



## Children with Special Needs

An Early Facilitation process is put in place to help with the successful transition of students with special needs.

These children may be brought to the attention of school personnel by different people at different times:

- By parents of children with exceptional needs at registration or during the preschool screening process; or
- By a community agency who will notify Student Services

Some of the following may be put into place to support your child if he/she has special needs:

- Children are registered at their home school and consent forms are signed
- A Special Education Consultant may contact the family
- School staff may visit child in child care, preschool or at home, and then meet to decide on required resources (e.g., transportation, educational assistant)
- Consultants may follow-up to obtain necessary reports for assistance with transitions and other processes
- Ongoing meetings may be planned to develop and implement programs

## Child Care Services

There are a number of child care centres in our York Catholic District School Board schools or nearby. For more information, contact Fran Zeppieri, Manager of Child Care Services 905-713-2711 ext. 13111.

### Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

### Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

### Core Values



### Strategic Commitments



## York Catholic District School Board

**Address:** 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, ON L4G 0M1  
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# Getting Ready for Kindergarten



## Welcome to Our Catholic School Community

Children who are ready to learn when they are welcomed into our Catholic school community, have the best chance of succeeding throughout their educational career, when they:

- Know that they are created and loved by God
- Have confidence to try new things using their God-given talents and abilities
- Are beginning to develop a personal relationship with God by praying together with their family (e.g., Sign of the Cross, Grace Before Meals, bed-time prayers)
- Are familiar with the story of Jesus
- Can concentrate and listen for short periods of time
- Can make their needs understood
- Are beginning to develop appropriate social behaviours such as taking turns
- Are able to regulate their behaviour and emotions most of the time
- Are beginning to be able to treat others with dignity and respect, following the example of Jesus



## From Home to School

You can ease the transition from home to our Catholic school community by helping your child work towards:

- Increasing their awareness of safety rules
- Getting dressed independently
- Using the washroom independently
- Tidying up toys
- Bringing snacks that are easy to manage independently (e.g., apples, grapes)



## Getting to Know Your School

Before September, parents and children can become familiar with the school, visit the school website, attend parent meetings and ask questions or discuss any concerns they might have.

Parents and children are invited to meet with the Kindergarten teacher during the spring. This meeting is called First Impressions. The teacher collects information during this visit in order to support your child's entry into school.

**Getting Ready for Kindergarten:**  
*An Information Booklet for Parents and Guardians* is distributed during this visit.

## Literacy

Learning to read is one of the most important things children do in school.

You can help give your child a good start by trying some of the following ideas:

- Include Bible stories and lives of the saints as part of your family reading
- Show that you enjoy reading yourself
- Visit the library regularly
- Notice print in your travels (e.g., signs, posters, food packages)
- Have a variety of fiction and non-fiction material available
- Encourage the use of the computer
- Find material that has male and female characters
- Put notes in the lunch bag
- Post notes on the fridge
- Have magnetic letters on the fridge
- Play word and number games when travelling
- Sing nursery rhymes

## Learning Through Play

Play is important for children in Kindergarten because it fosters opportunities to:

- Experiment and explore
- Construct and manipulate materials
- Solve problems
- Communicate
- Role play
- Make decisions

