

Kindergarten FAQs



Frequently asked questions about St. Clare Kindergarten

How do I know if my child is ready for kindergarten?

There are many factors to consider when sending a child to kindergarten. Formal learning readiness can be measured through our Kindergarten Readiness Test (KRT), which is a valuable tool in assessing skills required to be successful in kindergarten. However, social/emotional maturity and birth date are also important to consider. Please connect with us if you need more info, or would like to have a tour.

Is kindergarten at St. Clare a full day program?

Yes. Kindergarten is full day. The hours are 8:05 a.m. to 3 p.m., except on Tuesdays when dismissal is at 2 p.m. Kindergarten is dismissed five minutes before the rest of school.

What is the maximum class size?

The maximum number of students in kindergarten is 28. However, the average class size is 24.

Do you have a kindergarten assistant?

Yes. Kindergarten has a full-time assistant.

Does kindergarten have specialty classes?

Yes. Kindergarten has P.E. three times a week, Art two times a week, and Library once a week along with additional story time. Kindergarten also has designated time in our computer lab to learn keyboarding skills and safe use on the internet.

Is there nap time in kindergarten?

Kindergarten does not have a formal nap time; however, we do have quiet time each day. Students take a "brain break" by resting at their table spot, quietly reading or drawing for a period of 15 to 30 minutes. These breaks are especially important in the fall as students adjust to our full, busy days. However, quiet time continues throughout the year. As academic demands increase, our brains still require a rest.

Do kindergarten students have time to play?

Yes. Kindergarten students have an opportunity to learn through play each day for a period of 30 minutes. Students learn through hands-on learning and play by choosing from various art, math, science and literacy activities. Students stretch their imaginations, minds, and hearts during this independent learning center time.

Are parent volunteers utilized?

Yes, we depend on parent volunteers to partner with us in the classroom. Parent volunteers help with reading, art, seasonal cooking projects, clerical tasks, and other projects within the classroom. Parents are required to complete a background check and training before volunteering.

Are students expected to be able to read before kindergarten or after kindergarten?

No, reading is not an expectation for kindergarten. Reading is developmental and students will read when they are ready. Many students acquire the skills to read in kindergarten and begin to blend/decode words and read books. However, some students might not develop reading skills until later.

What is the homework requirement for kindergarten?

The homework requirement for kindergarten is 10 minutes a night. The focus for kindergarten homework is literacy. Students read or are read to by an adult for 10 minutes a night. Students also complete a weekly chore to earn funds which are donated to St. Vincent de Paul. Kindergarten students are never too little to make a difference!



Connect with us!



The small school with the big heart. Call 503-244-7600 for more information or to schedule a tour.