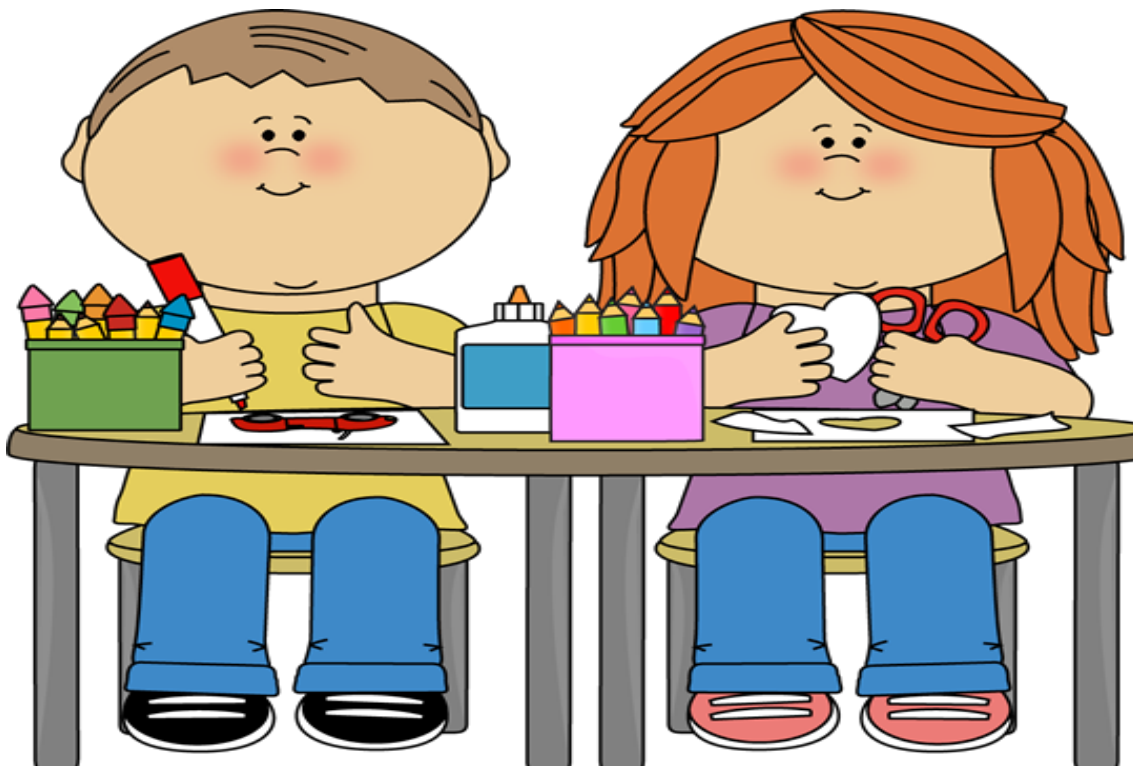


# Legacy Elementary Kindergarten Handbook 2017/2018



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## Welcome to Kindergarten!

Kindergarten is such an important time for your child. We are so very excited to work together with you and your family. In this handbook you will find helpful information to prepare and support your child this year. After reading through the handbook, please contact your child's teacher with any additional questions. We look forward to a successful year together.

### What should my Kindergartner be able to do?

Your child may not have mastered all of these skills before starting Kindergarten, but exposure to them will build a foundation for your child's success.

#### Social & Behavior:

Kindergarten students will be expected to:

- Work in large groups, small groups and independently on activities
- Take care of personal needs: zip their jackets, put on their shoes, tie shoelaces, and take care bathroom needs
- Sit and listen to a story for 15-20 minutes
- Follow multi-step directions
- Take care of books and materials in the classroom
- Show a willingness to try new things
- Control his or her emotions
- Wait and take turns during group situations
- Use beginning reading and writing skills for communication
- Apply basic math, science and social skills to life experiences

Activities to support these skills:

- Help with household chores
- Play board games/complete puzzles (sharing & taking turns)
- Try new foods
- Play with other children
- Visit museums & parks

