

Agenda



- Land Acknowledgement
- Principal welcome
- Introductions
- Altadore School
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- First day of kindergarten, staggered entry
- Assistant Principal closing.

Introductions



- Iikiinayookaa M. Yellow Horn, Principal
- Karlee Zelmer, Assistant Principal
- Aimee Jackson, Teacher
- Caroline Swan, Learning Leader



Kindergarten Orientation

[CBE Video](#)



Calgary Board
of Education

What's Unique at Altadore



- Outdoor Learning Spaces: Owl's Nest, Edible Garden, multiple outdoor classrooms
- Focus on Community
- Supportive School Council
- Volunteers

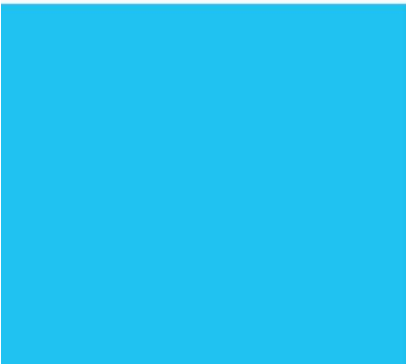
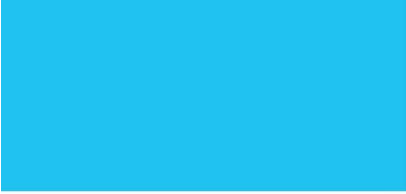


The Calgary Board of Education. **



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.



Learning Through **PLAY** **

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through PLAY **



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Curriculum



- We follow Alberta's Kindergarten curriculum which includes work around numeracy and literacy
- Alphabet letters and sounds, fiction and non-fiction books, story telling
- Numbers to 10, patterns, shapes, measurement
- Indigenous framework

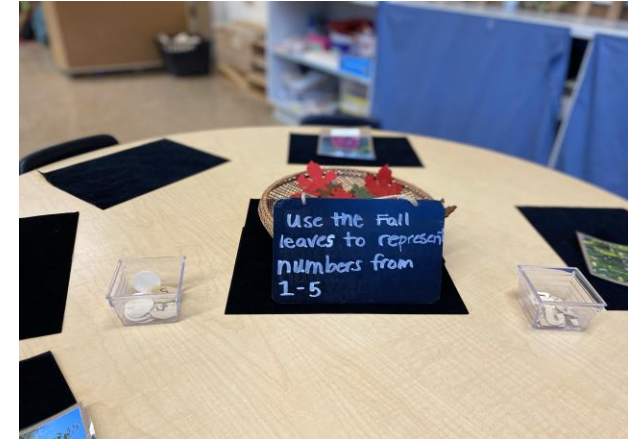


Typical Daily/Weekly Activities



Includes

- Play (Centres and outside time)
- Structured Activities (numeracy, literacy)
- Snack
- Music and/or gym
- Library (Once/week)
- Science and social studies content is integrated and inquiry based



Enhanced Supports **



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

AHS- Alberta Health Services



Nurse Colette Beary is here from AHS- you can talk to her to see if your child's vaccinations are up to date.



AHS Pediatric Community Rehabilitation Services provide speech-language services within home and community environments. Parents seeking services for **speech sound disorders, stuttering and swallowing** can self-refer their children at 403-910-2070. These supports are not provided at school. Visit Pediatric Rehabilitation

Assessment



- Sharing night in November
- November conferences are teacher led
- Report cards in January
- Provincial Assessment Literacy and Numeracy (January)
- March conferences are student led
- Report cards in January and June

Communication



- œ Weekly classroom updates and reminders
- œ Weekly school newsletter
- œ Questions? Comments? Please email the teacher
- œ Please make a meeting for concerns, this is more private than pick up/drop off and provides more time to address them

What Do We Need Parents To Do?



Ms. Tori has sent you many emails already to get you connected :)

Make sure to

- Subscribe to stay informed- so you get our messages
- Sign Up for MyCBE

The email you sign up with MUST be the same one that we have on file at the school. This is critical and a step many parents forget. This will be the email where you received the information from the school in the last few days.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

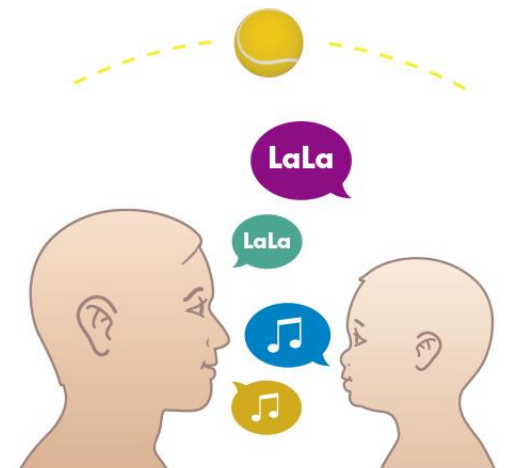
- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:

