

Developmental Kindergarten



Give Your Child The Gift Of Time

In an effort to make school a valuable experience for children, Charlotte Public Schools offers a Developmental Kindergarten Program. The program is based on the concept that the time of school entrance and of any subsequent promotion should be based on the child's developmental or behavior age rather than on birth date alone.

Is Developmental Kindergarten the Right Choice for Your Child?

- **Is your child intellectually average or above but is not ready socially, emotionally, or physically for the rigor of Kindergarten?**
- **Is your child shy or withdrawn in social situations?**
- **Does your child have difficulty sitting still?**
- **Does your child lack large or fine motor coordination?**
- **Does my child have a summer or fall birthday?**

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, then Developmental Kindergarten may be the right fit for your child!!

Developmental Kindergarten is the first of a two year program for growing and learning in a carefully planned environment with a highly trained teacher. After the first year, your child will be ready to enter kindergarten with the required skills to master the rigorous curriculum.

How do I know if my child should be in the Developmental Kindergarten vs. Kindergarten program?

A member of our trained staff will use an assessment to determine your child's school readiness. Using this information, along with your input, we will help determine the best placement for your child.

How is Developmental Kindergarten different from Kindergarten?

The difference in the curriculum is based largely on the manner in which the children are able to approach and master a skill. Kindergarten children are more independent in caring for themselves and solving their own problems. They are more product oriented, think more abstractly, compromise, and negotiate. Developmental Kindergartners need more support and direction. They are more interested in experimenting and exploring. They are process oriented, more physical in their learning technique and in problem solving.

Is Developmental Kindergarten placement a "holding back?"

NO! The DK placement is not a remedial program. It is designed as the first of a two year Kindergarten program. DK offers an additional year of school to acquire skills, confidence, and maturity a child needs to succeed in school.



Why does my child need a year to grow? He can read already!

A smart, but young child needs to be protected from developing in an uneven way. Most of the stresses in school are not academic, but social, physical, and emotional. A child who is not ready to cope with them now and is placed in Kindergarten, will experience stress and inhibition of growth as a whole person.

How many days a week and for how long each day does my Developmental Kindergartner go to school?

Your child will attend every day that Charlotte Public Schools is in session and for the length of the regular school day.

Are students in Developmental Kindergarten slow or abnormal?

No! There can be as much as two years difference in the maturity of normal children at the same chronological age. Approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of the entering Kindergarten students are not ready for that situation. A year of Developmental Kindergarten will help your child grow in social, physical, and emotional areas and build a solid foundation of kindergarten readiness skills.

**Where do I find more information about Developmental Kindergarten?
Where do I register?**

If you would like more information about the Developmental Kindergarten program at Charlotte Public Schools, please feel free to stop by our Registrar's Office. The registration process for Developmental Kindergarten is the same as for Kindergarten. This can be done during our registration nights or with our district's Registrar. The requirements are the same in both programs: an original birth certificate, 2 proofs of residency, and immunization records are very important items to bring to registration. Packets are now available at our elementary offices, on-line, or at the Registrar's Office.