



## Exceptional Learners

If you are a parent of an exceptional learner, the school can help to facilitate the entry to Kindergarten through the Early Facilitation process. This is to help with the successful transition for your child.

The Early Facilitation process, with your consent, allows the Multidisciplinary Team and School Staff to:

- gather information about your child; and
- develop a Transition Plan to meet your child's needs, upon entry to school

Schools can be made aware that a child has exceptional learning considerations in the following ways:

- family is involved with York Region Early Intervention Services (YREIS) or another Community Partner, who will notify YCDSB Student Services
- parent will inform the school upon registration

The following is a guideline of the Early Facilitation process:

- Parent registers his/her child at their home school
- YCDSB Student Services is notified by either YREIS and/or Home School
- Consent to the Release and Disclosure of Confidential Information (S7) is generated and forwarded to parent to allow for consultation and access to any assessments/reports by pertinent members of the YCDSB Multidisciplinary Team
- School notifies Parent/Multidisciplinary Team of date and time of First Impressions/Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Information Session (observation takes place at that time)
- Transition to School Action Plan is developed by the Multidisciplinary Team and School Staff and shared with parent
- Further meetings/observations 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 at 905-713-2711 ext. 13111.



## York Catholic District School Board

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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

