

Kinder Round Up

Frequently Asked Questions



Contact Information

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Registration Frequently Asked Questions

Kindergarten Eligibility:

- Children should be at least 5 years old **before** September 1, 2026 to begin kindergarten.

Full Day Kindergarten:

- Students will be attending Kindergarten full time with a certified Kindergarten teacher.

Esmond Station Attendance Boundaries:

- Our boundaries are from Houghton & the new development called The Seasons at Old Vail between Interstate 10 and Esmond Station Road.
- If you are unsure, please contact our registrar to confirm.
- What if we're building a house in your attendance boundaries, but it won't be finished until after the school year begins?
 - If your house will be finished within 2-3 months of the beginning of the school year, we can go ahead and have your child begin the school year at Esmond.
 - We will need to see your builder's agreement. Once you move into your house, we will collect a new proof of address, such as a utility bill, to confirm that you went through with the build and the move into your new home.

- Please be aware that you will need to be committed to providing transportation for your child to and from school while your house is being built.
- What should I do if my child has a special family circumstance, such as living in two separate households, lives only with mom, lives only with dad, is a foster child, or is a child I have legal guardianship of?
 - Please provide documentation from the court showing which parent(s) or guardian(s) has been awarded parenting time with the child. This could be a divorce decree, an order from a hearing, an order of protection, etc., and it needs to be current. If it is an order with an expiration date, you will need to provide a new order at the time of expiration.
 - If your child is a foster child, we will need the document provided to you by DCS.
 - It is extremely important that we are made aware of any adult who has been court-ordered to have no contact with your child, and we will need to verify that with the court document.
 - It is helpful for children of divorced parents if we are notified of your parenting time schedule, telling us which days we can expect your child to be with mom or with dad.

Open Enrollment:

- If you do not live in the attendance boundaries, you must complete an open enrollment application.
- To view Open Enrollment procedures, priorities and to complete an application, please click on this link: [Open Enrollment Form](#)
- The Priority Open Enrollment window is from November 1 to December 31, 2025.
- Acceptance depends on space availability.
- The district will begin deciding open enrollment applications by January 2026.

Registration:

- Here is the following time you can come to register your Kindergartner:
 - Winter: December 9th from 3:45–6:00 p.m.
 - Spring: March 9th–12th from 3:45–6:00 p.m.
- You will need the following items for registration:
 - **Your child's birth certificate** (We need to see the original birth certificate no later than 30 days after the school year begins, however, to begin the registration process, a copy of the birth certificate will suffice.)
 - **Parent/Guardian proof of identity**, such as your current AZ driver's license, W-2, current payroll stub (must have a physical address, PO Box can not be accepted), US passport, or Certificate of Tribal Enrollment.
 - **Proof of address** document such as a utility bill (water, gas, electric, cable, phone), real estate deed or mortgage, property tax bill, residential lease or rental agreement, or a bank or credit card statement
 - **Your child's immunization record**, which needs to be up to date. If you have a medical or religious exemption from vaccinations, we will provide you with a waiver to complete.

- Once all of those documents have been received and reviewed, we will send you an email containing some other forms to complete, as well as a link to our online registration.

Transportation Frequently Asked Questions

Transportation:

- Students who are within bussing boundaries will be eligible to ride the bus. If you are not sure, please call (520) 879-2497 for more information.
- Your kindergartener can walk home from the bus stop, but must have an older student to walk with. If there is not an older student to walk with your kindergartener, then they must be met at the bus stop by a parent or guardian. Please request a "Must Be Met" form during the registration process if you know your child will be riding the bus and will be walking home from the bus stop with an older sibling or friend.

Arrival:

- Students are allowed to arrive between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:20 a.m.
- They will enter at the middle gate by the MPR.
- There will be a staff member who will help guide them to the MPR.

Dismissal:

- Students will be dismissed at 3:05 from their classrooms.
- Parents are asked to wait in line and staff will dismiss the students.
- If a student rides the bus, a staff member will escort the children to the bus.

Walkers

- Your kindergartener can walk home from school if they have an older sibling or neighborhood friend to walk home with them. You will need to email Mrs. Kitzmiller (the principal), Mrs. Dojaquez (the office manager), and your child's teacher to give permission for your child to walk home with the sibling or friend named in your email.

Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions

Kindergarten Placements:

- The students will be assigned a certified teacher during the summer.
- Their designated teacher and team will reach out to you before school starts to introduce themselves, share information, and invite you to participate in a Meet the Teacher opportunity.

Lunch & Snack:

- You may provide your child with a pre-packed lunch daily. School lunch is also available for purchase. Please click here for further information, [School Meal Program](#).
- Children will have at least 20 minutes for lunch.
- Students are supervised and supported during lunch.
- We ask that families provide children with snacks during the school day and children are provided times to eat snacks.

Recess:

- Kindergarteners benefit from at least two recess periods daily.

Naps:

- Naps are not offered in kindergarten.

Restroom:

- There is a restroom in the Kindergarten pod exclusively for kindergarten students. Kindergarten students also have access to the restroom by the MPR.
- Kindergarteners use the restroom independently, without help from adults.
- Accidents happen, and adults support children to ensure that they do not feel ashamed.
- We ask that families provide a change of clothes in their child's backpack in the event of a potty accident, a lunch spill, mud on the playground, or any unforeseen incident requiring a change of clothes.
- The health aid will provide a private restroom for changing, and will place your child's soiled clothing in a plastic bag to take home.

