



Kindergarten in the Stamford Public Schools

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Stamford Public Schools

EXCELLENCE IS THE POINT.

Our Mission

The mission of the Stamford Public Schools is to provide an education that cultivates productive habits of mind, body and heart in every student.

Our Vision

The Stamford Public Schools will be a learning organization that continuously improves its effective, innovative and transformational teaching and learning. We will challenge, inspire and prepare all students to be productive contributing members of society.



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Our District Overview

- 23 schools
 - Early Childhood Center
 - 13 Elementary School
 - 5 Middle Schools
 - 3 High Schools
 - Adult Ed Program

7 Magnet Programs

3 IB Programs

2 College Dual Enrollment Options

- 75 languages spoken in students' homes (approx)
- 13 % English language learners (approx)
- 57% Free/reduced lunch (approx)



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Where will my child go to School?



Davenport Ridge
Elementary School



NEWFIELD
Elementary School



NORTHEAST
Elementary School



JULIA A. STARK
Elementary School



ROXBURY
Elementary School



STILLMEADOW
Elementary School



WESTOVER MAGNET
Elementary School



SPRINGDALE
Elementary School



KT Murphy
Elementary School



Hart Magnet
Elementary School



ROGERS INTERNATIONAL
A K-8 IB World School



Strawberry Hill

An Extension of Rogers International School



TOQUAM MAGNET
Elementary School



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Is my child *ready* for Kindergarten?

- ❖ Children are eligible for kindergarten if they are age 5 on or before January 1st.
- ❖ *“According to research, keeping an age-eligible child out of kindergarten does not result in any long-term benefits.”* CSDE



Stamford's Definition of Kindergarten Readiness

Habits of the Mind

Habits of mind enables a kindergartner to:

- Develop communication skills
- Answer questions
- Follow directions
- Identify and manipulate shapes, letters and numbers
- Solve problems
- Tell a story through pictures
- Acquire pre-reading skills like rhyming and breaking words into sounds
- Recognize their name in print
- Actively participate in learning
- Attend to instruction
- Interact with a book

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when their minds are flexible, inquisitive, focused and ready to learn.

Habits of the Body

Habits of body enables a kindergartner to:

- Listen
- Take care of their belongings and perform tasks like putting coat away, toileting independently, cleaning up after themselves
- Use scissors and hold pencils/crayons properly
- Follow classroom routines/ rules
- Adhere to regular bedtime and hygiene routines

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when they have the strength to regulate a range of motor development and self-help skills.

Habits of the Heart

Habits of heart enables a kindergartner to:

- Take turns
- Learn how to resolve conflicts
- Learn to identify and handle emotions
- Play imaginatively
- Make choices
- Express love and kindness towards others
- Possess self-esteem
- Seek out others to play with
- Form friendships

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when they can be mindful of their emotions and how those emotions affect others.



Brochure Available by emailing
Kbrown@stamfordct.gov



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Pre-school skills helpful for Kindergarten!

- Personal Social Skills
- Language & Literacy Skills
- Numeracy Skills
- Physical & Motor Skills
- Creative Skills



[CT ELDS Strategies for Learning at Home](#)



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What will my child learn in Kindergarten?

