

Woodland Park Elementary
Phone: (604) 589-5957
Teachers: Ms. W. Robert
Mrs. C. Colwell
Mrs. S. Gallant

Welcome To Kindergarten

Orientation Information for September 10th to 29th, 2020



Please read this orientation package completely. It has been carefully compiled to provide you and your child with the necessary information for a happy and comfortable transition into our school.

Woodland Park Elementary School

KINDERGARTEN

Full-time students will attend in small groups as part of gradual entry. This package outlines the start-up information for K students attending in-class five days a week, with face-to face instruction.

K Students registered in the **Blended Program** **do not attend** this gradual entry. The Blended Program is a combination of online and face-to-face learning. Please see Surrey Schools website for details on this program. The blended Program registration is due Sept. 8th 4pm.

Registration is online at: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=z-m0CBOBDUK6B1L31N-KzQo9oGcByppIly2iBVxbDO1URjQ5STNaV1ZaREIJTjI2UFZBUU9DNERIVS4u>

(Students registered for Blended learning will receive specific information in the week of Sept. 14th)

This message is being sent to all K's registered at Woodland Park (full-time and blended). Parents have until 4pm Sept. 8th to decide what program best fits your family.

For the full-time learning option, please attend the gradual entry to secure registration.

K Students choosing Full time, face-to-face instruction:

Students with Last Names starting with **A to K is Group 1.**

Group 1 will start on Thursday Sept 10th 12:30 – 1:30pm. No School on Friday.

Monday Sept, 14 your child will attend the morning sessions.

Students with Last Names starting with **L to Z is Group 2.**

Group 2 will start on Friday Sept 11th 12:30 – 1:30pm. No School on Thursday Sept 10th.

Monday Sept, 14 your child will attend the afternoon sessions.

Please see the Gradual Entry calendar for your child's school times.

Please note: If you are not able to be in attendance, you must notify us prior to 3:00 p.m. on Friday Sept. 11th if you still plan to have your child attend Woodland Park for full time Kindergarten. You may contact us by phone (604-589-5957) or by e-mail (www.sd36.bc.ca/woodlandpark). **If we do not hear from you, we may give your spot to someone on the waiting list.**

Covid-19 Health and Safety

Woodland Park Elementary is committed to creating a healthy environment for your children. We do ask that you help to talk with your child about following good habits for health and safety.

- If a child has any symptoms of any illness, **they must not go to school**. Assess your child daily.
- Washing hands often – practice 20 second soap cleaning.
- Coughing and sneezing into your elbow
- Physical Space – 2m for adults and young students are to minimize physical contact
- Wear Face Masks (optional for K students)
- Parents/Caregivers are asked not to enter the school building or outdoor play areas during school hours.

Class Organization

At this time, we will not be able to confirm which class your child will be in, as we are working to verify our Kindergarten enrolment numbers. Your child's permanent classroom and teacher will be confirmed on Tuesday, September 29th.

Based on the numbers given to us by the school district, there is the possibility that we may offer K/1 classes this year in addition to our Kindergarten classes. We will provide you with more information regarding this during gradual entry.

Gradual Entry Sessions

Kindergarten students will be attending classes on their own.

Please see the Gradual Entry Calendar for school times for your K child.

The consideration for Gradual Entry is to allow children and parents an opportunity to become familiar with a new situation by attending in smaller groups and for shortened days. It is also hoped that the mini-sessions will help bring about a positive transition from parents and home to teachers and the school. This is the format recommended by the Surrey School Board and followed by Kindergarten classes throughout the district.

Please have only one parent/caregiver at the K doors. If possible, please plan to leave younger siblings at home or with a babysitter during Gradual Entry as this is a special time for you and your school-age child.

Please check the Kindergarten classroom windows at the start of class for which classroom your child will be in for these special sessions.

Attending sessions at school are tiring for the young ones. We would encourage you to ensure that your child has plenty of rest and a good meal before coming to school!

