



Welcome to StrongStart!



Answering your StrongStart Questions

What is StrongStart?

StrongStart programs provide rich learning environments designed to support children’s early development across all areas – linguistic, physical, cognitive, social and emotional well being. Qualified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) create safe, inclusive environments where children find opportunities to participate, think, explore and discover new things about themselves, others and the world around them. As children attend StrongStart with family members, the ECE also provides support to all caregivers, sharing parenting resources, tools to create joyful learning at home, help in identifying a child’s extra support needs, and assistance to access community resources. At StrongStart we work together to celebrate and nurture every child’s gifts.

How do I register for StrongStart?

Before you click the registration link you will need to know the following information:

1. Name of StrongStart location you would like to attend. To see all Surrey locations [click here](#).
2. Important Identification documents ready to upload. To see identification needed [click here](#).
3. The registration form is the same as if you were registering your child for school but you register specifically for a ‘StrongStart Centre’ location rather than a school.

All fields are required unless indicated as being optional.

Your School

All students are required to submit their registration to their catchment area school. Please refer to the [school locator tool](#) to determine you would like to inquire about registering at an out-of catchment school please look [here](#) for information regarding out-of catchment.

Catchment School

School Year

Please select the student's grade. If you are currently in school, please select the grade you are currently in.

Grade

Requested Start Date

Drop-down menu options:

- Holly Elementary
- Holly StrongStart Centre
- Hyland Elementary
- J. T. Brown Elementary
- James Ardiel Elementary
- James Ardiel StrongStart Centre**
- Janece Churchill Elementary
- Jessie Lee Elementary
- Jessie Lee StrongStart Centre
- Johnston Heights Secondary
- K.B. Woodward Elementary
- Katzie Elementary
- Kennedy Trail Elementary

Once you have all of the above information ready click [here](#) to start the registration form.

Where can I find a StrongStart Program in Surrey?

StrongStart in Surrey is available in 24 of our 103 Elementary schools. To find a StrongStart school near you please [click here](#).

At what age can I start to bring my child to a StrongStart?

StrongStart is open to all children along with their caregiver from birth until age five (or when they enter Kindergarten)

When can we start to attend?

Registrations are received and processed by the StrongStart Educator at each site. They make every effort to process registrations as quickly as possible and reach out to each family for times to start. During busy times like September/October, January and March/April it can take up to two weeks.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

1. Find the StrongStart Educator contact at the centre you wish to register by clicking [here](#)
2. Leah Drayton – Early Learning & StrongStart Coordinator
Drayton_l@surreyschools.ca or 604-595-5364
3. Leah Christensen – District Principal Early Learning & Child Care
christensen_lea@surreyschools.ca or 604-595-5164

What is the difference between StrongStart and Pre-school?

In preschool programs the child attends independently, without the caregiver. Pre-schools vary in philosophies and approach to children's learning and development.

StrongStart requires a caregiver to attend with the child. It is rooted in a play-based learning philosophy that follows the [BC Early Learning Framework](#)

Does StrongStart run all year long?

StrongStart follows the calendar of the school year, September to June. Please keep in mind that StrongStart closes throughout the year for holidays, non-instructional days as well as professional Development days. Please [click here](#) to see the schedule for this school year.

Are there other resources for families that you would recommend?

Please refer to the Reference list below to access further resources:
[elf-a-guide-for-families.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
[elf_resource_list.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)
[Play Today: A Guide for Families \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)