## Motor Skills

Kindergarten students will be expected to:

- Cut with scissors
- Snap, zip, button his or her own clothes
- Color a picture (mainly staying in the lines)
- Bounce a ball
- Glue items together
- Walk in a quiet line with his or her peers
- Sit crisscross on the carpet

Activities to support these skills:

- Playing at the park
- Dressing up
- Supervised cutting of a variety of shapes
- Animal imitation (jump like a frog, hop like a rabbit)

## Reading, Writing & Speaking Skills:

Kindergarten students will be expected to:

- Speak in complete sentences
- Ask for things they need
- Ask questions
- Recognize his or her name
- Write their name with a capital letter first, followed by all lowercase letters
- Know all 26 upper and lower case letters & sounds
- Hold a book and turn their pages
- Tell a story based on pictures in a book
- Recognize rhyming words
- Write the letters in the alphabet
- Hold a pencil correctly
- Predict what will come next while reading a story
- Draw pictures and talk about what is happening in a story

Activities to support these skills:

- Read to your child daily
- Write and draw using a variety of materials (crayons, markers, pencils, etc)
- Visit the library
- Ask your child questions and encourage responses that are complete sentences
- Play rhyming games
- Complete alphabet puzzles
- Engage in conversations at meal times
- Read and discuss all kinds of stories
- Talk about the letters he/she sees in the environment (what letters are in that sign?)
- Play with magnetic letters on your refrigerator and build words together

### Number Skills:

Kindergarten students will be expected to:

- Count items to 100 with a 1 to 1 correspondence
- Identify basic colors, shapes, sizes and be able to sort these objects by a common trait
- Group and graph simple objects
- Add and subtract to 10
- Create a simple story problem
- Know the names of 2 and 3 dimensional shapes
- Create and extend patterns

Activities to support your child:

- Count objects in their environment (cars, silverware, plates)
- Name the colors and shapes of items around them
- Compare and sort objects and explain why they sorted objects in this way
- Talk about why things are the same and different in the world
- Discuss aspects of a calendar (days of the week, months in the year and seasons)

## Elements of Kindergarten Literacy

Whole group lesson: Students meet together in a large group and listen to the teacher. We will focus on comprehension, vocabulary and/or a phonics skill.

Guided Reading Groups: During this time the teacher works with a small group of students. This time allows the teacher to "target" certain skills that these students need support with, such as decoding, vocabulary and comprehension. Small group time lasts approximately 20 minutes.

Literacy Centers: While the teachers works with small guided reading groups, the rest of the students will be exploring and working at centers. Centers will be a place for your child to work independently on other curricula areas. They include Writing, Math, Word Work, Listening, Art, Reading, iPads, Games and Puzzles.

### Kindergarten Sight Words:

Students will have a list of "kindergarten words" that they need to learn to recognize and read. They are high frequency words that, when memorized, will help your child become a fluent reader. The words will be introduced in the classroom, however parents will be expected to work with their child on these words at home as well.

\*\*\*By the end of the year, students are expected to meet the Kindergarten Standards. To be considered proficient in reading students will need to be at a DRA level 4-6.

## Writer's Workshop

Writer's workshop focuses on four primary elements: whole group mini lesson, independent writing, teacher/student conference time and sharing with their peers.

### Mini lesson:

During the mini-lesson, teachers focus on one small element of writing. An example of a mini-lesson could be using "finger spaces" between words.

### Independent Writing:

Once a mini-lesson is completed, students will independently practice the skill taught, and will be encouraged to incorporate the element of writing just discussed.

### Conferencing:

During independent writing time, teachers will work one on one with students to assist them with their writing piece monitoring their progress and current needs.

### Sharing:

Kindergartners LOVE to share their work. Group sharing provides our "author's" an audience.

\*\*\*In order to be considered proficient at the end of the year, students will need to write sentences on their own using sight words and invented spelling.

