

SCHOOL TIME

2026 – 2027



SNOHOMISH SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Dear kindergarten families:

Welcome to kindergarten and to the Snohomish School District! Educating a child requires the efforts of a team of caring people. In Snohomish School District, this successful team involves parents/guardians, teachers, principals and district staff. We welcome you as equal partners on your child's team.

Our kindergarten program includes a strong emphasis on the development of academic and social skills. In addition, we will provide your child with the opportunity to explore, discover and experience the joy of learning. Please read through this handbook for more information.

We encourage you to get to know your child's teacher and school. Please be sure to ask questions and take an active part in your child's education.

Once again, welcome! We look forward to working with your child and your family.

Sincerely,
Elementary Principals

Your child will attend one of the following elementary schools. If you are uncertain which one serves your neighborhood, please call our Transportation Department at 360-563-3525.

Cascade View Elementary
2401 Park Avenue
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-563-7000
www.sno.wednet.edu/cascadeview

Machias Elementary
231 147th Avenue SE
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-563-4825
www.sno.wednet.edu/machias

Cathcart Elementary
8201 188th Street SE
Snohomish, WA 98296
360-563-7075
www.sno.wednet.edu/cathcart

Riverview Elementary
7322 64th Street SE
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-563-4375
www.sno.wednet.edu/riverview

Dutch Hill Elementary
8231 131st Street SE
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-563-4450
www.sno.wednet.edu/dutchhill

Seattle Hill Elementary
12711 51st Avenue SE
Everett, WA 98208
360-563-4675
www.sno.wednet.edu/seattlehill

Emerson Elementary
1103 Pine Avenue
Snohomish, WA 98290
360-563-7150
www.sno.wednet.edu/emerson

Totem Falls Elementary
14211 Sno-Cascade Drive
Snohomish, WA 98296
360-563-4750
www.sno.wednet.edu/totemfalls

Little Cedars Elementary
7408 144th Place SE
Snohomish, WA 98296
360-563-2900
www.sno.wednet.edu/littlecedars

For more information visit any of the school websites above or the district website at www.sno.wednet.edu.



WHAT IS KINDERGARTEN?

WaKIDS

Our state full-day kindergarten programs participate in a program called Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS). WaKIDS is part of a transition process that helps to ensure a successful start to your child's school experience. There are several components to the WaKIDS program.

- **Family connections** – During the first three days, teachers will meet with each kindergarten family to get to know them and learn about the student's interests and needs. We will have many opportunities designed to get to know our new kindergarten students and their families. Our goal is to introduce school to your kindergartener and lessen the anxiety around starting school. Watch for more information from your child's school about schedules and details as the start of school approaches.
- **WaKIDS whole child assessment** – This is not an assessment in the sense of a "test" students take. In the fall, teachers observe each child during classroom activities and record data about what each child knows and can do at the beginning of the school year. Knowing more about your child's skills and strengths as they enter kindergarten helps teachers and parents work together to support student growth. The WaKIDS assessment observes six areas: social-emotional, physical, cognitive, language, literacy and mathematics.
- **Early learning collaborations** – Our schools are working to build relationships with early learning providers to support smoother transitions into school for our students.

State-funded full-day kindergarten

Kindergarten is the first year of your child's public school life. It is an integral part of the primary program and the beginning of a child's formal education. Activities provided in kindergarten are carefully designed and appropriate for 5-year-olds. Under proper guidance, what may look like play actually produces important learning. Children learn best through active participation and are provided opportunities to learn through discovery, interaction, creativity, problem-solving, conversation and play.

The Snohomish School District kindergarten program includes a rich and varied curriculum that:

- Helps students develop initial skills in the academic areas of reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Helps students develop language and communication skills.
- Provides experiences in science, social studies, arts, physical activities and music.
- Includes a basic introduction and brief experience with a world language other than English.
- Helps students acquire large and small motor skills.
- Helps students develop social and emotional skills including successfully participating in learning activities as an individual and as part of a group.



