

Kindergarten 2026-2027 Info Night



Hello!



Principal

Mr. Peter Dang



Assistant Principal

Mr. Jin McRae



Assistant Principal

Ms. Jamila Murji



Agenda

Aurora School

- What is a Charter School?
- Why Come Here?
 - Mission and Values
- Parent, Student, & Teacher Responsibilities
- Days, Times, and Bussing

Kindergarten Placement Assessment

- What to Expect
- Where and When
- How to Get Ready for Kindergarten



Aurora Academic Charter Primary School

What is a Charter School?



Mission:

Empower learning excellence through sequenced instruction in a student-centred

environment, supported by families.

Instruction is informed by research and delivered in a whole group setting with a focus on academic rigor and mastery.



Values:

- Innovation
- Hard Work
- Empowerment
- Respect and Integrity
- Empathy and Compassion

Responsibilities

✓ Students

- Listen, follow directions, try hard, be kind, and complete assignments

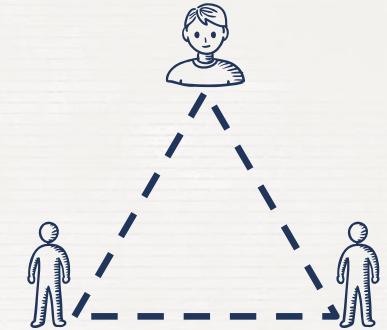
✓ Teachers

- Provide instruction, help to learn, and share concerns

✓ Parents

- Ensure homework completed, send child to school, know and follow school policies, and share concerns





We all Work Together to Help Students Succeed



Kindergarten Classroom

- 20 students per class
- 3 classes in the morning (AM)
- 2 classes in the afternoon (PM)



Kindergarten Classroom

Regular visits to:

- the Learning Common (Library),
- outside field at recess, and
- Physical Education (Gym).



*Subject to Change

11

Half Day Kindergarten

8:16 am - AM Buses Arrive & Parent Drop Off				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30 - 11:32	8:30 - 11:32	8:30 - 11:32	8:30 - 11:32	8:30 - 11:32
11:32 am - Parent Pick Up				
12:15 pm - Parent Drop Off				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:17 - 3:15	12:17 - 3:15	12:17 - 3:15	12:17 - 3:15	12:17 - 3:15
3:15 pm - PM Bus Home & Parent Pick Up				



Bus Transportation: One-Way Only for Kindergarten

- Offered throughout the Edmonton area.
- **AM class:** 8:16 am arrival at school by bus or parent drop off.
- **PM class:** 3:15 pm departure from school by bus or parent pickup.
- Buses do not pick up or drop off students at daycares.
- Routes are confirmed in the summer months. You will be notified of your route via email by the start of school.
- You may be required to walk/drive a short distance to your bus stop.
- Ride time may be up to 75 minutes.
- 2025/2026 Bus Fees (Kindergarten): \$525.00 for this year. (subject to change for future years)



After School Care Options:

****FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY:** these are the two closest daycare who drop-off/pickup students currently. **Aurora School is not affiliated with any daycare.**

➤ Little Nemo Daycare

- Daycare van will pick up and/or drop students off for both morning and afternoon kindergarten
- 11824 St. Albert Trail NW, Edmonton
- 587-524-6366

➤ Little Bee - Early Learning Academy

- Located in Sherbrooke Community Hall across school field. Students are picked up and dropped off by daycare staff members.
- 13008 122 Avenue NW, Edmonton
- 587-709-0660



Eligibility:

- Turn 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2026
- If 6 years old on Sept 1, 2026 → Grade 1

Aurora Waitlist:

1. Based on the school charter document, priority assessments are provided to prospective students based on a predetermined criteria.
2. Remaining assessments are provided based on the Lottery System: Each year a prospective student is on the waitlist, they get one credit to enter into the lottery. The parents will be notified if the prospective student's name is drawn before the assessment date.
3. Currently there is a large waitlist for the 2026-2027 Kindergarten year.



Kindergarten Placement Assessment

- Successful prospective students from the lottery will undergo a placement assessment to determine their readiness for the Aurora program.
- Parents will be emailed the prospective student's assessment time.
 - **Parents have 2 business days to confirm this appointment. After this time, the spot on the waitlist will be passed for this year.**
 - **Information for appointments will be sent out in mid-January**
- Please check your email inbox regularly!

Please send via email once the Assessment is CONFIRMED:

- Canadian Birth Certificate (with barcode on bottom) or Canadian Passport



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

How to Prepare for ANY Kindergarten

- Academic Skills
- Independent Motor Skills
- Emotions & Behaviour



Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Academic Skills

- Write their name: practice holding a pencil correctly
- Knowing numbers 1-10
- Color in the lines
- Practice doing crafts and using scissors
- Count things on your drives (eg buses, signs, color specific cars, etc)
- Identify letters while reading