Getting to Know Your Child

The entrance of your child into Kindergarten is an important transition, please make the time to complete a "Student Information Package" and to meet with the K teachers. Your child will bring home the package on the first day of school. Please try to **return the package on Monday September 14.**

To ensure a successful beginning for each child, we are inviting parents/guardians to virtually visit a Kindergarten teacher for a 15 minute interview. This visit together will provide an opportunity for you to share background information regarding your child's health and development, and to explore expectations or express concerns in a comfortable, private setting. Any other information that you feel might be important for the teacher to know or be helpful in understanding your child would also be appreciated. Please note that your child may not necessarily be placed with the teacher you have your interview with. This interview will be virtual.

Interview Sign-Up

Please select a suitable time for an interview on one of the sign-up sheets on September 10th and 11th.

- Wednesday, September 23rd 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- *There are **more** availably of time slots from 1:30pm-2:30pm September 17, 18, 21, 22, 24 and 25th.*

Arrival and Pick-up Routines:

The children are expected to arrive five minutes before class begins and to line up outside the Kindergarten exit doors on the outside of the school building. **Please have only one parent/caregiver at the K doors.** The classroom teachers will bring the children into the classroom. **It is most important that the children come into their classroom on their own without a parent.** It is much easier for the child to adjust if they can take this first brave step during gradual entry! If you experience any difficulties or have any concerns, please see one of the Kindergarten teachers privately. It would also be a good idea to show your child where you will be waiting for them so that they are sure of your location after class is over. **To ensure safety, children are to be picked up at the classroom door every day.**

*While lining-up for the start of school or waiting to pick-up your child, please follow Covid-19 safety measures. **Please physical distance from other families.** Adults are encouraged to wear a face mask.

School Parking

Please be aware **that the school parking lot is reserved for staff and for those parents/students with mobility issues.** There is **no parking in the school drop off area** – the driver is not to leave the vehicle in this space. There is limited parking available on the streets near the school – park and walk. If you choose to drive, please make a positive choice to follow the parking rules for the safety of all students. We would strongly encourage you to walk to the school to drop off and pick up your child.

Preparation for the School Day

Kindergarten is a busy and active day. Your child will need routines at home to help be ready. Good sleep, a nourishing breakfast, and arriving on time with their backpack and lunch helps your child have good days at school. When your child comes home from school, special one-to-one time talking about the day, playing or sharing a story will help your child connect with special attention. In class, students share all lessons and toys with 20 students.

Lunch and Snacks

Everyday, K students should bring a leak-proof water bottle filled with water

Starting Thursday September 17th, your child will need to bring a snack to school.

Beginning on Tuesday September 22nd, your child will need to bring a snack and a lunch to school. Please ensure that your child knows what to eat for a snack and what to eat for lunch. If your child does not finish his/her lunch, please do not worry at this time. We will, over the course of the year, work with your child to help them learn how to do this! Having your child help with healthy choices for snack and lunch may also help your child during school eating times.

Please ensure that any cutlery your child needs is also packed, as we do not supply it.

It is important that your child bring his/her lunch with them to school when they arrive in the morning. The school is limiting parents at school during the school day for the safety at the school. At Woodland Park, we encourage our students to have healthy eating habits and so we would ask that you help us to promote this by sending a healthy snack and lunch to school with your child each day!

We would also kindly ask that your child **bring peanut-free/nut-free food items** for their snack and lunch in order to give our children with peanut/nut allergies a safe environment.

Clothing

Children should wear play clothes that are comfortable and easy to wash. We paint, exercise, sit on the floor, play outside, etc. Make sure that the clothing worn can easily be undone or done up independently while using the bathroom. Please **pack a spare set of clothes** for your child in the event that they need to change. Students are welcome to wear face masks (not mandatory). Also, **please ensure that your child wears shoes that he/she is able to put on and take off independently.**

Bathroom Etiquette

If your child is used to having assistance from you in the bathroom, please practice independence. As well, we would kindly request that you review good hygiene practices with your child (i.e. proper handwashing, flushing the toilet, urinating only in the toilet, etc.)