GETTING STARTED

What you can do to help as your child begins kindergarten:

1. Get to know your child's teacher during the "first three days" and also by communicating through letters, notes and calls throughout the year.
2. Become acquainted with your school by attending school events and attend a kindergarten tour. Make yourself aware of school programs and activities. Subscribe to receive newsletters and other announcements from your child's school and the school district.
3. If your child has been in preschool or child care, consider sharing information you've received from your early learning provider with your child's kindergarten teacher.
4. Know your child. Be patient if their first adjustments to school are difficult and if they are slow in starting. Please remember each child is an individual, and all children differ in their physical and mental growth.



HELPFUL HINTS

A successful start to kindergarten is very important to your child. Here are a few hints we hope will be helpful:

The first few days:

- Mark your child's name, phone number and address on their clothing and other personal items (lunch box, backpack, etc.). Make sure labels are properly affixed.
- Wait with your child for the bus or ask an older student to watch both morning and evening.
- If there are small bumps in the road (a lost lunch box, for example), be patient and calm. Downplay these events and reassure your child that school is a great place to be.

Throughout the year:

- Respond to messages from school promptly. We will do the same for you. Please remember that good communication is the key!
- Enclose money and/or forms sent for various purposes in a sealed envelope. On the envelope, always write your child's name, the teacher's name and the amount enclosed.

- Strive for good attendance. If your child is absent, please send a written explanation or call your school's phone attendance line.
- Send a note with your child or call the school if their usual transportation is temporarily changing (For example, following a different route, getting picked up where usually riding the bus, or going home with someone else).
- Report any change of address, telephone number or withdrawal from school to the school office.
- Pick your child up at the curb, crosswalk, or wait until they cross the street with the patrol. Never ask your child to "jaywalk" to your car across the street – or to walk between parked cars or buses to a double-parked car.
- Assure your child is always safe and well-supervised. If you provide transportation, drop off and pick up your child as close to the beginning and end of class as possible.
- If your schedule permits, consider volunteering for your child's classroom or greater school community.
- Encourage your child and enjoy your new school community!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration will begin spring 2026 at all Snohomish School District elementary schools. All kindergarten families and students are highly encouraged to attend this year's Spring Into Kindergarten event. Spring Into Kindergarten will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 4-6:30 p.m. at district elementary schools. Families should complete and return their kindergarten registration paperwork that day.

Each school will also be conducting school tours and having important information available for families (WaKIDS, PTA/PTO/parent organizations, bus transportation, special services and more). For more information, please contact the elementary school your child will attend.



Age of admission:

To enter kindergarten a child must be 5-years-old on or before August 31. (Note: Please call your school if information is needed regarding early entrance requirements. Depending on availability, early entrance may be considered only if your child's birthday falls between September 1 and October 31.)

Where to enroll:

Your child should be registered before the first day of school at the school nearest your home. Kindergarten registration will begin Thursday, March 5, at all Snohomish School District elementary schools. All registration materials will be available at www.sno.wednet.edu/kindergarten. We encourage families to utilize the online student enrollment and registration available at that site.

Important materials:

Families should complete their kindergarten registration materials online at www.sno.wednet.edu/kindergarten. Materials you will need to have handy include:

- Child's birth certificate
- Child's immunization records (child's immunization records must be up-to-date)
- Emergency contact information and phone numbers (at least 2)
- Name and phone number of your family doctor
- Parent's phone number at work
- Proof of address (see below)
- Any relevant legal documents (parenting plans, protection orders, etc.)
- When registering students who have transferred from another school, please bring the name, address and phone number of the school

Proof of address (at least one):

Our registration policy requires for any student/parent to show proof of residency before acceptance into our school district. Proof of residency is:

1. A current Snohomish County property tax statement (original) with the parent/guardian name and address. The address must be within the service area of your home school.
2. A current utility bill (PUD, water, phone landline, etc.)
3. Closing documents in home purchase – Documentation from a title company is acceptable. Purchase offers are not.

NOTE: Cell phone bills, vehicle registration and driver's licenses are not acceptable forms of proof.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The amended School Immunization Law requires that a completed Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS) form be present at school on or before your child's first day of attendance. The CIS form must show proof of: (a) full immunization; (b) initiation of a schedule of immunization; or (c) a certificate of exemption.