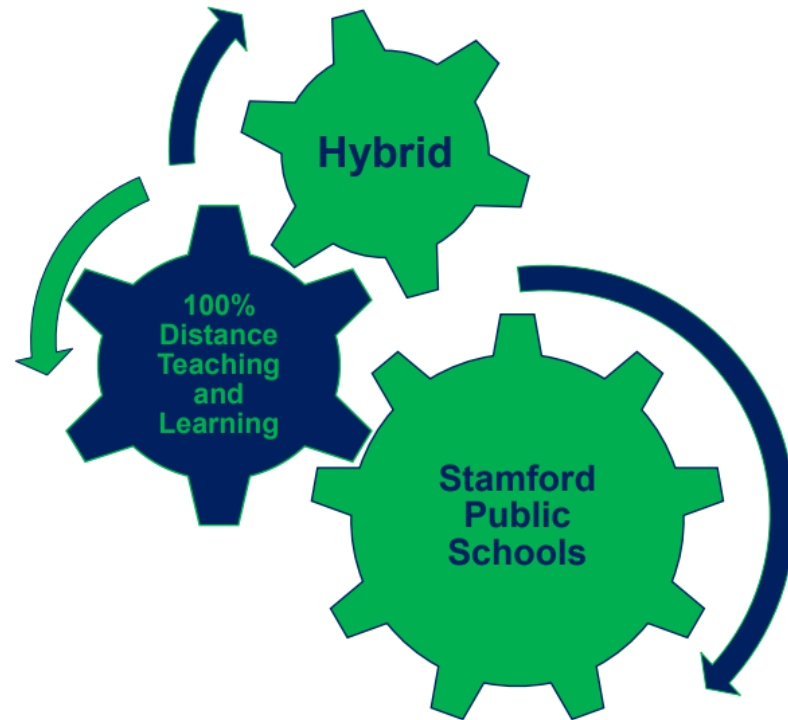
- ❖ Reading
- ❖ Writing
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Science/Social Studies
- ❖ Life Skills- cooperative group work, technology
- ❖ Art, Media Center, Music, Phys Ed
- ❖ Social Emotional Skills (Kindness, Cooperation)



Kindergarten in 2020

- Hybrid Learning and Distance Teaching and Learning

[SPS Plan 20-21](#)



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What's a typical in person (hybrid) schedule?

❖ 8:45 a.m.	Morning Meeting
❖ 9:00 a.m.	Read Aloud
❖ 9:30 a.m.	Reading
❖ 10:30	Snack
❖ 10:45	Centers
❖ 11:25	Lunch
❖ 11:50	Recess
❖ 12:10	Writing
❖ 1:05	Art, Music, P.E. or Media
❖ 1:50	Snack
❖ 2:05	Math
❖ 2:50	Science/Social Studies
❖ 3:30	Dismissal



A typical Distance Learning Schedule

- ❖ 8:45 a.m. Morning Meeting (LIVE)
- ❖ 9:00 a.m. Read Aloud (LIVE)
- ❖ 9:30 a.m. Reading (Assigned Activities on Google Classroom)
- ❖ 10:30 Snack
- ❖ 10:45 Centers (LIVE Guided Reading Group)
- ❖ 11:25 Lunch
- ❖ 11:50 Recess
- ❖ 12:10 Writing (pre-recorded video)
- ❖ 1:05 Art, Music, P.E. or Media (live or pre-recorded)
- ❖ 1:50 Snack
- ❖ 2:05 Math (Live or pre-recorded)
- ❖ 2:50 Science/Social Studies (pre-recorded)
- ❖ 3:30 Dismissal



How are children assigned to classrooms?

Building Administrators consider the following:

- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Ethnicity
- ❖ Learning Styles and Needs
- ❖ Data: Pre-School Screening Form and PELI Literacy Screening



How do teachers work with children who are learning at different levels?

- ❖ Small Group Instruction
- ❖ Learning Centers
- ❖ Intervention Supports



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What are ELL classroom supports?

Indicators:

- ❖ Home Language Survey
- ❖ Observation Form & English Proficiency Interview form w/ Q&A
- ❖ PreLAS score 1-5
 - ❖ Identified as an ELL Student
 - ❖ Supports: (Differentiation in the mainstream classroom)
 - ❖ ESL Services, Bilingual Classroom, New Arrivals



Students with Special Needs

- If your child has an IEP, your child's current PPT team will work with the Kindergarten team to develop a plan for services for kindergarten to ensure that your child is optimizing their ability to access the general education curriculum.
- If your child's IEP team is concerned with your child's transition to kindergarten, there are specialized classrooms in the district that are smaller and will allow for a more focused amount of intervention to allow for growth.
- If you have a concern about your child and would like them evaluated, please call Gabrielle Massa at 203 977-6666 or email her at gmassa@stamfordct.gov.



