

Family Resources

The resources below will help connect you and your child with important learning for this school year.

We are committed to a bright future for your child!



FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FW School District #210
33330 8th Avenue South
Federal Way, WA 98003

NONDISCRIMINATION and EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT
Federal Way Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin or ethnicity, religion, creed, sex or gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, age, marital or family status, veteran or military status; disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. The district provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. For more information: www.fwps.org

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Federal Way, WA
Permit No. 54

GRADE



Welcome!

Learning Partnership Guide



OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

1. THE EARLY YEARS: **Building the foundation**
2. WHOLE CHILD: **Thriving, confident, responsible individuals**
3. ACTIVE LEARNERS: **Engaged, empowered critical thinkers**
4. CONTENT-AREA COMPETENCE: **Mastery of all subjects**
5. PERSISTENCE TO GRADUATION: **High school graduation through successful transitions**

Kindergarten is an important milestone in your child's life. Your child is learning how school works, making new friends, and doing a lot of learning. This guide provides an overview of the academic standards and social emotional milestones that your child will experience this year. Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all scholars are prepared for success. This guide is meant to support you in understanding what your child is learning, and provide ways you can speak with your child's teacher about their progress and growth over the year.

Digital Communications Tools in Federal Way Public Schools



Canvas

Canvas is a Learning Management System (LMS) that provides students and parents access to digital learning, classroom(s) weekly schedules, and more. To access Canvas, go to FWPS' Launchpad to Learning at <https://learn.fwps.org>. Your child's username is their Student ID, and their password is the same one used to log in to computers at school.



Phone Calls

Teachers may contact you using a calling system. You may notice the number may appear from a different area code than our geographical area.



Texting

Staff texting to parents and students

Communication tools are used by staff such as teachers to communicate with parents via email, texting and voice and students via email. Texting is available for students ages 13 & over. Students and parents are automatically opted in. For more information and on how to opt out, visit www.fwps.org.

School and district-wide texting to parents

Texting is also available from your child's school and the school district. More information can be found here: www.fwps.org/parentnotification.



Zoom Meetings

For some families, video conferences will be the best way to connect with your child's teacher. Your child's teacher may send you an invitation to participate in a Zoom video conference. To access this meeting on a computer, click on the link provided in the invitation. To access this meeting over the phone, you can call the number provided or download the Zoom mobile app at <https://www.zoom.us/download>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
How-to videos and resources can be found on our website at www.fwps.org

Did you know our website is translatable in our top languages?

To change the language on the FWPS website:

- Go to www.fwps.org
- Click on the 'Translation' at the top right of the webpage
- Select your preferred language from the drop-down menu

Does your child(ren) need access to a computer to access their learning at home?

Please indicate technology access needs for your child during the online registration process. If you have questions or need assistance, contact your child's school.

ParentVUE

ParentVUE is your way to check your child's grades, attendance and communicate with your child's teacher. To access ParentVUE, visit <https://grades.fwps.org/>.

Parents and guardians, make sure your contact information is up to date!

In order to receive communications from the district, school and school staff, it's important that your contact information in your ParentVUE account is current.

You can update your account by visiting <https://grades.fwps.org/>.

If you have not activated your ParentVUE account, please contact your child's school. To receive voice messages, ensure you have entered a mobile or home phone, and selected the corresponding type.

ParentVUE allows for two-way communication between teachers and parents in **multiple languages**. To receive messages in a language other than English, please set your preferred language on the login page of ParentVUE or on the mobile app.

When your child's teacher sends a message through ParentVUE, you will receive an email containing the message. To respond to this message, you must login to your ParentVUE account. (Do not respond to the noreply@fwps.org email notification.)

If you need assistance with ParentVUE, visit www.fwps.org/Families or email grades@fwps.org.

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is the place where you will find all needs related to your child's learning! Visit www.fwps.org/Families to find frequently asked questions, links to common resources, "How to" videos related to digital resources, and more.



Launchpad to Learning

Launchpad to Learning is a one-stop online location that provides access to all school applications and educational resources.

Check it out at: <https://learn.fwps.org>.



FWPS.ORG

Reading

- Scholars feel like readers and writers.
- Read daily.
- Learn 26 letters.
- Learn letter sounds.
- Use picture clues to figure out unknown words.
- Scholars can read using decoding and Sight Words.
- Listen to books.
- Retell books with class and partners.

Writing & Communication

- Tell their ideas to a classmate.
- Write daily.
- Draw, label and write their ideas.
- Draw, label, write to ask and answer questions about reading.
- Learn letter formation of upper- and lower-case letters.
- Ask and answer questions about books in whole group, small groups, or with partners.
- Participate in conversations with teachers and classmates in small and larger groups.

SEMESTER 1: SEPTEMBER–JANUARY

- Scholars can read and write numerals 0–10. Given a number 0–10, count out that many objects.
Example: Scholars are given a mystery bag with a number of objects 0–10 inside. They count and write the number that represents the amount inside.