The following charts note the minimum vaccines required for kindergarten attendance in the school year 2026-2027 (charts as of January 1, 2026), according to the State of Washington WAC 246-100-166:

Required documentation must include the month, day and year that all vaccinations were given.



Instructions: To see which vaccines are required for school, find your child's grade in the first column. Look at the matching row across the page to find the amount of vaccines required for your child to enter school.

Vaccines required for school attendance, Preschool-Grade 12 (August 1, 2026-July 31, 2027)

	DTaP/Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis)	Hepatitis B	Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type B)	MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)	PCV (Pneumococcal Conjugate)	Polio	Varicella (Chickenpox)
Preschool Age 19 months to less than 4 years on September 1	4 doses DTaP*	3 doses	3 or 4 doses* (depending on vaccine)	1 dose	4 doses*	3 doses	1 dose**
Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten 4 years of age or older on September 1	5 doses DTaP*	3 doses	3 or 4 doses* (depending on vaccine) Not required at 5 years of age or older	2 doses	4 doses* Not required at 5 years of age or older	4 doses*	2 doses**
Kindergarten through 6th grades	5 doses DTaP*	3 doses	Not required	2 doses	Not required	4 doses*	2 doses**
7th through 12th grades	5 doses DTaP* plus Tdap at >10 years	3 doses	Not required	2 doses	Not required	4 doses*	2 doses**

*Vaccine doses may be acceptable with fewer than listed depending on when they were given.

**Healthcare provider verification of history of chickenpox disease is also acceptable.

Students must get vaccine doses at the correct timeframes to be in compliance with school requirements. Talk to your health care provider or school staff if you have questions.

Find information on other important vaccines not required for school at www.immunize.org/cdc/schedules

HEALTH

Snohomish School District strives to provide for a safe and optimum learning environment for your child. Legislation enacted in June 2002 requires that children with life-threatening health conditions have a medication or treatment order and nursing care plan in place before they start school. The medication or treatment order must be from the child's licensed health care provider. The law defines life-threatening condition as "a health condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order and nursing care plan are not in place." These health conditions may be life threatening reactions to bee stings or food allergies, severe asthma, unstable diabetes, severe seizures, and others.

Students who miss school due to illness should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. If you have any questions and/or require assistance in any way, please call your child's school and ask to speak with the district nurse.



BUS TRANSPORTATION

Our Transportation Office is responsible for developing student bus routes and schedules. My Ride K-12 provides secure access to student routing information and provides quick access to your child's routing information, which can include the bus stop, route, and bus number. This is accessible on mobile devices, and confidential and secure. This program can be accessed through the web at www.sno.wednet.edu/busroutes or mobile app and is free to download and use. For more information call 360-563-3525.

It is our district's practice that kindergarteners will not be left off the bus unless the student's parent (or designated adult) is at the bus stop at the time of student drop-off. Kindergarten students whose parent/guardian is not at the bus stop will be returned to the student's elementary school where the parent (or emergency contact) will be called for student pick-up.

Bus safety

We highly value the safety of those who ride our buses and will do our best to ensure that each student arrives at school, and back home, safely.

Families and schools share the responsibility for providing a safe environment for students while they are riding district buses and during times of emergency school closures.

Posted bus routes and pick-up and drop-off times are approximate. Please remember that traffic, weather and other unforeseen circumstances may cause some routes to be early or delayed. It is recommended that parents and students arrive at their bus stops five minutes prior to the published times.

Students on buses are expected to conform to behavior rules corresponding to classroom conduct regulations. They must:

- Sit properly in their seats,
- Refrain from throwing objects,
- Keep their hands to themselves,
- Be courteous to others, and
- Obey the bus drivers at all times.

Visit www.sno.wednet.edu/transportation for additional information.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Each school will publish a list of school supplies on its website. Please watch for this information in the summer prior to the start of the school year.



