

Kindergarten

Every Child is Ready to Learn in Kindergarten at RIS

RIS is prepared to support the kindergarten entry of all children and their families who come from many different cultures, linguistic backgrounds as well as a wide-variety of early childhood education or child care. Children have varied experiences whether it be participation in school-based prekindergarten programs, private child care, family, friend and neighbour care, other settings, or from their homes in which parents or others provided care and learning experiences.

Kindergarten is a critical transitional year between early childhood and children's formal education. Individual children arrive at kindergarten with various approaches to learning and have differing levels of knowledge and skills. It is important to know that kindergarten teachers build on the strengths children bring – their knowledge, skills, interests, cultural and linguistic background, and early learning experiences – to the kindergarten environment.

As five year olds, children are experiencing significant changes in their development. Kindergarten teachers have a critical role in creating effective and engaging environments that support how children learn best. Our kindergarten educators are trained and periodically updated with new teaching strategies to support shift in children's development, ways teachers can create effective and engaging classrooms to support changes in children's development and more!

Effective, Developmentally-appropriate Kindergarten is Essential to RIS's Goal

The kindergarten year is important. It marks a transition in children's development and learning experiences. Children experience rapid growth or changes in their cognitive, language, physical, social and emotional development over the kindergarten year. RIS supports the learning plans/strategies for all kindergarten students when learning is built on what children already know and are able to do, and "takes into account individual differences in language, culture..." (*School Readiness*).

