



## WELCOME TO SCHOOL!

*Your child is about to start a wonderful journey. We believe education is a partnership between home and school and invite you to join us in this exciting adventure.*

### How old does my child need to be to start Kindergarten?

Children who are five years old by December 31st are welcome to attend Kindergarten. If you choose to have your child enter school in the year they turn six years old, please discuss with your child's principal about the best placement of your child.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO SUPPORT MY CHILD'S EDUCATION?

### You can help your child to learn and grow by:

- Reading with your child every day for at least 15 minutes.
- Ensuring that your child gets plenty of sleep. A young child needs at least 10 hours of sleep each night.
- Having your child wear comfortable clothes to school and send an extra set of clothing to school in case there is a need.
- Making sure that your child is properly dressed for the weather.
- Ensuring that your child brings healthy lunches and snacks to school every day. Your school may tell you that children with severe allergies attend the class or school. If so, some products may need to be completely banned to ensure everyone is safe at school.
- Ensuring that the office has current contact information in case we need to get in touch with you during the day. If pick-up plans for your child change, please let your child's teacher know in advance.
- Ensuring that your child has a pair of indoor running shoes that they can keep at school.
- Ensuring that your child does not bring toys or electronic gadgets to school, except for special occasions.
- Calling the school or letting your child's teacher know ahead of time if your child is going to be absent.



## PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN

### How does school start in September?

Kindergarten can be an adjustment period for both you and your child. Your child's kindergarten program will begin in September with a gradual entry. You will receive specific information from your child's school before September to give you exact details about starting school.

### What should my child bring to Kindergarten?

School supplies are provided by the school. Children do need to bring a backpack, a pair of indoor shoes, and an extra set of clothing.

### Will my child learn about Indigenous culture?

Indigenous cultural programs are offered to all students. If your child has First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry, the school district has a number of Indigenous programs and services available. One of the teachers for these programs may be in touch with you to introduce themselves and to talk with you. You are also most welcome to contact the District Principal of Indigenous Learning at 604.885.8345.

### Will my child need extra support?

Children grow and develop at different rates. While your child may not be able to do something today, it doesn't mean that they will not be able to do it next month. If you think your child seems particularly behind on tasks that most children at this age seem to do, discuss your child's development and progress with your child's teacher or principal.

If your child has some delays in readiness skills, we will work with you to ensure your child's success. Together with you, the school will develop an appropriate program for your child.

## WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN KINDERGARTEN?

**The Kindergarten Program will help your child learn in a child-centred, play-based atmosphere.**

We provide opportunities for each child to:

- Develop a happy, positive attitude to learning.
- Adjust to their new environment.
- Strengthen self-confidence and self-worth.
- Develop independence.
- Form good health and safety habits.
- Learn to accept routines and responsibilities.
- Develop reading, writing and language and numeracy skills.
- Explore their creativity.
- Learn to problem-solve and make informed decisions.
- Expand their natural curiosity by exploring and investigating aspects of their world.
- Learn to respect others and their property.

During the year, careful observations will assist us in planning strategies to help your child to learn best. You will hear from your child's teacher throughout the year about your child's progress at school.



### SCHOOL DISTRICT 46 - SUNSHINE COAST

*In this we journey together!*



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WE ACKNOWLEDGE WITH RESPECT THE UNCEDED AND TRADITIONAL LANDS AND WATERS OF

THE SKWŪWŪMESH ŪXWUMIXW (NATION) AND THE SHÍSHÁLH NATION

WHERE WE GATHER, LEARN, AND COLLABORATE WITH ONE ANOTHER.



**SCHOOL DISTRICT 46  
SUNSHINE COAST**