Benefits of a K-8 School:

- Our K-8 school offers a special culture, where our youngest students benefit from older role models, and vice versa.
- Students love opportunities to connect with siblings and other family members, as well as friends in other grades. These opportunities are typically planned, such as reading buddies, assemblies, and other school events and celebrations.
- During recess, lunch, and specials the kindergarteners have designated spaces and times to ensure their needs are safely met with appropriate supervision.

Positive Learning Environment:

- Every student deserves a learning environment where they can be successful.
- The Kindergarten staff uses a reward system called Class Dojo and a Communication Calendar to reinforce positive behaviors or expectations.

- Attaining points results in rewards, such as caught on track cards and treasure box choices.
- Losing points can result in consequences, such as missing treasure box choices and calls home.
- Here are some guidelines to help your child be successful. Children will be guided toward the following expectations:
 - Eyes on the Speaker
 - Activate Listening Ears
 - Use Peaceful Hands and Feet
 - Share and Use Polite manners
 - Stay on Track: Take Responsibility

Kindergarten Standards:

- Here is a link to the Beyond Textbooks Parent Portal where you can see the standards that your child will be learning this year in kindergarten.
- [Beyond Textbook Parent Portal](#)
- It also includes helpful web links.

Things to do Now:

- Encourage them to write their name.
- Help them count objects while pointing to them.
- Familiarize them with upper and lowercase letters.

Social & Emotional Readiness:

- You are your child's first teacher and know them best.
- If you are concerned that your child may struggle with formal education, please know that when to start kindergarten is your decision and we encourage you to trust your instincts.

Enrichment Opportunities:

- Every learning standard we teach offers highly proficient goals to support students who are meeting the standard, so they may exceed expectations, and work along a progression toward future standards
- Reading groups are based on abilities in order to challenge each child at a personalized level
- We offer individualized classwork and homework, differentiated center activities, as well as challenge work and projects

Special Education Services:

- Please notify the office manager or registrar during the registration process so we can get you in touch with our Special Education Department in order to begin planning for the needs of your child.
- If you have a copy of your child's IEP or 504 plan, that is helpful as well, but is not required. We will always request those documents from your child's previous school, if applicable.

Health Office Information:

- Additional paperwork will need to be completed if your child will be taking medication during the school hours.
- All medications, prescription or over the counter medications, **MUST** be checked into the health office.
- Your child will need to stay home for 24 hours symptom free (without medication).
- Immunization requirement information.

ARIZONA GUIDE TO IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY - Grades K-12 (School Year 2023-2024)

- Requirements are shown below as stated in [Arizona Administrative Code, R9-6-702](#), Table 7.1 and Table 7.2
- Please review the [Arizona Immunization Handbook for Schools and Child Care Programs](#) along with the [Vaccine Catch-up Flowcharts & FAQs](#) for further information and details about immunization requirements and exemptions.
- Vaccines must follow ACIP minimum intervals and ages to be valid. See page 3-4 of this document for minimum interval and catch-up schedule information.
- The 4-day grace period only applies to vaccine-administration minimum age and intervals. Refer to the Handbook for questions.



Vaccine	4-6 Years Old and attendance in Kindergarten or 1 st grade	7-10 Years Old	11 Years and Older
HepB Hepatitis B	3 doses The final dose of HepB must be given at 24 weeks of age or older. Only 3 doses are required if the 3 rd dose was received at or after the child was 24 weeks of age; otherwise 4 doses are required.		
Polio Poliomyelitis (IPV) For OPV see page 2	4 doses The final dose of polio must be received at/after 4 years of age and at least six months after the previous dose. Only 3 doses are required if the 3 rd dose was received on/after the child's 4 th birthday and at least six months after the 2 nd dose. Additional doses may be needed to meet requirements. See pg. 2 for retrospective history guidance.		
MMR Measles, Mumps and Rubella	2 doses Minimum recommended age for dose 1 is 12 months. A 3 rd dose will be required if dose 1 was given more than 4 days before 1 st birthday.		
VAR Varicella (chickenpox)	1 dose Minimum recommended age for dose 1 is 12 months. 2 doses, at least 4 weeks apart, are required if dose 1 was given at 13 years of age or older.		
DTaP, Tdap, Td Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis	5 doses of DTaP The final dose of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine must be received at/after 4 years of age and at least six months after the previous dose. Only 4 doses are required if the 4 th dose was received on/after 4 years of age; in certain situations, an additional dose may be required, up to a maximum of 6 doses (before age 7).	4 doses of tetanus-diphtheria containing vaccine (or combination of DTaP, Td or Tdap doses). At least one dose at/after 4 years of age and at least 6 months from the previous dose. 3 doses (with one at/after 4 years) is acceptable if the first dose was given on/after 1 st birthday; otherwise refer for an additional dose.	1 dose of Tdap is required If the student does not have a Tdap but received a dose of tetanus-diphtheria- containing vaccine within the past 5 years, refer for the adolescent Tdap dose when 5 years has passed since that dose. If a student has received 1 valid dose of adolescent Tdap (age 10 years or older), no further doses are needed. Students must have a minimum series of 4 doses of tetanus-diphtheria-containing vaccine; 3 doses acceptable if the 1 st dose was given on/after 1 st birthday.
MenACWY or MCV4 Quadrivalent Meningococcal	Retrospectively: Menomune (Meningococcal Polysaccharide) vaccine was a quadrivalent vaccine so it is acceptable; however, production of this vaccine was discontinued in February 2017. Menomune doses are considered acceptable for school requirements.		1 dose of MenACWY is required A dose administered at 10 years of age will meet the requirement.