2026-2027 IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE

- **Thursday, March 5** – Spring into Kindergarten registration event
- **Tuesday, September 1** – First day of school (grades 1-7, 9 and AIM High School)
- **Wednesday, September 2** - All students except students in kindergarten, Transition to Kindergarten and developmental preschool attend school
- **Tuesday, September 1-Thursday, September 3** - Kindergarten WaKIDS (“first three days”)
- **Tuesday, September 8** - First day of school for students in kindergarten, Transition to Kindergarten and developmental preschool
- **Wednesday, November 25** – Half-day early release for Thanksgiving Break
- **Thursday, November 26-Friday, November 27** – Thanksgiving Break
- **Friday, December 18** - Half-day early release for Winter Break
- **Monday, December 21-Friday, January 1** – Winter Break
- **Monday, February 15-Tuesday, February 16** – Mid-Winter Break
- **Monday, April 5-Friday, April 9** – Spring Break
- **Monday, June 14** – Tentative last day of school
- **Tuesday, June 15-Friday, June 18** – School closure related make-up days

Visit www.sno.wednet.edu/calendar for additional dates and information.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Your child learns to:

You can help by:

Speaking



- Increase vocabulary.
- Gain confidence in self-expression.
- Express ideas in sentences.
- Relate events in proper sequence.
- Listen for a purpose (specific things, directions or information).

1. Encouraging your child to take part in family conversations.
2. Giving your child experiences to talk about.
3. Encouraging your child to talk plainly and to use correct language. Avoid using baby talk.
4. Listening when your child talks to you.
5. Teaching them about following directions.

Reading



- Develop interest in books and a desire to read.
- Interpret pictures.
- Discover likenesses or differences in form, size, number and ideas.
- Identify beginning sound in words.
- Hear like sounds in rhyming words.
- Follow sequence of ideas.
- Sound out words.
- Read when ready.

1. Reading to your child. Talk about what you've read together.
2. Setting an example by reading yourself.
3. Giving your child books of their own.
4. Visiting the public library.
5. Talking with your child about pictures.
6. Encouraging your child to notice signs.

Writing



- Be aware of handwriting and its purposes.
- Use art materials and puzzles to develop small muscle coordination.
- Write their own name in manuscript form.
- Write letters and numbers in manuscript form.
- Draw pictures to tell stories and begin to create labels to go with them.

1. Providing opportunities to cut and color large pictures.
2. Helping your child hold the crayon correctly and easily in first drawing experiences.
3. Helping your child recognize their own name in print.
4. Helping your child write letters in correct manuscript form (refer to the manuscript alphabet).
5. Encouraging your child to draw pictures and tell oral stories about their drawings.

Art



- Use a variety of art materials and tools.
- Control small muscles used in writing.
- Develop and express his/her own ideas.

1. Being enthusiastic – talk about your child's artwork and display it.
2. Providing materials and tools for art activities in the home.
3. Developing an appreciation for all of the beauty around us.

Playing



- Play appropriately with others.
- Develop large muscle coordination.
- Release emotions through play.

1. Encouraging your child to share toys.
2. Playing family games at home.
3. Praising your child when he is thoughtful of others.

Living



- Walk safely, cross at crosswalks and obey traffic lights.
- Dress appropriately for the weather.
- Play safely.
- Practice safety on the school bus.

1. Encouraging your child to practice good health and safety habits.
2. Providing your child a healthy diet.
3. Encouraging outdoor activities.
4. Helping your child learn the safest way to and from school.
5. Teaching your child their name, address and telephone number.
6. Seeing that your child receives eleven to twelve hours of sleep each night.

Exploring



- Explore and understand scientific concepts.
- Understand needs of living things.
- Care for pets.
- Share scientific discoveries with others.

1. Taking your child on trips.
2. Exploring the wonders of nature with your child.
3. Planning simple experiments at home.
4. Encouraging your child to share interesting items at school.
5. Answering questions or suggesting ways for your child to find answers.

