





Shawnee Mission School District

Kindergarten Roundup

2020-2021

An Information Guide

Welcome to Kindergarten in SMSD


We're glad you have chosen the Shawnee Mission School District as your choice for kindergarten for your child. Please read a [welcome letter](#) from Superintendent Dr. Michael Fulton.



Kindergarten Requirements

- Born on or before August 31, 2015
- Resident of our attendance area
(lease/mortgage & 2 current bills)
- Immunizations/physical must be current

Shawnee Mission Full Day Kindergarten

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- Children are naturally inquisitive, curious, and eager to discover and explore the world around them.
 - Research supports that there are many positive learning and social benefits for children who attend all-day kindergarten programs.



Today, children:

- Develop at many different rates.
- Have often had one or two years of pre-school experience by the time they enter kindergarten.
- Need hands-on learning.
- Must learn concepts that are more complex than those learned in the past.
- Benefit from additional time for practice.
- Need exploration - both organized and free choice.

What do students learn in Kindergarten?

Priority Standards in Reading

- **RF.K.1:** Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
- **RF.K.2:** Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).
- **RF.K.3:** Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- **RL.K.4:** Ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text.
- **RL.K.11:** Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases *based on Kindergarten reading and content*.
- **RI.K.12:** *With guidance and support from adults, explore word relationships and nuances in word meanings.*
- **W.K.3:** Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.
- **W.K.10:** Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.

What do students learn in Kindergarten?

Priority Standards in Mathematics

- **K.OA.2:** Solve addition and subtraction word problems, and add and subtract within 10, (e.g. *by using objects or drawings to represent the problem.*)
- **K.OA.5:** Fluently (efficiently, accurately, and flexibly) add and subtract within 5.
- **K.NBT.1:** Compose and decompose numbers from 11 to 19 into ten ones and some further ones; understand that these numbers are composed of ten ones and one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, or nine ones.
- **K.G.4:** Analyze and compare two- and three-dimensional shapes, in different sizes and orientations (position and direction in space), using informal language to describe their similarities, differences, parts (e.g. *number of sides and vertices/"corners"*) and other attributes (e.g. *having sides of equal length*).
- **K.CC.1 :** Count to 100 by ones and by tens and identify as a growth pattern.
- **K.CC.3 :** Read and write numerals from 0 to 20.
- **K.CC.5:** Count to answer "how many?" up to 20 concrete or pictorial objects arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or as many as 10 objects in a scattered configuration (subitizing); given a number from 1 to 20, count out that many objects.
- **K.CC.7:** Compare two numbers between 1 and 10 presented as written numerals.

What can we do to get ready for Kindergarten?

There are many activities you can do to help your child develop kindergarten readiness skills. Many can be done informally in the car, at the grocery store, or as part of daily routines.

- Read books with your child – summer trips to the library make a great free outing.
- Practice name writing using upper- and lowercase letters, if possible
- Talk about letters–identifying them and knowing their sounds:
- Practice fine motor skills and gripping a pencil, crayon, or marker correctly
- Use scissors, glue, paint, and other art materials
- Practice counting to 10
- Bounce a ball
- Classify objects according to their size, shape, and quantity
- Use street signs, food labels, and other common items to help your child recognize common sight words, like “stop”
- Identify rhyming words
- Repeat full name, address, phone number, and birthday
- Play independently or focus on one activity with a friend for up to ten minutes
- Manage bathroom needs independently
- Practice dressing oneself –zipping, buttoning, and tying
- Practice following two- and three-step directions
- Go up to the school playground to play and build familiarity for your child with the school


SKYWARD

Skyward is the management program utilized by the school district.

- View student grades – report cards
- Access student testing information
- Receive information from teachers
- Make payment on lunch accounts
- Update personal information – phone numbers – emergency contacts



SKYWARD

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- Requires a valid parent email address
 - ✓ Please write clearly on forms
 - Parents will receive an email with username and password for Skyward
 - Access Skyward using the username and password
 - School-wide emails and newsletters

Lunch Support

In accordance with state law, students may be eligible for free and reduced lunch.

- Eligibility for the lunch program will be determined at the beginning of each school year.
- Applications for free and reduced lunch are available in July at <https://www.smsd.org/about/departments/food-service> through the Food Service Department.
 - ✓ Forms completed before July will not be eligible for approval.
- Information is confidential.
- Contact the district Food Service Department at 913-993-9710 with questions.



Before and After Care Options

- YMCA and JCPRD offer before school care beginning at 7:00 a.m. and after school care from 3:10 to 6:00 p.m.
- Weekly Fees – contact provider for information.
- YMCA and JCPRD provide care on snow days at consolidated sites.





A Final Thought

- Kindergarten provides students with the initial building blocks for a solid educational foundation.
- As a parent, you want the best for your child. The Shawnee Mission School District shares that goal.
- Shawnee Mission will provide high quality educational opportunities for our kindergarten students to develop academically, socially, and emotionally.



Next Steps...

- Review Kindergarten information and procedures.
- Complete online kindergarten enrollment form.
 - Submit required enrollment supporting documents (your school will provide an email with details after you have submitted your online enrollment form)
- Kindergarten Conferences – August 12-13
 - Complete ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE
- FIRST DAY of Kindergarten – August 14
- Questions? Contact your elementary school (a list of contacts is available at smsd.org).

Next Steps...

- Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE)
 - Parent- or caregiver-completed screening tools that encourage parent involvement in children's development
 - Tools used to identify strengths of students and possible areas requiring more support.
 - Tools to use as a quick check to see how children are meeting developmental milestones.
 - Key purpose is to begin the parent-school educational partnership
- ASQ-3 and ASQ-SE will be completed as part of the initial kindergarten conference in August. Schools will provide more information.



Opportunities for Parent Engagement/Involvement

- PTA
- Conferencing
- Electronic Communication (i.e. Seesaw)
- Field Trips
- MVP volunteers



If you have questions, please
contact your home school.

If you are unsure of your home school,
please check our [district boundary maps](#)
[or use the school locator.](#)