## Kindergarten Math

- Number Sense: Understand the concept of numbers, place value and count to 100
- Algebra: Understand, recognize and create patterns and random placement
- Geometry: Recognized, identify and name 2-D and 3-D shapes.
- Measurement: Measure, describe and compare lengths using non-standard units
- Computation: Understand, and create number combinations through 10. Understand the concepts of "greater than" and "less than" and "equal to" as compared to a landmark number of 10.

- Statistics and Probability: Understand and interpret graphs. Use data collection to make observations.

## Science and Social Studies

Science looks at living and nonliving things, observes various basic principles including the weather, and explores some of the earth's resources. Social studies focus on me and my world, the places we live, and social and cultural similarities and differences.

## Technology

Technology is a part of our children's lives and learning. iPads are available for daily work and integrated into the curriculum. Students will also use Lexia/Core 5 software twice a week. This software individualizes reading instruction in an exciting way! Students can also use the MyOn program at home. Be on the lookout for more information regarding using these programs at home.

## Specials

Students will receive instruction in Physical Education, Music, Art, Library and Computers throughout the year.

Library Time- During library time, your child will check out one book each week. This book can be kept at home for a week. Please ensure your student returns their library book in order to check out a new one the following week.

PE- On your child's PE day please be sure they wear athletic shoes.

## Homework

Kindergartners will have weekly homework. Please be on the lookout for more information in your child's Thursday/Friday folders.

## Clothing

Kindergartners should come to school dressed in comfortable clothes that are appropriate for the weather and easy to manage. Kindergarten is very "hands on" so we will use messy materials from time to time. We will go outside for recess each day, except during extreme weather. Keep in mind that Colorado weather can change quickly. A light coat each day is a good idea. Children are not allowed to play in snow without waterproof shoes or snow boots.

## Book Orders

Each month Scholastic Book Club order forms will be sent home. If you decide to order books, please return the completed order form with a check.

## Discipline

Our kindergarten is a standard-based classroom that has high academic and behavior expectations. Kindergarten discipline will rely primarily on the use of positive reinforcement. Legacy Elementary has a PBS program; Positive Behavior Support. We use PBS to work on weekly kindergarten goals, like lining up quietly, or using indoor voices. We also utilize behavior management systems in our classrooms.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are essential for kindergarten learning. Volunteers will begin in October. Your student's teacher will send home a sign-up sheet if you are interested in volunteering.

## Snacks

Your child needs to bring a healthy snack each day that can be eaten in 10 minutes or less. Please send food that does not need to be refrigerated. \*Please label their snack "snack". \*If you'd like to donate to our "community snack supply" feel free to send



in a bag of pretzels, gold-fish or crackers. PLEASE TRY TO AVOID PEANUT PRODUCTS AS MANY KIDS HAVE ALLERGIES.

### Lunch Procedures

Your student should bring a labeled lunch box, or they may buy a "hot lunch" from the cafeteria for \$2.75, and milk or juice may be purchased for 50 cents. Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. Money sent to school should ALWAYS be in a sealed envelope with your child's name and the amount on the outside. Our district website has more information and the monthly lunch calendar.

### Take Home Folders

Each week your child will bring home a Legacy school folder containing important information and homework. Please check the folder, respond to any pertinent items, and have your child bring the folder back on their next day of school.

### Birthday Celebrations

We do recognize students in the classroom on their birthday. In celebration, students will create a Birthday Book for your child to bring home. Please check with your child's teacher for additional information.

### Arrival/Departure

School begins at 9:00a.m. and ends at 3:40p.m.

On Fridays (Monday/Wednesday Students) school begins at 9:00 and ends at 11:40.

On Fridays (Tuesday/Thursday Students) school begins at 1:00 and ends at 3:40

### End of the day for bussers:

A staff member will walk kindergartners to the bus loop.

## Parent Responsibilities

Please be sure your child arrives on time and is picked up promptly at 3:40.

There is no unsupervised recess before or after school, so children may not play on the playground. It is important, for safety reasons that children know their full name, address, phone number, and birth date. Please keep in communication with your child's teacher and always leave a contact phone number in case of emergencies.

Regular school attendance is important. If your child will be absent or late please call the school office.