

# Ellington Public Schools Kindergarten Welcome Information 2024-2025

## Welcome to Kindergarten

We're excited that you are joining us for kindergarten in the 2024-25 school year. This flyer will give you a helpful overview of school policies to be aware of before your child's first day of school. A more comprehensive Elementary Handbook will be distributed in early September.

### Families

Families are an essential part of the education process. Our district recognizes and respects the variety of families within our community. In this handbook, parent refers to mother, father, guardians, grandparent, foster parent or any other adult responsible for the care of our students.

### Communication with your child's teacher

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions. Various ways of communication will be shared with you, as well as the best way to contact the teacher. Instructions on how to set up accounts will be given at the start of school.

### Arrival & Dismissal

#### Dropping Off and Picking Up

When transporting your child please use the designated entrance for drop off. At the start of the school day, your child should walk independently to their classroom. Your friendly wave goodbye supports the growing confidence and independence of a kindergarten student. At the end of the day, an adult must sign the student out of the designated dismissal area. Each schools' procedure will be communicated at the start of the school year.

#### Tardiness and Early Pick Up

If you are bringing your child to school, please plan to arrive at the same time as the bus arrives. If tardiness is unavoidable, please accompany your child to the office to be signed in. A parent must write a note if a child is to be released from class early. The child will only be released to the person in the note.

### Transportation

#### Bus Information

The bus company will publish the bus routes in August. They will be available on the EPS website. **The bus company requires that a kindergarten child must have an adult waiting to receive the student from the bus.** If not, the child will be returned to school. If you have questions about the bus, please call:  
FIRST STUDENT BUS COMPANY  
860-875-6675

#### Child Care Information

If your child is attending child care before or after school, please let the school office and the bus company know your arrangements in writing as soon as possible. Contact information for your child care provider is also needed. Any changes to the routine require a written note submitted to the school office.

# Ellington Public Schools Kindergarten Welcome Information 2024-2025

## Kindergarten supplies

Kindergarten students will need sneakers for Physical Education (P.E.) class and a regular-size backpack. Please check your child's backpack daily. The backpack is an important vehicle of communication between school and home. If you are sending money to school, (PTO fundraisers, lunch money) please put it in a labeled envelope with your child's name and the purpose for the money.

## Kindergarten Snack/Lunch

Snack time takes place everyday, including early release days. Please provide one small healthy snack and a drink from home. The procedure for setting up a meal account for purchasing lunch will be shared at the start of school.

## Food Free Birthdays

We make birthdays special at school. If you would like your child to hand out a treat, you may send in a small non-food item for each child in the class, such as stickers or a pencil. Please do not send invitations to be distributed in school, unless the whole class is included.

## Health and Safety

The health of your child is of primary importance. The home and school must work together to help children stay healthy. If your child has a chronic health condition, you may want to talk to the teacher in addition to the school nurse.

If your child is sick, please keep them home. Children cannot learn if they are ill. If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school health office. You may call any time 24/7 and leave a message on the school answering machine.

To help protect your child's health:

- Provide nourishing snacks
- Dress according to the weather
- Teach hand washing and other personal hygiene skills
- 24-hour fever and vomiting free before returning to school
- Provide a home atmosphere of love, kindness and understanding

## Reporting Student Progress

Parent involvement is important to a child's success in school. Kindergarten teachers regularly communicate with parents and encourage parents to keep in close contact with the school. Parent teacher conferences are held in December and March. Report cards are issued in December, March and June. You may contact the teacher at any time with concerns or questions.

## Building Independence

Building independence in daily routines is very important. You can promote independence at home by practicing the following skills:

- Putting on a coat
- Practice fastening zippers and buttons
- Bathroom routines
- Cleaning up
- Following directions
- Writing their name with upper/lower case letters

**Ellington Public Schools Kindergarten Welcome  
Information 2024-2025**