



2024-25 Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions

What is Transitional Kindergarten?

Transitional kindergarten (TK) is the **first year of a two-year kindergarten program** that uses a developmentally and age-appropriate modified kindergarten curriculum. TK does not replicate preschool or kindergarten. It addresses the child's language, literacy, and pre-math skills with an emphasis on social and emotional development and learning through inquiry & play. The program blends preschool and readiness standards for kindergarten with a focus on hands-on and experiential learning.

Who can attend Transitional Kindergarten?

California's Universal TK has been expanded. Children who turn 5 from September 2, 2024 through June 2, 2025 are eligible to enroll in TK for the 2024-25 school year.

My child turns 5 on June 3, 2025. Can an exception be made for my child to enroll in TK?

No. Children must turn 5 on or before June 2, 2025 to attend TK.
Assessments are not used to determine TK enrollment eligibility.

My child has a birthday that falls within the TK age-eligibility window. Can my child skip TK and enroll directly to kindergarten?

No. We strictly adhere to the age eligibility requirements for a child to enroll in kindergarten. A child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024 to enroll in kindergarten for the 2024-25 school year.

My child will be five by September 1, but is young for his/her age. Can my child be enrolled in TK?

No. We enroll based on birthdate and your child will be enrolled in kindergarten. Your child's teacher will work with you to ensure your child has a successful start.

My child was not ready for kindergarten so we held him/her out for a year. Can my six year old be enrolled in kindergarten?

We enroll based on birthdate so your child should be enrolled in first grade and assessed to determine whether or not this is the appropriate placement.

What will the Transitional Kindergarten program look like for my child?

The TK program is taught by credentialed teachers and runs 5 days a week for approximately 240 minutes per day, the same amount of minutes as a typical kindergarten day. TK offers a developmentally appropriate curriculum that allows students to explore, create, and learn through purposeful play based activities. Social emotional, fine motor, and academic skills are all integrated in this hands-on program to build a strong foundation for meeting the rigor of kindergarten the following year.

How is TK different from Kindergarten?

TK is a bridge from Preschool to Kindergarten. It does not replace kindergarten. The program uses California Preschool Learning Foundations AND kindergarten standards to lay a solid educational foundation and prepare them for future academic success.

What happens after a year of Transitional Kindergarten?

Transitional Kindergarten is intended to be the first year of a two year kindergarten program. Students will move to kindergarten the following year, will have a space reserved for them at their resident school, and will not have to re-enroll.

When can I sign my child up for Transitional Kindergarten?

The 2024-25 TK and Kindergarten enrollment window will begin on December 11, 2023 - March 1, 2024. Families must complete an online enrollment application to confirm a space for the 2024-25 school year.

How do I enroll?

Our enrollment process is all online. The online enrollment application and forms are available on the Walnut Creek School District website at: www.walnutcreeksd.org

Will there be space for everyone interested in Transitional Kindergarten?

All students turning 5 between September 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025 are guaranteed a space in the Transitional Kindergarten Program for the 2024-25 school year.

Where do I find information about on-site afterschool childcare?

You can view more information regarding on site childcare by visiting each school site's webpage. You can also visit the direct links here: [BV Club](#) [IV Kids Cub Only](#) [MW Keyspot](#) [PM Keyspot](#) [TC Dianne Adair](#) [WH Kids Club](#)

Where will the Transitional Kindergarten classes be held?

Campuses with TK for the 2024-25 school year have not been finalized. If your school of residence does not have a TK classroom, all efforts will be made to place students at a nearby school.

Is TK mandatory ?

TK is not a mandatory grade. Families with students who turn 5 between September 2nd, 2024 and June 2nd, 2025 have the option to enroll in TK **or** keep their child in preschool.

Do children in Universal TK have to meet the same vaccination requirements as in regular kindergarten?

Yes. Under [California's kindergarten immunization requirements](#), even four year old children need their pre-kindergarten immunizations prior to the first day of TK.

What if I have more questions?

For more information you may call the WCSD District Office at (925) 944-6850. Additional information regarding Transitional Kindergarten can also be found in Ed Code [Section 48000](#).