



Welcome to Kindergarten!



[Video: Welcome to Kindergarten](#)

What Do I Need to Know?

- Allen ISD's Kindergarten Mission
- Developmental Characteristics of Kindergarteners
- Readiness Skills
- Average School Day Snapshot
- Academic Year Calendar
- Starting School – Expectations and Helpful Hints
- Parent Prep
- FAQ/Q&A



Allen ISD's Kindergarten Mission

- First and foremost, Allen ISD teachers want to love and protect your children. Safety is our number one priority! In addition to providing age appropriate curriculum, our teachers are dedicated to nurturing and appreciating each student while fostering classroom connections.
- In August and September, many students may participate in whole group activities to build relationships with their teacher and classmates. Classroom routines and expectations are emphasized. As the year progresses you will see an increase in challenging curriculum.

Developmental Characteristics of Kindergarteners

- **Emotional** – needs to feel secure, separates easily from caregiver, becomes more self-aware, develops self-control, expresses needs and wants
- **Intellectual** – is often highly imaginative, wants to learn new skills, listens and speaks at appropriate times, learns best by doing
- **Physical** – has high energy but tires easily, develops longer attention span, has better gross than fine motor skills, cares for self and belongings, catches colds or other communicable illnesses easily
- **Social** – enjoys new experiences, seeks friends, shares and works with others

Readiness Skills

Can your child:

- follow one and two step directions?
- listen to a story without interrupting?
- look at pictures and tell a related story?
- begin and end tasks at the appropriate time?
- clearly communicate his/her own needs and wants?
- clean up his/her workspace and put materials away independently?
- care for his/her own bathroom and clothing needs without help?



Average School Day Snapshot

- Morning Announcements
- Calendar/Morning Meeting
- English/Language Arts (Word Work, Reading Strategies and Writing)
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Specials (Art, Music, P.E.)
- Centers/Stations
- Bathroom Breaks/Lunch/Recess
- Pack Up and Reflection



Average School Day Snapshot

- **Schedules:** Each school differs slightly but all will provide their kindergarten class schedule with more specific times before the school year starts so you will know your child's exact day and when you can visit.
- **Lunch:** You can choose to send lunch with your child or have him/her buy lunch in the cafeteria. Menus are posted on the school and district websites. There is a vegetarian option.
- **Buses:** If you have a child riding the bus, please know drivers are not allowed to let students in K-2 grades exit without sighting their caregiver.
- **Car Riders/Walkers:** You will be given a placard to hang or carry for easier collection of your child. Teachers call for students on walkie-talkies. Teachers sight you before releasing students in K-2.
- **Emergency Procedures:** Safety drills are conducted throughout the year. In the event of an actual emergency, you will be contacted.

Academic Year Calendar

- First Day of School – August 14, 2019
- Parent Conferences – October 28, 2019
- Thanksgiving Break – November 25-29, 2019
- Winter Break – December 23, 2019 - January 6, 2020
- Spring Break – March 9-13, 2020
- Last Day of School – May 22, 2020



[Link to 2019-2020 Academic Calendar](#)

Starting School - Expectations and Helpful Hints

- Elementary School Day: 7:45 AM - 2:55 PM
- On the FIRST day, parents may walk students to classroom.
After the first day, parents drop off at the school entrance.
- Entering School/Visiting Your Child: Why Do We Need to See Your I.D.?
Before entering, you need to ring the doorbell and show identification to enter the office vestibule. Each time, the office will check you in and allow entry.
- Have your child practice: getting dressed, especially working with buttons, zippers and shoe ties; opening, packing, and closing a backpack; opening a lunch bag, containers and water bottle; taking care of all bathroom needs.

Parent Prep



- Students do best with a good night's rest and healthy breakfast.
Research shows students 5- to 7-year-olds require 10-12 hours sleep.
- If possible, practice going to sleep and getting up for school days during the last week of summer vacation.
This will give you time to adjust your schedule without pressure.
- Know your dismissal procedures. Whether your child is riding the bus, being picked up by car or walking home with you, make sure you allow extra time in the morning and afternoon to develop a routine.
The first two weeks of school are the hardest to survive, especially in carpool; don't stress, it gets better!
- Make sure to complete a volunteer application via the district's website if you're interested in volunteering. Volunteer applications require approximately two weeks to process. You cannot volunteer or accompany your child on field trips without it!
Click on [Register to Volunteer](#) from the Human Resources Department page on the website to access the application.

Parent Prep

Over the next few months and during summer, you might want to practice some academic skills with your child, such as:

- Counting and recognizing numbers 0-20
- Recognizing and naming letters of the alphabet, lowercase and uppercase
- Recognizing child's name in print (capitalizing first letter only)
- Identifying all letters in child's first name
- Writing first name (capitalizing first letter only)
- Cutting with scissors independently
- Holding a pencil with fingers instead of fist
- Throwing and catching a ball
(use a large ball first and work to a smaller size)



FAQ/Q&A

- How do I register my child for school?
- How do I find my zoned school?
- Can I choose a different school?