How Do I Prepare My Child For Kindergarten?

- ❖ Engage your child in conversation
- ❖ Encourage your child to express his/her needs in full sentences
- ❖ Expose your child to social situations with other children
- ❖ Work on self-help skills both with hygiene and learning
- ❖ Read with your child everyday



Specialized Programs in the Stamford Public Schools

Presented by Kathy Quaglino, Assistant Director of Special Education

Email: kquaglino@stamfordct.gov

Phone Number: 203 977 5621

- Team- Together Everyone Achieves More
- CORE- Creating Opportunities for Readiness and Exploration
- **Programs focus on students that benefit from ABA(applied Behavior analysis). This approach ensures that educational decisions are data driven and educational decisions and interventions are done with fidelity.**



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TEAM Classrooms

- Together Everyone Achieves More
- This program currently services students that are medically fragile and require require a health care plan that is closely monitored by a nurse.
- Students require adaptive equipment, specialized augmentative communication, and assistive technology in order to access their environment.
- Art and music therapy are provided to support the student's ability to become connected to their environment.



Team Continued..

- Students are assigned to the TEAM class as well as a general education class in order to support inclusive opportunities as well as continuing to maintain a relationship with their community.



CORE Classrooms

- Creating Opportunities for Readiness and Exploration.
- Students have challenges with intellectual functioning, social skills, and daily living skills.
- Classrooms have at least one teacher, three paras, and up to 8 students.
- Related supports include: BCBA, speech and language, occupational therapy, social skills, and physical therapy



CORE continued

- Students are assigned to both their CORE classroom and a general education classroom in order to ensure growth and development in the areas of social pragmatics, participation in school activities, and activities of daily living.



Programs with an ABA Approach

- Students are diagnosed on the spectrum or require a more intensive systematic approach to learning.
- These students also get art and music therapy
- Learning is occurring in small groups, with individual instruction as well. Data is taken to drive educational decision making.
- Related services can include BCBA, speech therapy, social skills, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.



School Look Up

www.Stamfordpublicschools.org

The Stamford Public Schools prepares each and every student for higher education and success in a

Home

Information?

Schools

District

Parents

Staff

Curriculum



Click Information?
Next, click School-Lookup

Step 1 - Select Street Name: In this section a dropdown with all the street names in Stamford are listed. Click on the dropdown and select your street. Once your street name is selected, you will see a list of street numbers in Step 2

Step 2 - Select your House Number: Select your house number from the list provided by clicking on select on a given line. Please note that some streets are categorized with odd and even numbers.

Beginning House Number	Ending House Number	Side of Street	Street Name
Select 1	9999	B	ABEL AVE

Step 3 - Results: After you have completed Steps 1 and 2, your results will appear below.



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What time does the school day begin and end? (Approximate)

Davenport, Hart, K. T. Murphy, Strawberry Hill,
Rogers International, Roxbury, Springdale, Stark,
Toquam and Westover

9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Newfield, Northeast and Stillmeadow

8:10 AM to 2:40 PM



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Which are the magnet schools? How do I apply?

- **Stamford has Five Elementary Magnet Schools**
Hart, Rogers, Strawberry Hill, Toquam, Westover
- It is not *what* is taught but *how* it is taught that makes a magnet school different
- All schools are held to the same standards and content demands
- Methods of delivery and focus vary among magnet schools.

Elementary Magnet School Lottery applications is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020. The lottery drawing is Tuesday, December 15, 2020 and acceptances are due on Friday, January 15, 2021.

Once you are accepted to a magnet school, you must respond “yes” or “no” by the deadline (January 15th) and register your child for school by March 1st.



[SPS Magnet Website](#)



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How do I enroll my child for Kindergarten?

❖ Step 1 - Complete registration form online

❖ [SPS Registration Link](#) (Registration should be open by January 30th)

Registration documents can be dropped off in lobby of Government Center. For questions please call: 203-977-5312 or email ofce@stamfordct.gov

Phone:

203-977-5312

203-977-4465

Fax:

203 977-0874

Address:

Stamford Public Schools
888 Washington Boulevard
5th Floor
Stamford , CT 06901
United States
See map: [Google Maps](#)



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What documents will I need to register my child?