- share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- talk about what you are seeing and doing
- talk, read, sing and play in *your first language* every day
- praise your child for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- talk about how it is okay to make mistakes



Back Pack/ Snacks



- Large enough for books/snacks
- Use independently (zip/unzip)
- Snack is 10 - 15 minutes
- Each child is responsible to bring their own snack
- Healthy SNACK (not a lunch!)
- Easily opened
- Allergies: Severe allergies – epi-pen in the office. Let teachers know of gluten/lactose intolerances.
- Parents can provide alternative snacks for birthday treats/ celebrations

Shoes and Labels



Students may wear the same pair of shoes inside and outside school until the weather changes, at that point we ask students to bring an inside pair of runners. (must be able to fasten independently)

LABEL EVERYTHING!

Seriously...EVERYTHING.

Volunteers



- ❧ classroom help
- ❧ special celebrations days
- ❧ field trips
- ❧ playdough
- ❧ library
- ❧ MUST HAVE SECURITY CLEARANCE
- ❧ Can get this started in the office with Caroline tonight.

Parent Council



- All parents are members!
- Everyone is encouraged to come to our monthly meetings
- Parents volunteer, organize events, and enrich classroom programming through fundraising.
 - Classroom resources, technology, Phys. Ed. equipment, field trips, residencies, Fun Fit, garden support.

Parent Council



- How to get involved?
 - Come to monthly School Council meetings
 - Participate in school events
 - Attend the Hoot
 - Volunteer at school
- Questions? They would love to hear from you: Altadoreparentcouncil@gmail.com.

Drop-Off /Pick Up/Attendance



- AM students enter and exit the school from the doors at the “boys” mudroom exit, in the compound.
- PM students enter from the front doors of the school and exit from the doors at the "boys" mudroom exit in the compound.
- Have children line-up when you drop off.
- Parents do not bring students into the building
- Dismiss to parent or guardian- Please be on time.
- If your child will be sick or otherwise absent please call the office. (email teacher)

Important Times & Dates



Monday- Thursday Bell Times

- Morning: 8:39 Entry Bell. Class from 8:42 - 11:31
- Afternoon: 12:23 Entry Bell. Class from 12:26 - 3:15



Fridays

Altadore School has early dismissal on Fridays. The AM and PM Kindergarten classes alternate coming in on Friday mornings from 8:42- 12:45.



Morning/Afternoon Placements



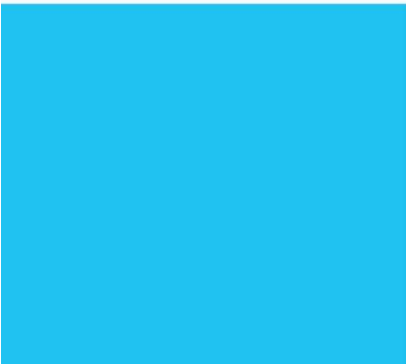
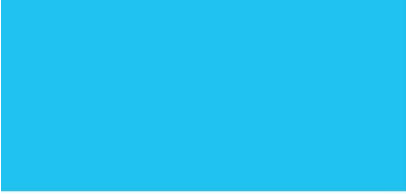
- We will accommodate as many requests for morning, afternoon, or Seeds of SPICE as possible.
- Where we are not able to meet all requests, we will draw names.
- If your request is not met, your child will be placed on a waitlist for your preferred time.
- All new registrations will go to the bottom of the waitlist.
- You will receive an email as soon as possible informing you of your child's placement.

First Days of Kindergarten



TENTATIVE PLAN:

- Kindergarten students begin school with a staggered entry
 - Tuesday, September 2, 2025
 - AM (Surnames A-L)- 8:55-10:35 AM
 - PM (Surnames A-L)- 1:35- 3:05 PM
 - Wednesday, September 3, 2025
 - AM (Surnames M-Z)- 8:55-10:35 AM
 - PM (Surnames M-Z)- 1:35- 3:05 PM
- On Thursday, September 4 all students at their regular times
M-TH 8:42 – 11:31, 12:26 – 3:15
Friday 8:42 – 12:45 (alternating Fridays)
- We will send you your child's class placement (AM/PM) and date of staggered entry by the end of June.
- You will be informed of your child's teacher a few days before school starts.
- Teachers will meet students in the compound of the school.



Additional Resources

The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>

The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193_931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380

I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

Kindergarten Welcome Letter
<https://insite.cbe.ab.ca/teaching/student-supports/early-childhood-services/Documents/2024-25-Kindergarten-Welcome-Letter.pdf>

I See, I Learn
<https://www.optometrists.ab.ca/@/AAO/ESEL>

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division

Questions?

