

Northshore School District

KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENTRANCE PARENT PACKET

TO: Parents Requesting Early Entrance of Their Child to Kindergarten

FROM: David Wellington, Assistant Superintendent

The initial years of a child's education are crucial for their success in school. The staff at Northshore holds the belief that the majority of children under the August 31 cut-off date are not adequately served by early entry. Parents are encouraged to assess all aspects of readiness, including academic, social, emotional, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, visual and auditory discrimination. They are also urged to carefully consider the potential implications of being younger than their peers in later grades, where physical and emotional/social challenges may have a heightened impact on leadership, self-esteem, and decision-making. While our policy is designed with numerous safeguards, it is evident that no test results can fully assess the long-term consequences of an early entrance decision. We strongly advise exercising care and caution when making this significant placement choice.

Parents or legal guardians have the option to apply for an exception to the Uniform Age of Entrance by seeking early entrance to kindergarten. The steps of the application process are outlined in the attached paperwork. Applications must be submitted no later than June 30th..

Northshore School District
KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENTRANCE

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Parents interested in applying for Early Entrance to Kindergarten must complete the following steps before June 30th:

1. Application
2. Kindergarten Readiness Checklist
3. Attach your check for \$200 (payable to Northshore School District), testing will be at the expense of the parent, and mail to:

Northshore School District--Early Entrance to Kindergarten 3330 Monte
Villa Parkway Bothell, WA 98021

After submission of the Kindergarten Early Entrance Application and fee, you will be contacted by the Northshore Elementary Education Office with an assessment date and location. The assessment takes approximately two hours and is a required part of the Early Entrance process. Assessments are administered by Northshore School Psychologists. Parents or legal guardians can wait on site for the duration of the assessment process but will be unable to attend or observe the assessment itself.

PLACEMENT DETERMINATION

Parents will be notified of test results via email by the Elementary Education Office within ten days of the assessment, based on the standards identified below:

- Cognitive area: minimum of a standard score of 125.
- Gross Motor area: minimum of an age-equivalent score of 5 years, 6 months.
- Fine Motor area: minimum of an age-equivalent score of 5 years, 6 months.
- Visual Discrimination area: minimum of an age-equivalent score of 5 years, 6 months.
- Auditory Discrimination area: minimum of an age-equivalent score of 5 years, 6 months.
- Social/Emotional area: minimum of an age-equivalent score of 5 years, 6 months.

If the child meets or exceeds the minimum criterion in each of the six required categories of assessment:

- Parents/legal guardians will be informed in writing of a conditional placement through the NSD. Final consideration by the school administration after a six-week trial period will confirm placement.

Contact the Office of Elementary Education at 425.408.7705 with additional questions or concerns.

Northshore School District
EARLY ENTRANCE APPLICATION FOR
KINDERGARTEN

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT:

Date _____

Student Name

Student Birthdate

Parent Name(s)

Elementary School Service Area

Parent Address

City, State, Zip Code

Phone #1

Phone #2

Parent email address: _____

To be completed by Parents

NSD Early Entrance Kindergarten Checklist

Student's Name: _____

	Yes	No	Some times	Not Observed
1. Child can tell his first and last name.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Child cuts food with a knife, e.g., sandwich, celery.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Child can pour.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. Child dresses self.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Child is aware that activities happen at certain times of the day, e.g., breakfast is eaten in the morning; certain TV shows occur at regular times.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. Child can hold a pencil and attempts to print name.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. Child can be away from parent several hours without becoming upset.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. Child separates willingly from parent.	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. Child can choose activities from a variety of choices.	_____	_____	_____	_____
10. Child sticks with chosen activities for 15 minutes.	_____	_____	_____	_____
11. Child can wait for a turn.	_____	_____	_____	_____
12. Child is aware of others' feelings.	_____	_____	_____	_____
13. Child can verbalize needs.	_____	_____	_____	_____
14. Child can do tasks without constant reassurance.	_____	_____	_____	_____
15. Child engages in cooperative play with other children involving group decisions, role assignment and fair play.	_____	_____	_____	_____
16. The child listens to directions without interrupting.	_____	_____	_____	_____
17. The child listens to stories and poems for 5 to 10 minutes without restlessness.	_____	_____	_____	_____

	Yes	No	Some times	Not Observed
18. The child speaks clearly and can stay on the topic.	_____	_____	_____	_____
19. The child can give reasons for his/her own opinions.	_____	_____	_____	_____
20. The child adjusts to changes in routine and to new situations without becoming fearful.	_____	_____	_____	_____
21. The child adjusts to opposition or defeat without crying or sulking.	_____	_____	_____	_____
22. The child adjusts to the necessity of asking for help when needed.	_____	_____	_____	_____
23. The child obeys rules at home and in activities.	_____	_____	_____	_____
24. The child plays cooperatively with other children.	_____	_____	_____	_____
25. The child shares, takes turns, and assumes his share of group responsibility.	_____	_____	_____	_____
26. The child works without being easily distracted.	_____	_____	_____	_____
27. The child follows directions.	_____	_____	_____	_____
28. The child completes each task.	_____	_____	_____	_____
29. Child expects individual attention in a group setting.	_____	_____	_____	_____
30. Child has wide mood swings.	_____	_____	_____	_____
31. Child becomes frightened in large groups.	_____	_____	_____	_____
32. Child needs an afternoon nap.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Additional Comments:

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

Northshore School District

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

No. 3110 P

STUDENTS

Entrance Qualifications

To be admitted to a kindergarten program, which commences in the fall of the year, a child must be 5 years of age on or before August 31 of that school year. Exceptions may be made for pupils turning 5 between September 1 and November 30 if they demonstrate advanced levels of 5 years 6 months age equivalent and/or standard scores at the 95 percentile on approved tests in all of the following areas:

- Mental Ability
- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills
- Visual Discrimination
- Auditory Discrimination
- Emotional/Social Development

Testing shall be at parent/guardian expense unless the family qualifies for a waived fee based on the USDA Child Nutrition Process Guidelines. Following a decision to enter the child, there will be a conditional six-week trial period.

All admission steps of the Kindergarten Early Entrance procedure must be completed by August 15.

To be admitted to the first grade program, which commences in the fall of the year, a child must be 6 years of age on or before August 31 of that school year. Any student not otherwise eligible for entry to the first grade, who has successfully completed a state-approved kindergarten program of 450 or more hours including instruction in language arts, arithmetic, and reading, may be placed in a temporary classroom assignment for the purposes of evaluation prior to making a final determination of the student's appropriate placement. Such determination shall be made no later than the 30th calendar day following the student's first day of attendance.

Issued: 12/29/05