

*Helpful Checklists—Getting your Child Ready:*

**Clothing—coats, backpacks, shoes**

I can:

- carry my own backpack
- put in and take out objects from my bag (open and close my bag)
- put on and take off my shoes on the correct feet

**Eating food—choices, containers**

I can:

- open and close my snack bag
- open and close my food containers
- use a fork and a spoon
- eat my healthy choices first
- peel my orange and eat whole apples or other fruit
- wipe up small spills

**Hygiene—washing, toileting, nose blowing**

I can:

- go to a new bathroom without feeling scared
- go to the bathroom without any assistance (i.e. can zip / unzip pants, fasten / unfasten buttons)
- push down a toilet lever
- push a soap dispenser
- wash and dry my hands
- blow my nose (wash my hands) and put the tissue in the garbage

To help your child have the best start possible check the following:

- ✓ Label everything—please put your child’s name and last initial on all clothing and backpacks
- ✓ Practice putting on and taking off shoes, packing and unpacking bags
- ✓ Choose a backpack that your child can easily carry, open and close
- ✓ Choose shoes that your child can safely wear on the playground and in the gym
- ✓ Consider containers and packaging that your child can open and close
- ✓ Practice opening the lunch kit, taking out and putting containers back
- ✓ Keep food choices simple when packing their snack and lunch
- ✓ Cut up fruit, vegetables and sandwiches into bite size pieces
- ✓ Allow your child to become independent in the bathroom routines in various settings
- ✓ Check with your child to see how they feel about using different bathrooms
- ✓ Keep us informed of anything that changes

- (School)
- (Contacts)
- (Address)
- (Phone)
- (Email)



World Class Learning in a Rural Environment



# Welcome to Kindergarten

## Nakusp Elementary School

*School District 10 (Arrow Lakes) welcomes you and your child to Kindergarten, and to the start of an exciting, successful, and wonderful experience.*

*World Class Learning in a Rural Environment*



**Starting Kindergarten** is an exciting milestone, but it can also create anxiety for both children and parents. This brochure outlines some simple skills that can be worked on to help ease anxieties, answers some *Frequently Asked Questions*, and informs parents about what's needed at the time of registration.

#### What will my child learn in Kindergarten?

- ⇒ **Play nicely! Social Responsibility:** Children will learn to interact appropriately with increasing independence and self confidence in learning situations and take increasing responsibility for materials and behaviour.
- ⇒ **Tell me more! Oral Language:** They will use speaking and listening when engaging in exploratory and imaginative play to express themselves, exchange ideas, ask questions, and to expand their spoken and listening vocabulary.
- ⇒ **Let's read together! Reading and Viewing:** Children will engage in reading-like behaviour, and will become aware of the connection between, reading, writing, and oral language.
- ⇒ **Draw me a story! Writing and Representing:** Children participate in writing/representing experiences using emergent symbols (picture, oral description, letters) to communicate meaning.
- ⇒ **How many! Numeracy:** Children will explore mathematical ideas such as problem solving, number, and space, with materials which are used in everyday life.

#### What about gradual entry?

All elementary schools in School District 10 offer a gradual entry process for kindergarten students to help ease the transition into full-day classes. Specific dates and the duration of the gradual entry process will be provided by each of the schools.

#### What if my child is not ready for full-day Kindergarten?

If you have questions or concerns about the readiness of your child for full day kindergarten please talk to your school principal directly about your child's individual need.

#### What if my child has special needs?

Please identify what those needs are on the registration form and request a meeting with the Principal to talk about your child's needs.

#### When do I register my child for Kindergarten?

Registration for Kindergarten begins in March. Please contact your school for specific dates. **Please register your child during this week so we can be sure to invite your child and you to a Ready. Set, Learn event May.**



*The purpose of full-day kindergarten is to enhance children's overall development—not to rush them into academics at an earlier age. The program reflects an understanding that children learn through active engagement and play, and it promotes healthy, physical, social, emotional, language and cognitive development. Full day kindergarten is a wonderful opportunity to build a strong foundation for life-long learning.*

## Registering my Child

Under the School Act, the Board has the duty to provide an educational program for every school-aged student who ordinarily resides in the Arrow Lakes School District. The following requirements are mandatory in order to complete registration:

- Bring your child/dependent with you at the time of registration
  - Bring ID for both yourself and your child/dependent.
    - Student ID: Birth Certificate or Passport
    - Student: BC Medical Card
    - Parent ID: BC Drivers License, BC Identification Card, Birth Certificate or Passport
  - Proof of residence (Must show physical/civic address—a PO Box is not considered a proof of address):
    - BC Service Card / BC Care Card **OR**
    - Utility bill or phone bill
    - Canadian bank statement or credit card bill
    - Car insurance documents
    - Income tax return
    - Pay stub or T4 slip
- IMPORTANT: Any document provided as proof of residence must show full name and physical/civic address of place of residence.**
- Any important health documents
  - Other important documents such as guardianship that the school needs to be aware of concerning your child.