

Tips for choosing a Kindergarten

Our biggest piece of advice is to attend open houses. Attend more than one so you can make an informed decision.

Things to consider and what to ask at an open house:

- Bussing: Is the school near where you live? If not, does the school offer bussing?
- Type of program: Is it a full day or a half day? What works best for your child and family? What are the class sizes? How many adults in the classroom?
- Does the school offer any specialization, such as target programs (such as art, nature, science or sports), language opportunities or religious or cultural teachings?
- Does the school offer a breakfast or lunch program?
- What level of parent involvement is expected or allowed?
- If you require childcare, does the school offer before and after school care? If not, is there childcare nearby that could transport your child to and from school?
- What is the schools vision and mission and do they align with your family's?

Skills to develop prior to Kindergarten:

- Social Emotional skills. Can they navigate being in a group setting? Can they follow the routines and expectations of the classroom?
- Resiliency! Can your child bounce back from a stressful situation?
- Self Help skills. Can your child attempt to dress themselves? Can they follow a toileting routine independently?

More Tips or things to consider:

- Ask your neighbors about the school their child(ren) attends
- Some schools operate on a lottery system. See their websites for more information
- You will need documentation when registering for school! Be sure to bring your child's birth certificate or proof of citizenship (Permanent Resident card, visa, etc.)



Edmonton Catholic Schools

www.ecsd.net/locate-a-school



Edmonton Public Schools

www.epsb.ca/schools/findaschool/fast