Personal Identification Documents

- ❖ *Registration can only be done by a parent or the child's legal guardian.*
- ❖ Photo ID of Parent or Legal Guardian
 - (Drivers License, Legal Photo ID)
- ❖ Child's **Original** Birth Certificate or Passport including **parents' names**



What documents will I need to register my child?

Proof of Residence in Stamford Documents

- ❖ A current Rental Lease, or Deed or Tax bill showing ownership of a residence in Stamford
 - **IMPORTANT:** If you are not listed on a lease, you must submit a **notarized Residency Form**.
- ❖ A current utility bill – gas, electric or water service
- ❖ Your name **must** be on all documents submitted.

For questions please email ofce@stamfordct.gov



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What documents will I need to register my child?

Health Requirements Documents

- ❖ Proof of Immunization Record, completed by a doctor
- ❖ Proof of Physical Exam form, completed by a doctor, for a physical exam **within one year** of the beginning of the school year in which the child is enrolling
- ❖ Children coming from outside the United States must have a physical completed by a U.S. physician
- ❖ Parent **must complete and sign the 1st page** of the Physical Exam Form
- ❖ **Health Assessment Form**



Emergency Contact Information

Emergencies happen!

Children get sick, Snowstorms require early dismissal, After School activities can be canceled.

- ❖ The registration process will ask you for Emergency Contacts. These are people who you are giving the school permission to contact to pick up your child in case of an emergency. **It is extremely important that you provide this information and that it is accurate.**



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Will my child have bus transportation?



- ❖ You must live at least 1 mile from school.
- ❖ Bus stops and times are posted in the Parent Portal account the weekend before the school year begins.
- ❖ An adult must meet a kindergarten child at the bus stop. Be flexible with times!



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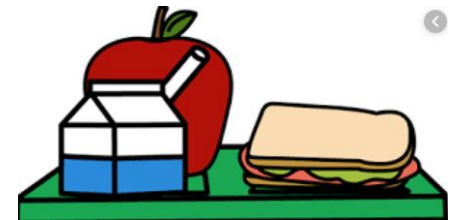
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Can my child get breakfast and lunch at school?

<https://paypams.com/HomePage.aspx>

❖ Current Paid Breakfast Fee \$1.50

❖ Current Paid Lunch Fee \$2.85



❖ Current Paid Milk Fee \$0.50

These are estimates, the price could change.

❖ Connecticut State Department of Education's *Application for Free and Reduced Lunch* should be completed each year! <https://www.paypams.com/onlineApp.aspx>

If you already qualify for SNAP or HUSKY –no need to apply.



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What about before and after school care?

- ❖ Separate from the Stamford Public Schools
- ❖ Complete all required paperwork and payment of fees
- ❖ Transportation may be provided to some off-school site programs
- ❖ Snacks
- ❖ Homework support
- ❖ Make sure the school knows where your child should be
- ❖ Any schedule changes must be given to the school in writing!

For a list of local childcare providers, visit:
bit.ly/StamfordProviders



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What should I do to help my child be ready to start kindergarten?

- ❖ **Plan a good-bye ritual**
- ❖ Establish routines for meals and bedtimes
- ❖ Help your child do as much for himself as possible
- ❖ Encourage the love of books and reading
- ❖ Attend Kindergarten Orientation
- ❖ Attend Play and Learn Nights
- ❖ Ask for help when you need it



Resources for Families

- [SPS Welcome Video](#)
- [Link to SPS K Registration Page](#)
- Social Stories- [Going to Kindergarten](#), [Masks and Safety](#)
- [Link to the Ferguson Library](#)
- [Link to Stamford Public Education Foundation](#)
- [Hello Kindergarten: Home](#)
- [Read Aloud- The Night Before Kindergarten](#)



Who can I contact when I have questions?

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Questions and Answer