SEMESTER 2: FEBRUARY–JUNE

- Scholars can make and break apart numbers 1–10 in multiple ways.
Example: Zahra has 8 apples. Some are green and some are red. What is one combination of red and green apples that Zahra could have? Can you find another combination?

- What happens if you push or pull an object harder?
- Where do animals live and why do they live there?
- What is the weather like today and how is it different from yesterday?

Citizenship at school

- Who am I? Who is in my class? What do we all need to learn together?
- How are my classmates and I alike? How are my classmates and I different?
- Why is it important for me to read and learn about people whose lives and experiences are different from mine?
- Fairness and rules: Why do we have rules? What does it mean to follow rules?
- Learn how to be a good friend.



Ways to talk with your child's teacher

- How is my child performing in phonics instruction? Is that level below, on or above grade level?
- What is my child's Power Goal? A Power Goal is a specific skill or strategy that your child is working on to improve reading skills.
- How is my child progressing in terms of meeting standards in reading, writing, speaking and listening? What are their strengths? What are areas to improve?



Ways to support your scholar at home

- Set aside time (20–30 minutes) for your child to read every day. Have them read to you. Talk to them about what is happening in their book(s).
- Ask your scholar to share what they are working on in class. Ask them questions like, "What book did you read and/or talk about in class today?" "What did you like about what you read?" "Tell me what you wrote about today in class."



Ways to talk with your child's teacher

- Does my child know how to make and break apart numbers? What have you observed?
- Ask to see a piece of your child's work. Is this work on level? What could be improved?



Ways to support your scholar at home

- Ask your child to count things in real life. For example, "How many forks are here?"
- Give your child a number 0-100 and ask your child to say or write the next number.

- With guidance, explore and experience music concepts (such as beat and melodic contour).
- With guidance, explore and demonstrate awareness of music contrasts (such as high/low, loud/soft, same/different) in a variety of music selected for performance.
- With guidance, perform music with expression.

- Learn locomotor and object control skills to apply in a variety of activities.
- Learn which foods are important to keep the body healthy.
- Learn to move safely, cooperate with and respect others, and follow activity rules.

- Explore and practice skills using teacher selected interactive sources.
- Understand safe use of the internet and computer as they access digital stories, images, and videos for learning.
- Properly use a mouse and or touchpad: single and double clicking, drag-and-dropping.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL kindergarten milestones

- Like to help, cooperate, follow rules, and gain adult approval
- Benefit from routines, consistent and simple expectations and consequences
- Often need verbal permission from adults before doing something
- Insecure with feelings and cautious with actions
- Complain, test authority and limits, and may temper tantrum
- Frequent reminders and redirection are more beneficial than harsh discipline
- Can behave well at school and worse at home, or vice versa
- Oppositional; not sure whether to be good or naughty
- May switch answers from "yes" to "no" and vice versa
- Can work at quiet, sitting activities for fifteen to twenty minutes at a time
- Express thoughts through action and learn and practice language skills through direct role play and dramatic play

QUESTION & ANSWER

Q: *Who do I contact if I have a concern about my child?*

A: First, always contact your scholar's teacher/s and discuss your concern. If your concern has not been fully addressed, you can contact the school's family liaison or principal.

Q: *How can I volunteer in the classroom or go on field trips?*

A: All family members who want to volunteer at the school must complete a background check. These can be completed at the school and are valid for two years.



OUR COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARS AND FAMILIES

All scholars learn best when they experience physical and emotional safety in classrooms and schools. Scholars and families should expect to see the following adult actions:

- Provide a welcoming environment to support building trusting, encouraging relationships with all families.
- Prioritize scholar voice and participation in shaping the learning and classroom culture.
- Teach for understanding to assure scholars have high expectations and academic supports to grow intellectually.
- Focus on scholar cooperation to encourage scholars to learn from and help others.
- Implement school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports so that all scholars and adults live out their shared beliefs and actions that make school a safe and fun place to learn.
- Teach social and emotional learning skills and strategies during morning meetings and reinforce SEL skills throughout the school day.

For the district calendar go to www.fwps.org/schoolcalendar



the ABCs

ATTENDANCE

Scholars who maintain good attendance through all years of school:

- Achieve grade level standard at a higher rate
- Graduate from high school at a higher rate
- Develop good habits that contribute to success in school and in future careers

For each day a scholar is absent it takes an average of three days to catch up.

BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

The purpose behind Culturally-Responsive Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (CR-PBIS) is to make schools more effective, efficient, and equitable learning environments for all scholars. By teaching scholars expectations and acknowledging positive behavior, adults increase the predictability, consistency, positive climate, and safety of all at school. Social emotional learning lessons are taught and embedded throughout the school year. To learn more about CR-PBIS and social emotional learning at your school, contact your scholar's teacher or principal.

COURSE PERFORMANCE

