

Tips for Parents

Children may start school in September if they turn four (Year 1) or five (Year 2) by December 31 of that same year. Children are not legally required to attend school until age six.

Your options:

- Enroll your child in kindergarten at your community school
- Enroll your child in a nursery school or child care program
- Do not enroll your child

Discuss enrolment questions or concerns with the school principal and learning resource teacher. If your child is born September to December and you have reason to believe your child would benefit from delayed entry, discuss entry with community supports and your school.

Meeting the Needs of All Learners

If your child has special needs, school staff, community service providers, and/or a friend/advocate can support your child's entry to school. They may accompany you to meetings and help to share information which will be useful in planning for a smooth transition.



Useful Links

Bluewater District School Board:

www.bwdsb.on.ca

Elementary schools:

www.bwdsb.on.ca/schools/eleschools

School Transportation Eligibility:

www.mybrucegreyschoolbus.ca

Ontario Ministry of Education:

www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/

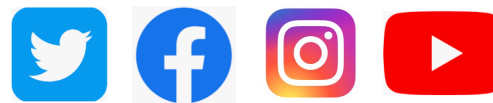
Best Start Health Nexus Ontario

www.beststart.org



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Parent Information



Welcome to KINDERGARTEN

Bluewater District School Board full-day kindergarten programs offer:

- Quality, research-informed programming
- Engaging outdoor and play-based learning
- Authentic problem-solving opportunities
- Caring and supportive educators
- Inclusive and inspiring learning environments
- Dual-track learning in English or French
- Opportunities to play and learn



Preparing for Kindergarten

Fall

- Contact your local school to receive registration information.
- Register your child.

Winter

Contact the school if you have information that will support your child in beginning school.

Spring

- Attend parent information meetings or other school entry activities at your school (e.g., I'm Getting Ready for Kindergarten);
- Plan safe transportation to school;
- Develop home routines to prepare your child for school (e.g., bedtime routines); and
- Practice washing hands with soap and water and managing clothing as independently as possible. Children use the washroom independently while at school.



September

- Be calm and positive about the new experience;
- Talk about the fun things your child will be doing like making friends, listening to stories and playing outside; and
- Reassure your child that they will be fine.



Fall

- Meet your child's teacher; and
- Participate in school events and interviews as scheduled by your school.



Agencies Supporting Children and Families in Grey Bruce

Autism Ontario
Grey Bruce Chapter
1-800-472-7789

Community Living
Owen Sound and District
519-371-9251

Bruce County
Social Services
519-881-0431
1-800-265-3005

Community Living
Walkerton and District
519-881-3713

Bruce Grey
Child and Family
Services
1-855-322-4453
1-877-552-4453

Dual Diagnosis Program
519-376-2121
Ext. 2486 or Ext. 2857

Grey Bruce Health
Services
519-376-2121

Bruce Peninsula
Association
519-534-0553

Grey County Social
Services
519-376-7112
1-800-265-3119

Community Care
Access Centre
Owen Sound
519-371-2112
Walkerton 519-881-1181

Grey Bruce Health Unit
1-800-263-3456

Community Living
Hanover and Area
519-364-6100

Keystone Child, Youth
and Services
1-800-567-2384
519-371-4773

Community Living
Kincardine and District
51-396-9434

Ministry of Children and
Youth Services/
Ministry of Community and Social
Services

Community Living
Meaford
510-538-4165

519-376-1951
1-800-265-3790