Counting and Math



- Enjoy numbers.
- Understand number meaning.
- Appreciate the use of arithmetic in daily living.
- Use arithmetic vocabulary (shapes, large, small, many, few).
- Be aware of early concepts in addition and subtraction.
- Recognize shapes

1. Playing simple mathematical games.
2. Using the calendar to mark special days.
3. Helping your child use money.
4. Counting things during play.
5. Pointing out shapes, numbers, and math in daily life around you. Make it fun!

Understanding



- Respect the community.
- Develop an understanding of neighborhood workers.
- Be responsible for self and others.
- Work, share and play safely.
- Participate as a group member.
- Treat others with respect.

1. Letting your child share in family responsibilities.
2. Providing opportunities to meet and play with other children.
3. Treating every encounter as a learning opportunity.

KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

Math

Bridges in Mathematics

www.mathlearningcenter.org

In kindergarten children will learn to count to 100 by ones and tens, be able to add and subtract within 10, and develop an understanding of teen numbers are 10 and some more. They will also use mathematical language to describe shapes, weight, and length. The curriculum provides lots of hands-on practice, and opportunities to play math games to help children engage in playful learning. The Math Learning Center has a wide variety of resources for families to engage in fun math activities at home.

Reading

Fountas and Pinnell Classroom

www.fountasandpinnell.com/intro

By the end of kindergarten children will know the ABCs and the primary sound each letter makes. They will be able to read books 8-16 pages long with about two to three lines of text per page. We teach

our students to use some sight words they have learned, to “sound out” words with short vowels, and use pictures to help understand the meaning of the story. We also provide lots of opportunities to play with letters and sounds such as rhyming games and songs, and read aloud and talk about books daily.

Writing

Being a Writer

www.collaborativeclassroom.org/

[programs/being-a-writer](http://www.collaborativeclassroom.org/programs/being-a-writer)

The focus in kindergarten is developing an understanding that writing is a form of communication. Children begin by drawing pictures and labeling the pictures, and they end the year writing two to three short sentences on lines related to the pictures they draw. We teach students the difference between fiction and nonfiction, and help children develop confidence in their writing.

Purposeful Play

Play is an important part of our kindergarten classrooms. Students develop social skills, problem solving, and creativity during our

purposeful play time. Teachers facilitate learning by providing activities to engage and challenge students in a playful setting. Examples of play areas in a kindergarten classroom are the block and toy area, dramatic play area, home area, writing area, math area, and art area.

Social-Emotional

Second Step

www.secondstep.org/

[social-emotional-learning](http://www.secondstep.org/social-emotional-learning)

Children learn social-emotional skills in a variety of ways, including the behavior they see modeled by the adults in their lives. Social-emotional skills and concepts are also taught explicitly in the classroom, in much the same way math or reading is taught. Second Step provides whole class lessons in empathy, emotion recognition and management, problem solving, impulse control, calming down, communication and assertiveness.

SPRING INTO KINDERGARTEN

Mark your calendars for our Spring Into Kindergarten event. All kindergarten families and students are highly encouraged to attend. Spring Into Kindergarten will be held on Thursday, March 5, from 4–6:30 p.m. at district elementary schools. Families should complete and return their kindergarten registration paperwork that day. Each school will also be conducting school tours and having important information available for families (WaKIDS, PTA/PTO/parent organizations, bus transportation, special services and more).

THANK YOU FOR ENROLLING YOUR CHILD IN THE SNOHOMISH SCHOOL DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM. WE ARE HERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AND YOUR FAMILY. PLEASE REACH OUT TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL OR OUR DISTRICT OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS!



The Snohomish School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, color, national origin, immigration or citizenship status, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, homelessness, disability, neurodivergence, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination, and all are located at 1601 Avenue D, Snohomish, WA 98290: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator – Darryl Pernat, 360-563-7285, darryl.pernat@sno.wednet.edu; Student ADA and Section 504 Coordinator - Wendy McCulloch, 360-563-7308, wendy.mcculloch@sno.wednet.edu; Applicant and Employee ADA Coordinator – Shantel Strandt, 360-563-7229; shantel.strandt@sno.wednet.edu; and Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Coordinator – Jennifer Harlan, 360-563-7282, jennifer.harlan@sno.wednet.edu.



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