



**KINDERGARTEN
GRADUAL ENTRY PLAN
2021–2022**



What is Kindergarten gradual entry?

Kindergarten Gradual Entry is a developmental model of transition planning emphasizing the interconnected relationships among the child, teachers, family, peers and community that are developed across time (Pifiata & Kraft-Sayre, 2003).

All schools in the West Vancouver School District follow a Kindergarten Gradual Entry program.

What does Kindergarten Gradual Entry look like in West Vancouver?

In the West Vancouver School District, Kindergarten children will be welcomed into their new school on September 8, 2021 by their classroom teachers in small groups. During the Kindergarten Gradual Entry period, the children will attend school for shorter periods of time to ensure a smooth and successful transition. You will be contacted by your child's school regarding the assigned attendance dates and the specific times for your child's gradual entry.

During your child's first two weeks of school (September 8–17) there will be many opportunities to personally connect with their child's Kindergarten teacher and other key school staff members.

Continuity between early care, preschool programs and elementary schools will be a focus for each child during the gradual entry approach to Full Day Kindergarten.



What does Kindergarten Gradual Entry mean for my child?

This means your child will have focused time to connect with his/her Kindergarten teacher and adjust to the new social and emotional realities of the elementary school context. This ‘gift of time’ will also allow children and teachers to work in small, personalized groups.

Teachers will be introducing children to classroom routines and procedures, easing the transition in a more individualized way so our children feel comfortable and valued as an important new members of our school communities.



What does Kindergarten Gradual Entry mean for our family'?

The West Vancouver School District recognizes that a child's first teacher is his/her parent(s)/ caregiver(s). The Kindergarten Gradual Entry process and in-take conferences give families the opportunity to share valuable background knowledge with school personnel.

All Kindergarten families will be invited to participate in personalized in-take conference with their child's teacher. The purpose of this conference is to learn more about each new Kindergarten student from a parental and developmental perspective. Each interview will be guided by a series of questions about a child's emotional, biological, cognitive and social development.

When are children ready for school'?

Children don't begin to speak or walk on a schedule, so it's no surprise that chronological age is often not the best predictor of school readiness. How ready each child is for school depends most on his/ her level of social, perceptual, motor and language development. Kindergarten Gradual Entry can help teachers identify which children may need help, and make sure resources are delivered where they are most needed.

KINDERGARTEN GRADUAL ENTRY 2021–2022

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic all Kindergarten Gradual Entry (KGE) plans are subject to change. The West Vancouver School District will continue to follow all of the directives of the BC Public Health Office and Ministry of Education as we prepare for the 2021-22 school year. Please visit www.westvancouver.schools.ca for up to date information.

Week 1- Kindergarten Gradual Entry Begins

September 6–10, 2021

Monday September 6	Tuesday September 7	Wednesday September 8	Thursday September 9	Friday September 10
		FIRST DAY! Small group 2 hour session	Small group 2 hour session	Small group 2 hour session

Week 2- Kindergarten Gradual Entry Continues

September 13–17, 2021

Monday September 13	Tuesday September 14	Wednesday September 15	Thursday September 16	Friday September 17
Half day K KGE Intake Conferences	Half day K KGE Intake Conferences	Half day K KGE Intake Conferences	Half day K KGE Intake Conferences	Half day K KGE Intake Conferences

Week 3- Full Day Kindergarten Begins

September 20–24, 2021

Monday September 20	Tuesday September 21	Wednesday September 22	Thursday September 23	Friday September 24
Full Day Kindergarten	Full Day Kindergarten	Full Day Kindergarten	Full Day Kindergarten	WVSD Professional Development Day