



École J.A. Fife School

Frequently Asked Questions

How old does my child have to be in order to attend kindergarten?

Children must turn 5 years old before December 31, 2023.

Do you have full day kindergarten?

We do not have full day kindergarten at École J.A. Fife School. Our kindergarten programs are half day programs. For the 2023-2024 school year, the French Immersion class will be in the mornings and the Regular (English) class will be in the afternoons.

What are the school hours? *** Times are subject to change. ***

<u>French Immersion Kindergarten</u>	<u>Regular Program Kindergarten</u>
School Begins 8:31 am (supervision starts at 8:15 am) Recess 10:11 - 10:26 am Dismissal 11:31 am	School Begins 12:00 pm Recess 2:02 - 2:17 pm Dismissal 3:26 pm Thursday Early Dismissal 2:21 pm
<u>Grades 1 - 6 ~ Both Programs</u>	
School Begins 8:31 am (supervision starts at 8:15 am) Recess 10:11 - 10:26 am Lunch 11:31 am - 12:20 Afternoon Begins 12:20 pm Recess 2:02 - 2:17 pm Dismissal 3:26 pm (supervision until 3:40 pm) Thursday Early Dismissal 2:21 pm	

How does pick up and drop off work?

Students are encouraged to be on time and should be dropped off at their assigned door, where a supervisor or their teacher will meet them. At the end of the day (morning), the students are picked up at their assigned door. For the safety of our students, the doors are locked. If your child is late, they need to come to the main doors of the school. In the mornings, supervision begins at 8:15. In the afternoons, there is supervision after school for 15 minutes after dismissal.

What is the difference between the French Immersion and Regular programs?

In French Immersion, 100% of programming in kindergarten and grade one is in French. Beginning in January of grade 2, students begin to have English Language Arts.

Do I need to know French for my child to be in French Immersion?

No! The majority of French Immersion students have parents/guardians who speak little to no French. Our teachers understand that parents are often not able to help their child read or write in French and we accommodate for that.

When is the first day of school?

At École J.A. Fife school, our first day of classes is Tuesday, September 5, 2023... however there will be staggered entry for kindergarten students. This means your child will start on either September 5, 6 or 7 and then all students will attend on September 8. More information about your child's staggered start date will be sent to you.

Can I stay the first day?

We encourage independence. Say a quick goodbye at the door as your child comes into the school and then enjoy some free time! Ask your child to tell you about their day afterward.

Snacks... what do I send?

Snacks should include healthy foods that help your child learn. They should be something your child can open and eat independently. We are not able to heat up food and do not provide forks or spoons. We are a nut free school – please DO NOT send any nuts or nut products with your child (this includes peanut butter, Nutella, granola bars with nuts, chocolate bars with nuts).

Can my child get busing?

Busing is only available for our French Immersion students and students who live in Evansdale East. Bus application forms must be submitted before June 1st and can be found [here](#) (EPSB.ca → Yellow Bus Service).

What are busing costs?

Currently 2022-2023 busing costs are \$38/month per child. This cost may change for the 2023-2024 school year. Bus fees must be paid before the 5th of each month or your child may not be permitted to ride the bus until fees are up to date.

What will the fees be for Kindergarten?

We anticipate there will be a kinder fee of \$35 to cover the cost of consumable school and art supplies. In addition to this a maximum \$125 may be charged to cover the cost of field trips for students.

What supplies does my child need?

For kindergarten, the \$35 kinder fee covers the cost of supplies such as pencils, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, etc. Your child will also need the following (all personal items should be labelled with your child's name):

- A pair of indoor running shoes
- A backpack
- A lunch kit
- A water bottle

How do I register for school?

All registration forms are completed online. You can fill out the registration form here:

[Kindergarten registration](#)

What can I do to get my child ready for Kindergarten?

There are lots of ways to support readiness. Here are a few:

- Sit and read with them - ask questions about what you read together, find objects on the page
- Practice colours and letter recognition
- Have them use pencils, crayons and practice using scissors to cut
- Practice independent dressing/shoes/zippers
- Regular sleep routines - prepare routines 1-2 weeks before school starts, children need approximately 10 hours of sleep
- Limit screen time (TV/video games/tablets)
- Bathroom independence

How can I be involved in my child's education?

We encourage parents to be partners with us in supporting their children. There are many ways you can be involved:

- Volunteering in the classroom and for special events
- Being part of our School Council and Parent Association
- Attending events such as Celebrations of Learning and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Contact the J.A. Fife office at 780-476-0775.