



BAYRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1730 - 142ND Street, Surrey, B.C. V4A 6G7
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Principal - Bhupinder Shergill

Welcome to Kindergarten 2020-2021

June 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Welcome to Bayridge Elementary! We are very pleased to welcome your child to Kindergarten this September. We look forward to working with you to help your child grow and develop over the coming school year.

Gradual Entry

The September schedule for Kindergarten has been created to facilitate the **gradual entry process**. The objective of gradual entry is to ensure that each child experiences the positive orientation that is essential for school success. The plan includes both the phasing in of small groups and shortened attendance time. Children will enter and be dismissed by the outside door of the Kindergarten classrooms.

Please note, given the fluidity of our current landscape due to COVID-19, we are unable to provide specific information about gradual entry plans to parents at this time. We will be taking our lead from the Provincial Health Officer, the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health in terms of timelines for school start-up. Once these decisions have been made, we will provide families with the information required to support the transition into Kindergarten for the 2020 - 2021 school year. We anticipate receiving further information regarding school start-up in late August/early September.

Health Concerns

If your child has **severe allergies to foods or other substances** please provide the necessary information to the school office in order to help us assist in your child's safety while at school. Please fill out the medical form available at the

office with emergency medication (such as an epi-pen or inhaler) and any necessary information or written instructions and return to the office.

School Necessities

When shopping for school clothes over the summer, please keep in mind that your child will need a **pair of inside shoes**, which are to be worn inside the building. These can be the same shoes that are worn to the gym for Physical Education classes and should not be worn outside for play. These shoes/runners should be **left at school each day** and should have the **child's name printed on them** with permanent ink. As much as possible, please provide **Velcro-fastening runners**, and ensure your child can both put these on and take these off independently. To facilitate independence, your child should also be able to put their outdoor shoes on and off on their own, as we change shoes numerous times each day.

It would be helpful if you would please send an **extra change of clothing** (underwear, socks, pants, shirt) in the bottom of your child's backpack. This is useful in case of bathroom accidents or if your child gets particularly muddy or wet during outside recess/lunch time. Please enclose all items in a large ziplock bag and **label clearly with your child's name**---this little package can "live" at the bottom of your child's backpack.

Your child will also need a **backpack**, which is large enough to hold one large library book, a small healthy snack, as well as your child's lunch. We ask that you also send a spill-proof water bottle (water only, please) with your child each day.

School Supplies

We encourage parents to **purchase Kindergarten school supplies from the official school supplier "School Start"**. As the school is able to purchase in bulk, we are able to pass the cost savings on to parents and the school also receives funds for every kit ordered. This also ensures that all students have what they need as these supplies are required.

A Kindergarten supplies order form will be published onto our school website in late August/early September.

You are encouraged to purchase this package online directly from School Start at www.schoolstart.ca. Your child's supplies will then be delivered directly to your home and we will let you know when to bring the supplies to school after classes

have been finalized. If you choose not to use School Start, you may use the 'Kindergarten Supplies List' (to be posted on our website) to purchase supplies on your own.

Preparing for Kindergarten

Starting school for the first time is a big step in a child's life and we know that all parents want their child to be successful at school. Over the next few months before September you can help your **child get ready for Kindergarten** by doing the following:

- READ, READ, READ with your child
- Cutting and pasting
- Colouring and drawing
- Reading and printing your child's name
- Counting
- ABCs
- Colours and shapes
- Ask your child questions about the world around them; let them share their thoughts and opinions with you
- Practice putting on shoes and doing up coats
- Practice using public washrooms independently

We would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in helping establish these important routines of school life. We are so looking forward to working both with your child and yourselves to make this special year a really positive and enriching experience for your family.

Have a great summer and see you in September!

Best wishes,

The Bayridge Kindergarten Team