



Private Kindergarten at F.A.Q.

Can you guarantee that my child will be 1st grade eligible by the end of the school year? Does CDCW have to be accredited in order for my child to be eligible for 1st grade next year?

We cannot guarantee that your child will be eligible for 1st grade (no school can). Your child's elementary school will evaluate your child in the spring of 2021 to determine the appropriate grade level. We know that elementary schools take into consideration a child's attendance record and their progress reports. Depending on the school, they may also perform an individual assessment of your child.

CDCW does not need to be accredited in order for your child to advance to 1st grade from our Private Kindergarten program. Accreditation is important when your child's class credits need to be transferred. For example, if you had an eighth grader who needed to transfer to a new school, it would be vital that the child's credits were transferable so that he would not have to retake previous courses. In kindergarten, however, there are no class credits or even SOL testing that need to be transferred.

With all of that being said, we feel very confident that your child will flourish emotionally and academically in our Private Kindergarten program. We have spent a great deal of time researching and collaborating with local kindergarten teachers to ensure we choose the best possible curriculums for our kindergarteners. Rest assured knowing that your child will be engaged in a stable and well thought out program that follows the same guidelines and standards as HCPS; your child will be learning the same material, if not more, as a child enrolled in a public kindergarten program.

Is the teacher qualified to teach K?

Yes, both of our kindergarten teachers have degrees that qualify them to teach kindergarten and both have experience teaching kindergarten.

How do I know that the CDCW curriculum is up to the same standards as other local kindergarten programs?

We have spent a great deal of time researching how our local school districts teach and run their kindergarten programs. The curriculums that we are using are not only based on the guidance we've received from kindergarten teachers and the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLS), but they are also award winning and research-based curriculums. (e.g. Handwriting Without Tears, Jan Richardson's Guided Literacy Program, Number Talks, etc.). We are also happy to report that we have seen

substantial academic and emotional growth in our currently enrolled kindergarten students.

I see that you are following the Henrico County School Calendar, what happens if HCPS is closed, are you closed?

Nope, we are open! You still get childcare, and at no extra cost! :) A little bonus to being a part of our Private Kindergarten Program. For example, when HCPS is closed for Election Day, we will be open and children enrolled in our Private Kindergarten will have childcare available from 7:15AM-2:30PM. Children will engage in recreational play and catch up on school work if needed.

Will there be a nap time for my child?

No, but we are planning for a quiet time from 1-2 for your child to relax and rest his/her body. Your child will not be on a cot, but rather a mat where they can choose quiet activities or rest. The last 30 minutes of the day will be dedicated to a meaningful short activity to wrap up each day.

Will food be provided?

Yes! A morning snack and lunch will be provided each day. Another perk of kindergarten at CDCW :). An afternoon snack will be provided for children enrolled in our after school program.

Do I have to pay extra if I drop off my child before 8AM?

No! Feel free to bring your child anytime between 7:15AM-8AM. No charge.

I need care after 2:30PM when the Private Kindergarten program ends. How do I get care for my child in the afternoon/evenings?

In order to get after school care, you will need to enroll in our extended afternoon care which will be an option on your contract. You will have a discounted after school rate when you are enrolled in our Private Kindergarten.

How will you be assessing my child's progress? Will there be parent/teacher conferences and progress reports?

You will receive a progress report quarterly with a parent teacher conference offered once in the fall and once in the spring. We will also conduct a PALS assessment three times a year (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening). Unlike most kindergarten experiences, you will also have the opportunity to speak with your child's teacher on a daily basis at drop off and pick up.

Can I drop off my child after 8AM?

Yes, but it is discouraged. The program starts at 8AM and your child will be marked tardy after 8:10AM, except on the days that Henrico County is closed (e.g. Winter Break, Spring Break week). For example, if you come to school after 8:10AM on Election Day, your child is not tardy; however, if your child arrives after 8:10AM on a regular school day, they will be marked as tardy. Attendance records are turned into the elementary school you choose to send your child to the following year.

What happens if the schools are closed due to COVID-19?

We will do everything in our power to remain open. If we are forced to close, we have remote learning opportunities available for our Private Kindergarteners. If remote learning is taking place, tuition will still be due.

Can I use vacation/absent credits in Private Kindergarten?

Yes. Just like in preschool, one absent credit (50% off one week tuition, M-F only) is earned for every four months that a child is enrolled. You may use an absent credit early, but you will be required to pay back the difference if you choose to leave before