



Indian Road Crescent Public School

285 Indian Road, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2G8

416-393-9025

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Welcome to Kindergarten at Indian Road Crescent Public School! We are so happy that your child will be attending our school in September! 😊

Entry

Our Kindergarten Program begins at 9:15am. The Kindergarten duty teachers will be on duty no earlier than 9:00am. Please make sure that there is a teacher/ECE on duty before you leave your child alone in the Kindergarten yard (smaller gated yard). The entry bell will ring at 9:12am and class begins at 9:15am. Once the hand held bell rings each Kindergarten class has a designated area to line up. After all the students are lined up the teacher will walk their students to their classroom. If your child attends the YMCA before school program, a YMCA staff member will hand-off your child to their teacher/classroom.

Arriving Late

If you are late, you will need to enter through the main front doors (ring the buzzer first), sign your child in and receive a late slip from the office before taking your child to their class.

Lunchtime

The lunch hour begins at 11:45pm and ends at 12:45pm. The students will eat in their classroom with a TDSB lunchroom supervisor.

Dismissal

Dismissal time is at 3:15pm. Students who attend the YMCA afterschool program at our school will be dismissed/picked up directly from their classroom. If you are running late, please pick up your child from the Kindergarten yard. If you arrive later than 3:30pm you will need to pick up your child from the school office. If you know that you might arrive late please contact the school office to let them know/so that they can inform the appropriate classroom teachers.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

If your child has a medical condition or any severe/life threatening allergies or requires an EpiPen please speak with our school administrator and let your child's teacher/ECE know



PREPARING FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- ~ Walk to school and have your child become familiar with the school building
- ~ Play in our school yards
- ~ Visit the EarlyON Child and Family Centre located in our school
- ~ Establish bedtime and morning routines
- ~ Read books about starting school, for example:
 - *Pete the Cat Rocking in My School Shoes* by Eric Litwin
 - *Wemberly Worried* by Kevin Henkes
 - *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn
 - *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!* by Nancy L. Carlson
- ~ Talk to your child about their feelings about school, friends, teachers, and new activities and experiences.
- ~ Practice, practice, practice! Learning how to get ready each morning for the trip to school takes time and practice. It will be helpful to practice this before the actual first day of school. Pretend it's a school day, and go through the steps of getting up and getting ready.
- ~ Rehearse self-help skills such as dressing, undressing, hand-washing and washroom routines. Your child will feel more confident when asked to do these things at school.
- ~ Ask your child to help you pack their snack/lunch. Ask them what kind of snack/lunch they might want to bring. Shop together for the ingredients and engage them in the making and the packing of their snack/lunch.
- ~ Print a family photo or make a portable family album. You can't stay with your child but your photos can. Use a small, soft plastic album (available at most dollar stores) that can be easily washed, carried, and kissed 😊
- ~ Enroll your child in Community Programs (e.g., Public Library Programs, Parks and Recreation Programs etc.)

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- ~ Get up in time to get everything ready and done without rushing
- ~ Make a special breakfast to celebrate the first day of school
- ~ Pack a nut-free nutritious lunch, a healthy morning and afternoon snack and a water bottle (no glass please). When children are involved in meal preparation they are more likely to eat it. Canada's Food Guide can provide some healthy suggestions
- ~ Make sure your child arrives to school on time
- ~ Remain cheerful and let your child know who will be there to pick them up at the end of the day
- ~ Please provide your child with a backpack (not small – average size). They will need a backpack big enough to fit their lunch bag, book bag with larger sized books and their communication bag with any correspondence from the teacher/ECE or the school
- ~ Label all of your child's personal items including clothing, shoes, boots, backpack, lunch bag, lunch containers and utensils, and water bottle
- ~ Please send an extra set of clothes (2 pairs of socks, 2 underwear, 1 pair of pants, and 1 shirt) in a large clear Ziploc bag labelled with your child's name. These clothes will be stored at school in case they ever need them (i.e., they have a washroom accident, something spills on them, they get wet or muddy etc.)
- ~ Please do not send any toys from home unless requested by your child's teacher/ECE as they are often a distraction to your child and the other children in the classroom. The risk of losing or breaking them is also great

SAYING GOODBYE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

- ~ Find a familiar friend in the schoolyard or introduce your child to a buddy and/or their teacher/ECE
- ~ Practice your goodbye routine ahead of time
- ~ Reassure your child that they will be okay and that you will see them after school ☺
- ~ Give your child a hug and a kiss and say goodbye, then leave. Do not linger. Don't worry, your child will be safe with their teachers ☺

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

Since students will be going outside to play every day, and they will also be having scheduled and unscheduled outdoor education classes on a regular basis, they are asked to dress appropriately for the weather. Unless the weather is extreme they will be going outside every day.



HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE FOR KINDERGARTEN BY:

- ~ recognizing their name
- ~ attempt/practice writing their name
- ~ identify some uppercase and lowercase letters (e.g., in their name)
- ~ practice counting items/counting things out
- ~ practice recognizing some numbers
- ~ recognising colours
- ~ recognising some shapes
- ~ practice toileting/washroom routine/washing hands/clean hygiene
- ~ unzipping and zipping up their lunch bag and knapsack
- ~ practice opening their lunch containers
- ~ recognising their personal items
- ~ eating without assistance
- ~ practice walking up and down stairs holding the hand rail
- ~ practice putting on their sweaters and jackets by themselves (practice using zippers)
- ~ practice putting their shoes on and taking them off by themselves (please avoid shoelaces unless your child is able to tie them by themselves)
- ~ encourage your child to try to solve problems before helping them
- ~ encourage your child to ask for help if they really need it
- ~ encourage independence and self-care
- ~ provide experiences away from you
- ~ give your child time to play
- ~ keep learning fun and relaxed! ☺



Welcome To Kindergarten – The Learning Partnership Links

WTK Family Activities for Early Learners:

https://www.thelearningpartnership.ca/TLP/media/Documents/Welcome%20to%20Kindergarten%20Page/019-07-24_WTK_Resource_ENG.pdf

WTK Learning Through Play Videos:

<https://www.thelearningpartnership.ca/programs/welcome-to-kindergarten/learning-through-play-videos>

WTK Songs:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9awpbtzjv7ww03s/AADD3idmuqDH1LcarZ6_WjYqa?dl=0