

Prekindergarten Application Process for Prairie South Funded Programs – Info for Parents

Prairie South is pleased to be able to offer Prekindergarten programs that are funded through Prairie South, indicating Prairie South's strong belief in the value of high quality early learning programs for 3 and 4 year olds. The focus of the program is not for children to learn numbers and letters or to learn to read but to expose them to language, literacy and numeracy through a play based approach. Although the program is not funded through the Ministry the program follows Ministry guidelines.

The application process for Prairie South funded programs is different than for Ministry funded programs. It is important for parents to understand that being first in line does not guaranteed a spot in a program. When the application process ends all of the applications are looked at and class groupings are determined based on:

1. Any diagnosed learning needs or referral from another agency such as Health – 4 year olds first and then 3 year olds
2. Being eligible for Kindergarten the following school year (at least 3 yrs 8 mos on Sept 1) and **must** be potty trained
3. 3 year olds currently in the program will be placed first if requested by parent
4. Having a language other than English as the first language
5. Having a balance of boys and girls
6. Registration in catchment area or boundary exemption applied for

Parents must apply within their catchment area or the area in which they will be seeking a boundary exemption for (this generally occurs due to babysitting reasons). If the program in your catchment area is full and others in the city are not full, parents may be offered a spot in another program. If they accept the spot they must be willing to provide their own transportation.

Transportation within catchment is available but must be requested by filling out a transportation request form available at the school. Transportation to rural programs (Lindale, Assiniboia 7th Ave, Lafleche, and Coronach) will be provided one way only. Transportation to city programs may be provided both ways.

Each program will serve a maximum of 16 children and will be staffed by a Teacher and an Educational Assistant. Each program will hold back 1 or 2 spots until September in case a child with an intensive need arrives over the summer and requires a placement. If that does not occur then the final two spots may be filled early in September. Each school will maintain a waiting list and if a child moves during the year the child at the top of the waiting list will be offered the spot.

You will be notified by the school of your child's placement after the registration closes and some time is taken to develop the class lists. Thank you for your patience and cooperation, we are all very excited to be learning together!