Visit the the [Registration and Enrollment](#) page on the website.

You may utilize the School Locator link to find the school zoned for your residence.

The enrollment process for incoming kindergarten students begins in March 2019.

1. Complete the online enrollment application.
2. Please contact your campus for an enrollment appointment.

FAQ/Q&A

- Will my child get to meet his/her teacher before the first day of school?
- What is the class size per kindergarten classroom?
- Will I be able to tour the classrooms prior to school starting?
- Can I request a specific teacher for my child?
- What if my child doesn't want to go to school? What can I do?



FAQ/Q&A

- What is the dress code for kindergarteners?
- What size backpack is best for kindergarteners?
- Do kindergarten students have homework?
- Will students go to recess when it is hot, cold, or raining?
- What are some of the opportunities for parent involvement at school?



FAQ/Q&A

- Are programs available to support a variety of instructional needs of students?

Yes! These can include our special services for students with disabilities, one-way dual language program or ESL program for English learners, and an option of services for students identified as gifted and talented.

Visit the website for additional information:

[Special Services](#)

[Learner Services](#)

[Gifted and Talented Services](#)

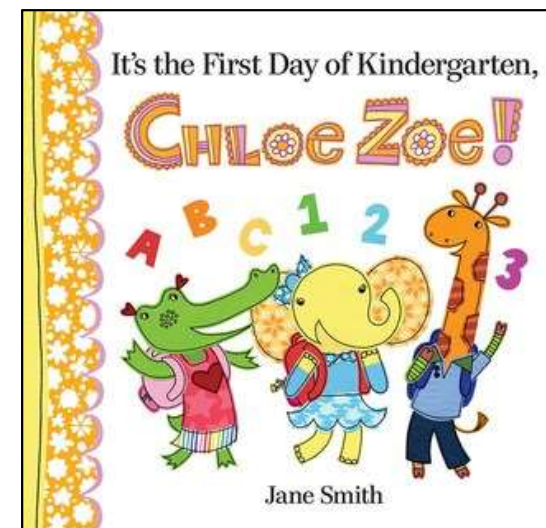
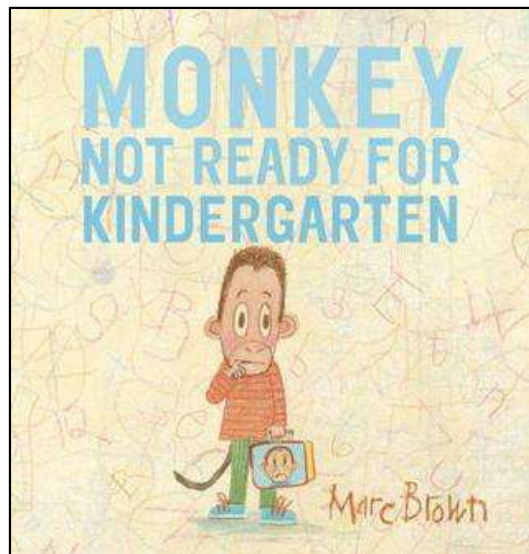
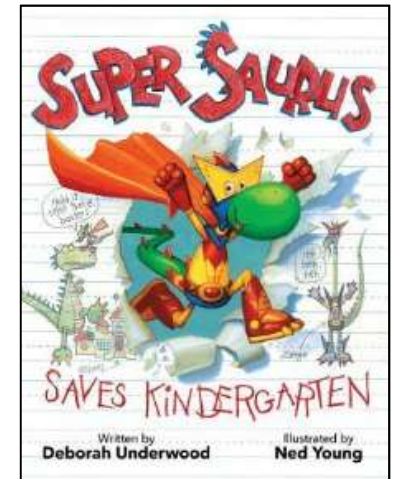
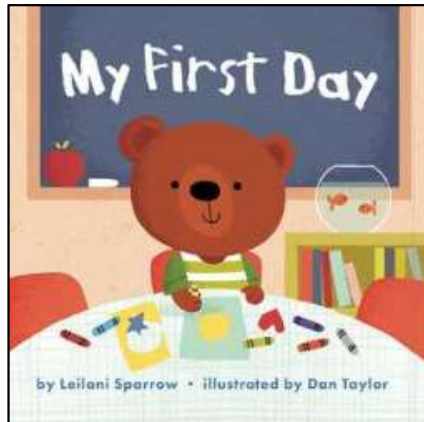


FAQ/Q&A



- Can my child ride the bus? How can I find my child's bus route?
Visit the [AISD Transportation](#) page on the website.
- How can I learn more about the lunch menu and student account information?
- How does the campus support students with food allergies?
Visit the [Cafeteria – School Breakfast and Lunch Program](#) page on the website.
- How can I learn more about the afterschool program called Kids Club?
Visit the [Kids Club](#) page on the website.

Children's Book Ideas



Allen ISD Can't Wait to Meet Your Children!





This presentation will be available on our Allen Early Childhood PTA website, www.aecpta.com. You can also access our website through the Allen ISD website, under the Parents tab.