

# KINDERGARTEN

*The Adventure Starts Here!*

## HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS READY TO START KINDERGARTEN?

First, it is important to know if your child meets the state minimum age requirement of **5 years old on or before September 1 of the Kindergarten year**. If your child can demonstrate the following skills then you know your child is ready to start Kindergarten.

### EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

- Gets along with others, shares, plays, takes turns and participates in activities.
- Takes care of toilet needs independently (flushes, washes hands).
- Demonstrates self-help skills (buttons, zips, snaps).
- Can dress for outside play independently.
- Pays attention to a short story when it is read aloud (looks at speaker, listens quietly).
- Keeps track of and can be responsible for personal belongings.
- Remembers directions and carries out 2 or 3 simple tasks after being told (pick up the book, bring me the pencil and close the door).
- Separates easily from parent.
- Uses words to obtain attention appropriately.
- Accepts limits and will change his or her behavior when provided with verbal directions.
- Shows curiosity and interest in learning.

### MOTOR SKILLS

- Can print name using a capital letter at beginning and the remainder in lower case letters.
- Alternates feet walking down stairs.
- Can run, jump and hop.
- Can throw and catch a ball.
- Draws and colors, beyond a simple scribble.
- Uses scissors, pencils, crayons, glue and glue sticks carefully.
- Can name and copy a square, circle, triangle and rectangle.
- Can cut out simple shapes.

### COGNITIVE SKILLS

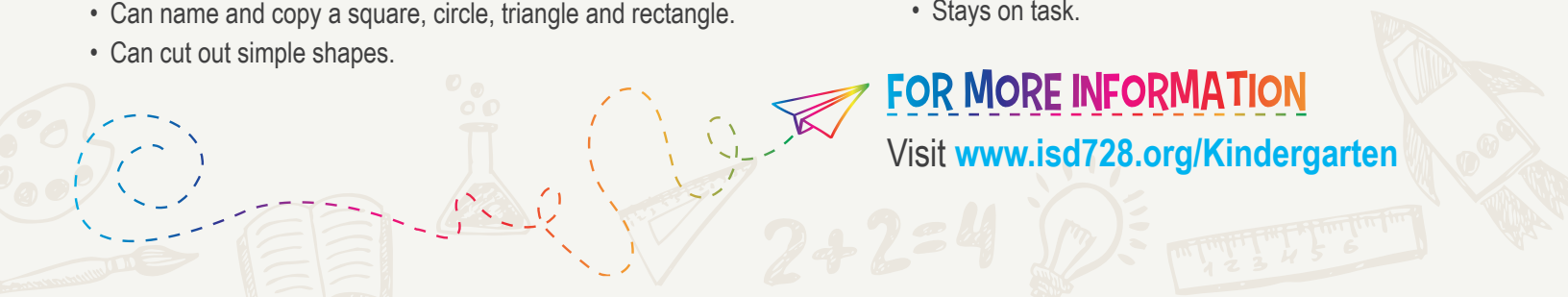
- Can retell a story using pictures and answer simple questions about it.
- Repeats simple rhymes (nursery rhymes, simple songs).
- Uses 5-6 word sentences.
- Can express needs and be understood.
- Can recognize name and letters in own name.
- Recognizes some letters of the alphabet.
- Can recognize numerals 0-10 in random order.
- Can count out loud to 20.
- Can recognize 8 basic colors.
- Understands terms such as:
  - Big and little
  - Long and short
  - Up and down
  - Front and back
  - Over and under
  - Hot and cold
  - Empty and full
  - Fast and slow
  - More and less
  - First and last
  - Between and next to

### WORK SKILLS

- Keeps hands, arms and feet to self when working and playing with others.
- Waits appropriately.
- Uses materials and toys respectfully, purposefully and appropriately.
- Stays on task.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit [www.isd728.org/Kindergarten](http://www.isd728.org/Kindergarten)



# KINDERGARTEN SERVICES AND INFORMATION

## BUSING

ISD 728 contracts with Vision of Elk River to provide transportation services for ISD 728 students. They are committed to providing the highest degree of safe and efficient transportation to and from each of our schools. If your child will be riding a bus, Vision will send you the route information **by mid-August**. As parents, you will be able to confirm transportation updates on the District website through your Campus Parent Portal access at [www.isd728.org/ParentPortal](http://www.isd728.org/ParentPortal).

For more information on busing, please visit [www.isd728.org/Transportation](http://www.isd728.org/Transportation) or [www.visionofelkriver.com](http://www.visionofelkriver.com).

## MEALS

Our food service provider, Southwest Foodservice Excellence, provides federally-approved nutritious meals each school day. Our healthy school menus include food produced locally in Minnesota. Meals are divided into grain, meat, fruit, vegetables and milk. We even have an online system, PayPams, that allows you to make payments easily anytime or anywhere. The meal prices, while federally mandated, are affordable for most and include a payment plan. Families can also confidentially apply online for free and reduced meals.

For more information on student meals visit [www.isd728.org/Meals](http://www.isd728.org/Meals).

## CAMPUS PORTAL STUDENT INFORMATION

Our District's technology won't benefit just students. You will be able to access your child's records through our easy-to-use Infinite Campus Parent Portal. The Campus Parent Portal is a tool that provides real-time, secure online access to your student's school information, including online report cards. **At the end of August**, you will receive your authorization key to activate your campus portal account.

Visit [www.isd728.org/ParentPortal](http://www.isd728.org/ParentPortal).

## REVTRAK ONLINE PAYMENTS

RevTrak allows parents to pay for select items with credit or debit cards instead of sending cash or check to schools. Items available for this payment option will be assigned to students by the school office, and can also be tracked in the Parent Portal system.

Visit [www.isd728.org/RevTrak](http://www.isd728.org/RevTrak) to begin.

## SCHOOL DELAYS, CLOSING, EARLY DISMISSALS

There may be times when adverse weather or an emergency will result in school delays, closings or early dismissals. The District will communicate with you using the following methods:

- District and applicable school webpages
- Social media sites: [facebook.com/ISD728](https://facebook.com/ISD728) and [twitter.com/isd728](https://twitter.com/isd728)
- ParentLink automated telephone notifications
- District and/or school telephone recordings
- Campus email notifications

## FIND MORE INFORMATION ONLINE

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