



TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

WHAT IS TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK)?

Transitional Kindergarten is the first phase of a two-year Kindergarten program that uses age-appropriate curriculum aligned to the [Preschool Transitional Kindergarten Learning Foundations](#) (PTKLF). TK acts as a bridge between preschool and Kindergarten and is designed to provide our youngest learners with the pivotal skills and experiences needed for success in Kindergarten. This program is optional, and parents are not required to enroll their child in TK.

Students turning 5 between 9/2/2025-9/1/2026 are eligible to apply.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TK at SSFUSD?

TK gives our young learners:

- An opportunity to learn and grow in an environment tailored to meet their academic and social needs.
- A nurturing environment where children learn routines and social skills, and work collaboratively with other students.
- Instruction that focuses on all areas of child development, including social emotional, literacy and math foundations, as well as fine and gross motor skills.

HOW DO I HELP MY CHILD PREPARE FOR TK?

Children learn quickly, especially when their parents are involved. Please help your child get a jump start on a successful TK experience by practicing the below skills at home:

- Use the bathroom by themselves (wiping properly, pulling up pants and washing their hands after). *Please refer to our Toileting Independence policy.*
- Put on his or her coat/sweater by themselves (including buttons and zippers).
- Tie or fasten his or her own shoes (or wear slip ons or shoes with velcro straps).
- Keep fingers out of noses and mouths
- Feed themselves.
- Use tissue to wipe their nose.
- Hold a pencil or crayon.

- Wash their hands with soap and water on their own.
- Leave parents of caregivers and say good-bye without being overly upset.
- Say and know their full name (not just their nickname).
- Listen to a story.
- Share willingly with others.
- Take turns.
- Sing the ABC song.
- Listen to and follow basic directions.
- Ask for help when needed.

WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD WEAR TO TK?

- Clothes that are easy for your child to use the bathroom independently, such as pants or sweatpants with elastic waistbands.
- Jackets/sweaters that are easy to get on and off independently.
- Slip-on or Velcro shoes to wear on school days (NO laces please).

Students should wear comfortable clothes that allow them to work and play freely. We play outside, use playdoh and other art materials frequently. Please keep an extra set of clothes in your child's backpack in case of accidents.

WHAT DOES A DAY IN TK LOOK LIKE?

8:20 am	Class Line Up	11:05 am	Lunch & Recess
8:30 am	Unpack & Prepare for Day	11:45 am	Bathroom/ Transition
8:45 am	Fine Motor Activities	12:00 pm	Whole Group Activity & Art
9:15 am	Circle Time	12:30 pm	Choice Time
9:50 am	Recess	1:15 pm	Clean Up & Pack Up
10:30 am	Literacy & Math Centers	1:20 pm	Dismissal

* Beginning of year early dismissal schedule TBD. Class schedules will vary by school.

For application information, refer to <https://www.ssfusd.org/apps/pages/transitional-kindergarten>



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