

ÉCOLE GEORGE V SCHOOL NURSERY/KINDERGARTEN HANDBOOK



Welcome! Bienvenue!

This week your child will be experiencing one of the most important milestones in their life – the first day of their school career! We understand that you and your child may be experiencing some excitement or apprehension (or a little of both) leading up to this big day; our hope is that this handbook will help to ease your mind and give you an idea of what to expect this coming year.

We are very excited to be working with your child this year and to be helping them achieve their fullest potential in a safe and fun learning community.

Teaching Philosophy

At École George V School it is our belief that all students should have the opportunity to reach their full potential – our classroom and curriculums provide that. We give each student the chance to excel not just academically, but socially and emotionally. Most importantly, we dedicate ourselves to creating a classroom environment built on trust, leading to strong relationships with students and their families. We allow our students to make mistakes and learn from them. We are dedicated to fostering relationships with each student and creating a classroom environment built on trust and comfort.

Parent/Teacher Relationship

At École George V School we believe that a good parent/teacher relationship is crucial for your child's maximum school success. Throughout the year the school will communicate with you through notes, telephone calls, seesaw, and parent-teacher conferences. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns at any time. Your child's teacher can be reached at the school by calling 204-669-4482 or through their email.

Morning/Afternoon Arrival

Students will line up and meet the teacher every morning outside the small building rear playground doors at either 8:50 am. Please do not send your child to school before 8:50 a.m. as there is no one to supervise your child before this time. Students will be picked up outside at the same place at 11:30 a.m.

In case of extreme weather, students are invited to enter directly by using the rear linkway door. Teachers will come to retrieve students once the bell has rung. In this situation a sign will be placed on the door advising you to wait inside – if there is no sign on the door then students and parents are expected to wait outside.

Safe Arrival – Absence Reporting System

If your child will be away from school for any reason, you must use Safe Arrival to report the absence. The Safe Arrival toll-free phone number is 1-855-278-4513. If you have not already done so, please sign up for account on the website at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca> using the same email address we have on file at the school in order to report absences online. You may also download and use the app to inform the school if your child(ren) will be away for any reason.

To inform us of an upcoming absence, parents should contact the safe arrival by phone **1-855-278-4513** or visit <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>.

Money

On occasion it will be necessary for your child to bring money to school (for fundraisers, field trips, etc.) Always send money in a sealed envelope with the following information written on it:

- Your child's first and last name
- The amount of money enclosed
- The purpose of the money
- My name and room number

With so many children to keep track of several reasons to collect money, this helps out the school greatly and reduces the likelihood of errors. Also, if the envelope is left on the bus or dropped in the hallway, this information will help the money to be returned to classroom.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a special day in many children's lives. We will be planning a monthly celebration for students who are celebrating a birthday that month. At this time, we are working to make sure that healthy snacks are available for all students. Please watch for an email at the beginning of the year from your child's teacher with more information.

If your child is having a birthday party, please refrain from sending party invitations to school for distribution. Many children have their feelings hurt if they are not invited. We work to promote a classroom built on respect, inclusion, and community and this can make it difficult for some of our students. Please help your child to understand this concept, and find a way to distribute invitations outside of the school environment.

Changes in Transportation

The safety of our students is extremely important to us at George V. We will not release children from

the school until we see that someone is there from them. Please make sure that your child's teacher is made aware any changes of pick up arrangements by sending a note. We encourage you to let us know in advance to avoid phone calls to the office to make last minute changes. If no instructions are received, your child will be sent home by their usual method of transportation.

Book Orders

Your child will be bringing home a book order form approximately once a month. If you wish to order, simply go online to submit an order. Parent Pay is setup with Scholastic – this means that you are able to submit orders online and pay by credit card. The books will be delivered to your house. These orders are provided as a convenient way for parents to buy quality books for their child. Of course, you are never under any obligation to order.

Clothing

Students are involved in activities that required jumping, climbing, etc. We will also be baking, painting, using glue, working with playdough, and playing at the sand/water tables. Please select clothing that is both comfortable and appropriate for these activities. In case your child dirties their clothes, gets them wet, or has an accident, please have an extra set (shirt, pants, socks, and underwear) in their backpack at all times. For indoor shoes please choose shoes that the students can independently put on themselves. The first month of school is all about gaining independence and it is important that they learn to do things for themselves.

Home Reading/ Communication Bags

Your child will receive a communication bag and will have the opportunity to bring books home to share with you. Please send the communication bag back and forth to school each day. In the communication bag you will find a book to read with your child, communication from the school, and student work to share with family. Please take time to read the book with your child. Your child will enjoy hearing the stories and this will support their reading. It is also a great way to spend time together.

Toy Policy

Please refrain from having your child bring toys from home into the classroom., unless requested by the teacher as part of a special event. We do not wish to see these toys lost or damaged.

Outdoor Play

Students do not go outside for recess when the rest of the school does but they will be going outside on a regular basis, unless it is raining or extremely cold. Please help your child select clothing that will allow them to be comfortable and active each day.

Parent Participation

Throughout the year, there will be a variety of special classroom activities and celebrations. We encourage you to attend these functions when possible, to support them by sending needed supplies or treats. Your support of school activities makes your child feel important and sends the message that you value the school and want to be a part of their learning community.

If your child's classroom is doing something special or requires support from home, a note will be sent home with further details.

We invite parents to become volunteers at school and events that support the school. Please watch the Newsletter for more information about how to register to become a volunteer.

Snack

Nursery students are provided one small healthy snack at school each day. Kindergarten students are required to bring one small snack to school each day. We strongly encourage that you choose healthy options.

Also, please be aware that our school is a peanut and nut free environment – please be mindful of this when sending snacks or treats to the school.

Some recommendations for snack are as follows:

- Cut up fruit or vegetables and dip
- Cheese and crackers
- Yogurt (yogurt tubes are a great option)
- Fruit snacks
- Granola bars
- Applesauce
- Dried cereal

Finally, ...

Please encourage your child to discuss school activities with you. Talk positively with them about school. The way your child perceives your feelings about the school, the teachers, and what we are doing in the classroom will have a direct effect on how they themselves feel about those things. We are delighted to have your child at George V School and we look forward to working with you to make sure that your child starts school on a positive note. We truly appreciate your support and look forward to a fun and successful year!