School Supplies

The Kindergarten Teachers have pre-ordered student materials. The cost for Kindergarten students is \$40.00. In addition, an optional fee of \$10.00 is requested for the purchase of classroom arts and crafts supplies for the various seasonal projects that we will be completing throughout the school year. This cost will cover all school supplies, crafts and printed materials for the entire year.

We will order school supplies in bulk, having experienced good success with this program in the past. These prices are very competitive and teachers appreciate the quality and uniformity of bulk ordering. A notice will be sent home describing how to send in the school supply funds of \$50. Please make cheques payable to Woodland Park Elementary.

Parents are still welcome to purchase the materials themselves if they wish, but please contact the classroom teacher for a detailed list.

Items to Purchase

1. The children will need a pair of slip-on or Velcro closing runners (i.e. “inside shoes”) for gym and inside the classroom. Please do not send lace-up runners, slippers or shoes with marking black soles. Please label the shoes clearly with your child’s name.
2. Also, a full-sized backpack is required to bring their lunch and snack to school, and to take home library books and work. No miniature backpacks or purses, please! Your child will be required to bring his/her backpack to school every day.

In closing ...

We hope that this booklet has answered many of your questions and clarified the organizational procedures required in settling your little one into his/her first classroom. Our goal is to help you feel comfortable too and welcome you to come to the school on many occasions. Our communication and working together can make Kindergarten a happy, successful experience for the children!

If you have any questions regarding any information in this booklet or about the Gradual Entry Sessions, you are warmly invited to call the school at 604-589-5957.

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Teachers



Kindergarten Gradual Entry Calendar (Full time, face-to-face instruction students)

Students are divided into 2 groups: **Group 1** (Last Names A-K) and **Group 2** (Last Names L-Z).

These groups will be separated into **smaller groups** up to 9 students for Gradual Entry over the first 4 school days.

Group 1 will start with Morning class times. Group 2 will start with Afternoon class times.

On the K class windows will be posted the small group and classroom for your child for the day.

These small groups will only be mixing with other K class small groups. All the small groups together will be your child's cohort for the school year. This cohort will not be larger than 60 people.

Starting September 17th, 2 smaller groups will be put together for shorter days starting at 8:45am. The smaller groups will be mixed to make larger groups of up to 19 students in a class.

Please check the K class window to see which class your child will be in for the day.

K Teachers will assign your child to a class on September 29th for the school year.

There is a possibility of a K/1 split class. Teachers will speak to parents about this option on Sept 10th and 11th.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 Labour Day	8	9	10 Gradual Entry 12:30 – 1:30 Group 1 Last Names A-K (50% of K students) *Check lists in the K class windows	11 Gradual Entry 12:30 – 1:30 Group 2 Last Names L-Z (50% of K students) *Check lists in the K class windows
14 8:45 – 10:45 Group 1 12:20 – 2:20 Group 2 *Check lists in the K class windows	15 8:45 – 10:45 Group 1 12:20 – 2:20 Group 2 *Check lists in the K class windows	16 8:45 – 10:45 Group 1 12:20 – 2:20 Group 2 *Check lists in the K class windows	SNACK 17 8:45 – 11:45 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows	SNACK 18 8:45 – 11:45 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows
SNACK 21 8:45 – 11:45 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows	Snack and LUNCH 22 8:45 – 12:50 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows	23 Virtual Interview Day!	Snack and LUNCH 24 8:45 – 12:50 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows	Snack and LUNCH 25 8:45 – 12:50 All groups come at the same time *Check lists in the K class windows
28 Non-instructional day	Snack and LUNCH 29 1 st full day for K's Students move Into classes 8:35*am to 2:35pm			

*The warning bell goes at 8:30am – please be in your class line-up at this time.

