:
8:00am-2:30pm

Friday:
8:00am-12:00pm

Soft Entry: *Students are welcome to enter the school 7:50am onward*

Communication

Weekly Classroom Blog

Weekly Email Message From Admin to Families

Note: you will get a school calendar tonight

First Days of Alternating Full Day Kindergarten



Monday, August 31, 2026 – First Day for Monday/Wednesday Students

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 – First Day for Tuesday/Thursday Students

- Learning routines and transitions
- Eating lunch and snack
- Washroom breaks are done as a group
- Playing at the park
- Music class
- Making new friends
- Building relationships and independence
- Learning the building and the school community (seeing siblings, cousins and friends)



Teacher, Parent & Student Intake Meetings



Parents and Kindergarten children are invited to sign up for a one-on-one meet and greet with the classroom teacher.



These meetings will take place on June 17 and 18, 2026 at the school.

Please complete the ***Parent View Point sheet*** in the envelope you receive this evening and bring it with you to the meeting.



Please also bring any other relevant documents to share (i.e. diagnostic reports, IPPs etc.)

Sign-up sheets (large pieces of chart paper) are outside the Kindergarten Classroom.

Transportation | Bussing

2026-2027 Transportation Registration Now Underway

Registration for the 2026-27 school year began on May 13. Registrations must be received by June 14, 2026 to ensure students are added to routes for the first day of classes next year. Late registration will continue to be received but will result in a delay in access to the bus route.

Transportation is an annual service that can be paid monthly. Families are not able to register for only certain months ahead of time. Once registered, service continues until a cancellation is submitted, even if the student doesn't ride the bus every day. Register using [MyCBE](#)

Yellow School Bus Eligibility

- Attend their designated school, and
- Live beyond the school walk zone , and
- Are assigned to general transportation as their mode

For the purpose of transportation, only the student's primary address in our student information system will be used to establish eligibility.

Transportation Fees

CBE Transportation fees will be finalized when the budget is approved by the Board of Trustees at the end of May. The proposed Kindergarten fee for the 2026/2027 school is \$250.00/year

Families can cancel with no financial impact by submitting a cancellation form by Sept. 30, 2026.



Lunch Supervision



The Calgary Board of Education provides students with the option to stay at school for lunch. Lunch Supervision is offered to all students in Grades 1 - 6 and in our full day kindergarten programs for an annual fee of \$175.00/year (K) and \$350.00/year (1-6) Register using [MyCBE](#)

Students in these grades require direct supervision during the lunch hour, regardless of the grade configuration of the school or the mode of transportation the students use to get to and from school each day.

You can expect the following for your Lunch Supervision Fees:

- A safe and caring environment for students to eat lunch.
- Supervision for the entire lunch period, unless the student is signed out by a parent/guardian.
- Daily attendance will be taken.
- Students must remain on school grounds, unless written permission has been provided to the school by a parent/guardian.
- A dedicated space for eating.
- Only students that have registered and paid the lunch supervision fee can access the service

Lunch Supervision



- CBE has a waiver process for families who can't afford to pay the fees.
- Note | Use of service indicates that the Parent/Guardian accepts the terms and the responsibility to pay the annual fee.
- Income tax receipts are issued for Lunch Supervision Fees that may be included as childcare expenses for income tax purposes.
- Lunch Supervision Fees are directed to providing lunchroom supervisors.

What lunch supervision service is not:

- Access to food or snacks; students are required to bring a lunch.
- Access to hot water, microwave, dishes, utensils or other cooking facilities.

English as an Additional Language Learners



- Students may speak an additional language at home please continue to do so!
- Students learning English will be immersed in a language rich environment and will develop their English language skills at school
- If your family would like the support of a translator, one is available for formal school conferences or any meeting with the teacher or administration.
- Our website contains lots of school information and our website can be translated into many different languages.

Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193_931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.161964002.5-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

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

Questions

