

Welcome to Kindergarten!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS IN KINDERGARTEN

1. **Q. What time does school start?**
A. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday the doors open at 8:50 AM. Students need to be in their classrooms at 9:10. We have late start on Wednesdays. The doors open at 9:15 AM and students need to be in their classrooms at 9:30.
2. **Q. Does the school provide before and/or after school care?**
A. We do not offer this service at our school. However, the SCOH works closely with the YMCA, which does offer before/after school care. After school care is provided at your child's home school.
3. **Q. What is home school?**
A. Your child's home school is where he/she will attend 1st grade. Your address determines if your child will go to Veterans, Liberty, or Joan Martin.
4. **Q. Is transportation available for kindergarteners?**
A. The SCOH does provide bus transportation for all kindergarteners. An adult must be present at the bus stop when the child is dropped off.
5. **Q. What happens if an adult is not present at the bus stop?**
A. For your child's safety, he/she will not be let off the bus without an adult present. The child will be taken to his/her home school.
6. **Q. Can I walk my child to class?**
A. The first day of school is a special day for not only our newest kindergarteners but also the parents. Parents are allowed to walk their student to class on the first day. After the first day, we want to promote independence so goodbyes are encouraged in the car or lobby. Saying goodbye is much more difficult for the parent! "Quick goodbyes leave dry eyes"! Once the child is in the classroom, he/she is typically fine!
7. **Q. Can I have lunch with my child?**
A. We encourage parents to let their child adjust to kindergarten prior to having lunch with him/her. After October, a parent can occasionally come have lunch. You must have your ID present to gain access into the building. We encourage your child to interact with peers during lunch.
8. **Q. Is assistance available for food service and the kindergarten fees?**
A. Yes! You can apply for state assistance through your Skyward account. Go to Food Service tab (desktop version) and click on add application. Follow the prompts to apply for the assistance. Please contact Nancy Smith at 942-1388 ext 8955 or Patrick Ryba at 942-1388 ext 8952 with questions.
9. **Q. My child is a car rider. How do I go about dropping off or picking up?**
A. Drop off and pickup occur at door 2. Our aides are there to help; however, they are not able to buckle up your child. For your child's safety, please have him/her exit from the back passenger door.
10. **Q. What is the purple sign?**
A. This is required for pick up purposes. You will be provided two purple signs.
Car riders - You will hang your purple sign so the aides can call for your child when you arrive at door 2.
Bus riders - You will show bus driver sign to have your child released to the adult present.
Walkers - You will show staff at door 2 for your child to be released after all car riders.
11. **Q. What happens if I do not have my purple sign?**
A. If you do not have your purple sign for pick up, you may NOT make your own. You must park and come into the office with your ID. Your child will be released to you after the car riders are dismissed.

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12. Q. My child is a walker. What time will he/she be dismissed?

- A. Your child will be dismissed after the car riders are dismissed (usually around 3:15). You must have your purple sign if you are picking up at door 2. If you do not have your purple sign, you will have to sign your child out from the office with your ID.

13. Q. I missed a phone call from the school. Who called?

- A. Before you call the school, please listen to your voicemail. It will help the office staff know where to direct your call if you can let them know who called. Please make sure your voicemail is set up!

14. Q. I need to pick my child up early from school. What do I need to do?

- A. Make sure you write a note to your child's teacher letting him/her know what time you will coming. You MUST present your ID or purple sign to pick up your child.

15. Q. I need to change my child's method of getting home. What do I do?

- A. The BEST way to change your child's transportation is to write your child's teacher a note the day of the change. In an emergency, you may call the office for a transportation change. Please do not email or use social media (ie. Facebook) to change your child's way of getting home. Our teachers are actively engaged with our students during the day and may not have an opportunity to check their emails.

16. Q. My child is going to be absent. What do I need to do?

- A. If your child is going to be absent, you need to report the absence through Skyward. Choose the attendance tab and click add attendance. Choose the date, reason, and please make comment in the comment box. Medical appointments will be excused once the school receives documentation from the doctor.

17. Q. Can I volunteer in the school?

- A. There are many opportunities to volunteer within the school. Many of our teachers welcome the assistance in and out of the classroom! We also have Friends of the Library and our PTO. In order to become a volunteer, you must come in the office to have your ID scanned for a background check.

18. Q. Does the school have a website or utilize social media?

ELC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Early-Learning-Center-253608198727771/>

ELC Website: <https://www.hobart.k12.in.us/elc>

School City of Hobart Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/schoolcityofhobart/>

School City of Hobart Twitter: <https://twitter.com/scohbrickies>

School City of Hobart Website: <https://www.hobart.k12.in.us/>

19. Q. Can I access the school menu from my mobile device?

- A. Yes, you can! Download the webmenus app and search for ELC at George Earle.

20. Q. I need someone who is not on my child's emergency contact list to pick up my child. What do I do?

- A. Please call the office and notify us of the name of person who will be picking up your child. He/She must present his/her ID when picking up. You can also call the office to add additional emergency contacts anytime throughout the year.

21. Q. Can I request a teacher?

- A. The SCOH prides itself in hiring the best teachers. All of our teachers do an outstanding job and are committed to you and your child. Because of this, requests are not taken.