Kindergarten Information Cedarwood Public School



Land Acknowledgment



We want to acknowledge that we are learning on the traditional territories of the **Wendat**, **Haudenosaunee** and the **Anishinaabe** peoples. We have a shared responsibility to this land. Together, we want to protect our shared resources and use them in a good way for the future generations of all communities.

Welcome to Kindergarten 2021-2022

September 2021 is around the corner!

We are thrilled to welcome you to Cedarwood Public School. Although exciting, we recognize that you may have many questions about the transition to kindergarten. We will do our best to provide you with information so you are ready for the transition to Kindergarten in the fall.



Welcome to Cedarwood P.S.

Address:

399 Elson street Markham, ON L3S 4R8

Phone Number: (905) 294-5756 <u>Website</u> and <u>Twitter</u> Email: <u>cedarwood.ps@yrdsb.ca</u>

Principal: Mr. Gary Young

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Pierrette Walker-Enniss

Office Administrators: Ms. Sue Kang and Mr. Zain Jaffrey

Educator Teams

Educators work together to consider each child's unique identities, experiences & strengths to support their learning and development.

Kindergarten classrooms have an educator team consisting of:

- a designated early childhood educator (DECE),
- a **classroom teacher**, and
- a prep-coverage teacher
- the **interdisciplinary team** (i.e. Speech/ Language Pathologist)



The Kindergarten Program





InspireLearning!



Discover Kindergarten





"Cedarwood Cheetahs"







Kindergarten is for all Children

In kindergarten, we view each child as <u>capable</u>, <u>competent and full of potential</u>.

Each child is unique and develops at their own pace. Our kindergarten learning spaces are inclusive and the learning experiences offer opportunities for children to build on their own strengths and be empowered as learners.

We honour and reflect children's lived experiences, interests, social identities and home languages.





Family Partnerships

Parents and families are also an important part of the kindergarten team. You are your child's first and most important teacher and we want to learn from you as we get to know your child.

Parents and families bring diverse, social, cultural and linguistic perspectives and are their children's first teachers.



In addition to the classroom educators, there is also support from the YRDSB's interdisciplinary team. This includes, a speech and language pathologist, occupational therapist, and psychologist

Team members work in collaboration with educations to support individual students when necessary.



Speech-Language Services in Kindergarten

- •Speech-Language Pathologists embrace all communicators, languages and cultures.
- •We partner with educators and families to nurture oral language, play, social interaction, reading and writing.
- •Supports are integrated within play-based learning in the classroom.



Goals of Kindergarten

- help children make a smooth transition
- establish a strong foundation for learning
- allow children to build relationships with others
- set children on a path of lifelong learning and nurture competencies that they will need to thrive in the world of today and tomorrow.



Play-Based Learning

At school, children have opportunities to choose from a variety of indoor and outdoor play-based learning experiences that integrate many areas of learning from our Kindergarten Program.





The Kindergarten Program

Kindergarten is a play-based learning program. There are no subjects in Kindergarten, but rather, there are four interconnected frames for learning:

- Belonging and Contributing
- Self Regulation and Well Being
- Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours
- Problem Solving and Innovating.



Play-Based Learning in Action



Children work together to create a plan to care for a new tree on their school grounds.



Children test their theory on whether leaves can float in a puddle.

Play-Based Learning in Action



A child is using counting and measuring skills to share how long the plant has grown



At the pretend airport, children are creating their own passports and airline tickets using pictures, numbers, and words

The Kindergarten Program



Assessment and Reporting

- Educators assess each child's learning in a variety of ways, such as, photographs, video clips, observations and conversations.
- Traditional assessment strategies, such as tests, are not typically used
- In-class observations will be scheduled in November.
- Your child will receive a Communication of Learning (Report Card) in November, February and June to share their progress.



In this photo, educators make observational notes to record children's learning as they play.

Kindergarten Routines





Inspire Learning!



Covid-19 Safety Routines in Kindergarten

Maintaining the safety of students, staff, and families is of the utmost importance. YRDSB follows Covid-19 safety protocols according to York Region Public Health.

This includes:

- Proper hand hygiene
- Social distancing
- Wearing a mask is (strongly recommended)



We will continue to update our Covid-19 protocol based on the most recent information. Please look for more detailed information later in the summer.

Online Learning in Kindergarten

Virtual (online) learning will continue to be a part of the 2021-2022 school year. Students will participate in virtual learning using Google Classroom.

