

North Vancouver School District

September 2010 Full-Day Kindergarten Registration

Frequently Asked Questions

Key Messages:

1. For September 2010, the district has been able to make full-day kindergarten available in 24 of the district's 28 elementary schools
2. As the ministry is phasing-in FDK over two years, not everyone can be accommodated for September 2010.

Q & A

1. When and where can I register for full-day kindergarten (FDK)?

Kindergarten registration for full-day and half-day kindergarten programs for September 2010 begins January 25th. Please note that not all schools are able to offer FDK for next year. Details about FDK availability, registration requirements and school catchment areas are available on the district website at www.sd44.bc.ca, or contact the Central Registration office at 604-903-3368.

2. Why doesn't my school offer full-day kindergarten?

For September 2010, FDK classes were assigned to schools based on the criteria provided to districts by the Ministry of Education. In North Vancouver, 24 of the district's 28 elementary schools will offer full-day kindergarten beginning September 2010 with the remaining schools to offer FDK the following year.

3. Can I register for FDK at any school that offers it?

If an FDK class is not available at your catchment area school, but you would like your child to attend one, you will have to indicate on your registration form that your 1st or 2nd choice is a school offering a FDK program. Placements will be made according to the following priorities:

Priority 1 – In Catchment area

Priority 2 – Out of Catchment area with sibling already attending same school/program

Priority 3 – Out of Catchment

Priority 4 – Out of District

4. Why is French Immersion not being considered for the first year (2010-2011) of Full Day Kindergarten implementation?

The North Vancouver School District believes that more time is necessary to consult with educators and parents in our community in order to develop an effective model and appropriate teaching resources for a Full Day French Immersion Kindergarten program.

5. Will my child be at a disadvantage entering Grade 1 if he/she is in half-day kindergarten while the majority of other students are in full day?

All Kindergarten students in North Vancouver, whether they are in full day or half day Kindergarten, will be immersed in a play based classroom environment that focuses on the same prescribed learning outcomes and goals. While there are benefits for some children in having a full day in Kindergarten, students in the half day program will not be at a disadvantage entering grade 1.

6. My school only offers FDK and I prefer half-day kindergarten for my child. Can I pick him/her up at lunchtime?

Kindergarten, including both half day and full day, is an optional program for children in British Columbia. Our afternoon *Inspirations* program is designed specifically to support, deepen and extend the learning outcomes of the half day program, but is distinct in terms of themes and learning objectives. Parents may choose to pick up their children at lunch time for alternate activities or programs. Alternatively, parents can register their child for a half day program offered at another school.