

Steps before your child's **first day of school**



Kindergarten is an exciting, enriching place where children spend two years learning to explore the world, solve problems and make friends. A teacher and early childhood educator combine as a caring team to help your child get the best start in school!

How to register for Kindergarten, which is a two-year program:

1. Your child is **eligible for Kindergarten in the year they turn four or five**. Your child must attend school if they are age six by September 1.
2. Register at your closest HWDSB school, located online at www.hwdsb.on.ca/parents/find/ or by calling 905-527-5092. We have introduced **online registration** – find this at www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/
3. Only parents or legal guardians can register their children for school. The following documents are required: Proof of age (child's birth certificate or passport); Proof of residency (identification that shows parent/guardian's current home address); Proof of immunization; Verification of date of arrival/immigration documents (if the child was not born in Canada).
4. At registration, please tell staff if you have any concerns about your child starting school. We have many resources to support language development, behaviour concerns and special needs in the classroom.
5. Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) provides transportation for eligible HWDSB Kindergarten students. Eligible students receive an eligibility letter from HWSTS in early summer. Our First Rider program gives students a chance to ride the bus during the summer. Find details at <https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/>
6. Some schools offer fee for service before- and after-school child care programs. Find locations at www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/childcare. A fee subsidy may be available at hwdsb.info/fee-subsidy

Learn more: Visit or call your local school or go to www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/

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