- Each day, online learning will include:
 - Synchronous (live) learning
 - Asynchronous (independent) learning
 - Small group and whole class learning
 - Play-based activities (i.e. games, art, etc.)



Google Classroom

Kindergarten Virtual Classroom



Kindergarten Arrival Routines

- Families can drop off students between 7:45 8:00 a.m. at the Kindergarten pen.
- Upon arriving, students will be supervised by the classroom DECE until instruction begins at 8:00.
- Please note, Before and After Care options are available. <u>See here</u>



Safe Arrival

- If your child will be late or absent, please contact the school as soon as possible.
- In there is an unexplained absence, the school will contact you and/or those on your child's emergency contact list.
- For your child's safety, York Region Police will be contacted if we can not reach you.

Kindergarten Dismissal Routines

- Dismissal is at 2:30 p.m.
- Students can be picked up outside their classroom from our kindergarten pen
- Please bring ID when picking up your child as students will only be dismissed to those on their approved pickup list
- If someone new will be picking up your child, please let the school know



• Students will be dismissed one at a time. This process may take a little longer as we get to know their caregivers, so we appreciate your patience

Family Day: Before & After School Care

School Age Extended Care

- *Family Day* is a pay for use before and after school program located at Cedarwood Public School
- Before School: 7:00 8:30 a.m.
- After School: 2:30 6:00 p.m.
- Children ages: 4-12

Contract Information

- <u>https://familydaycare.com/</u>
- Child Care Services: 416-922-3434
- Centre Supervisor: 905-472-5497
- Email: armadale@familydaycare.com



Snack (9:40-9:55 a.m.) & Lunch (11:50-12:10 p.m.)

- Your child has 15 min. to eat a snack and 20 min. lunch each day
- They will eat in their classroom while being supervised by a YRDSB lunch assistant or staff member

Tips:

- 1. use containers that are easy for your child to open and practice opening them at home
- 2. consider litterless lunches and snacks
- 3. label containers, lunch bags, and reusable water bottles



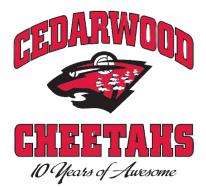
Allergies

Allergen-Safe:

- The Board strives for an **Allergen-Safe** environment. Reasonable efforts will be made to limit exposure to various life threatening allergens
- Please let your school know if your child has any allergies

Scent Aware:

 Please do not send or use scented lotions, sprays, perfumes or hand sanitizer on your child before coming to school as many members of our school community have sensitivities



Recess (9:50-10:10 a.m. and 12:10-12:50)

- There are two scheduled recess breaks each day
- Children will play outside in our kindergarten pen
- They will be supervised by a staff member
- Children go outside for recess every day, weather permitting, so please dress appropriately

Tips:

- 1. Velcro shoes are best
- 2. Practice putting on and taking off jacket independently (zippers, buttons, hat, mittens)



Getting Ready for September





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What to bring to Kindergarten

A backpack big enough to fit:

- 1. **A lunch** (with containers your child can open independently)
- 2. A healthy snack
- 3. Water bottle (with your child's name on it)
- 4. Indoor running shoes (with velcro that can be kept at school)
- 5. **Extra clothes and masks** (labelled with your child's name, in a bag to leave at school)







Kindergarten Readiness

If possible, please practice these skills to gain independence:

- mask wearing
- Social distancing
- hand washing (soap and water)
- using the toilet independently
- putting on and taking off coat and shoes independently (zippers, buttons)
- opening and closing snack and lunch containers independently.

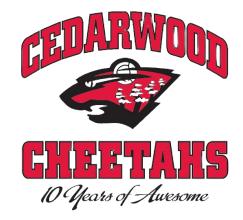


Educators will, of course, support students as they learn these skills and routines

Let's Stay Connected!

Here are some ways that we can stay connected...

- Check out our school <u>website</u>
- Set-up your child's <u>Edsby Account</u>
 - Used for attendance/communication with school
- Check your email regularly for updates
- Your child can also share their ideas <u>here</u>



Questions About September

We are all looking forward to September and realize that you might be wondering what this will look like for your child starting Kindergarten.

While we may not know exactly what September will look like yet, the YRDSB continues to work very closely with York Region Public Health to ensure we are taking all appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of our students, staff and families.

Please continue to check <u>www.yrdsb.ca</u> for the most up-to-date information.