Emotions & Behavior

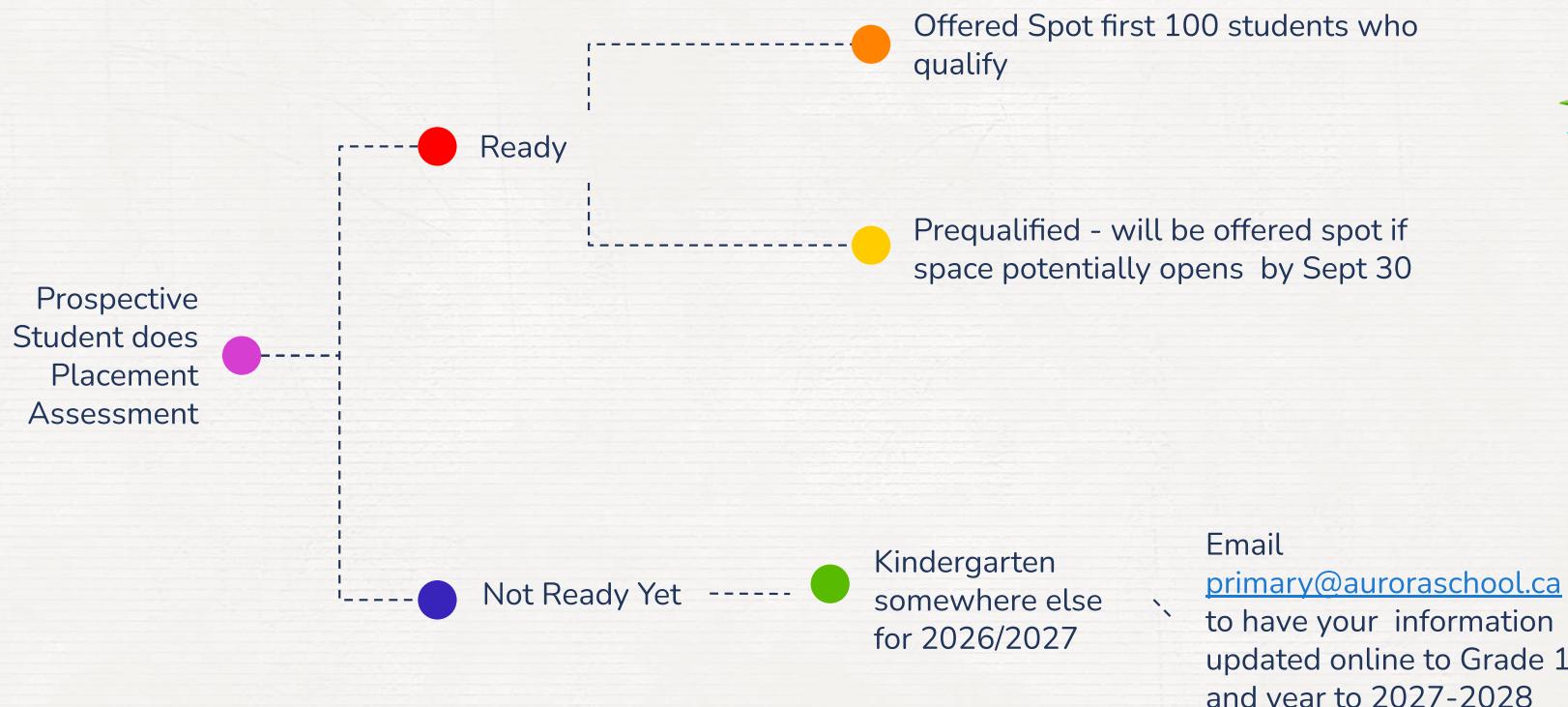
- Students can follow instructions
- Put away toys and help clean up
- Transition between play time and academic time
- Get along with others
- Students do not hit, throw things, spit, push, or bite
- Practice being apart from your child: drop them off at a friends for an hour without you

Independent Motor Skills

- Independently put on shoes, winter coat, mitts, and snowpants
- Independently go to the washroom
- Practice going to public washrooms and practice locking the stall door and using urinals



What Happens Next?



Websites & Resources

- Education.com/worksheets/preschool/
- Worksheetfun.com/preschool-worksheets/
- Albertahealthservices.ca “Preschooler activity calendar”
- AHS Preschool Speech Language Services
 - Edmonton and area at 780-408-8793
- Alberta.ca Talk Box (11 languages)
 - Alberta.ca/creating-language-rich-environments.aspx
- 5forlife.ca/resources/preschooler-1
- Workbooks from Chapters or Amazon “Preschool workbooks”





Questions?

www.auroraschool.ca

primary@auroraschool.ca



1. Program & Instruction

What is the teaching style?

Aurora uses **direct, teacher-led instruction**. Some group work and projects occur, but they are not regular.

Is movement or gym time included?

Yes. Kindergarten students have **one 15-minute recess** (half-day program) and **regular PE/gym classes**.

Does the school give homework?

Yes. Homework is a core part of the program, including in Kindergarten.

What assessments do Kindergarten students have?

Weekly phonogram tests and spelling tests.

Does Aurora offer full-day Kindergarten?

No. Kindergarten is **half-day only** (AM or PM).

Does Aurora follow a Cogito curriculum?

No. Cogito was influenced by Aurora, but the programs are **different**.

What is Aurora's specialty focus?

Strong emphasis on **literacy and numeracy**.

2. Admissions & Lottery

Is admission first-come, first-served?

No. After sibling priority, remaining seats are filled by **lottery**.

How many Kindergarten seats are available?

100 total, including sibling spots.

Who gets priority?

Only **current siblings** of enrolled students.

Cousins and alumni families do **not** get priority.

Does being on the waitlist longer help?

Yes. Each year on the waitlist gives **credits**, which improve lottery weighting.

Does waitlist position affect the lottery?

No — credits matter, but **numerical position does not**.

When does the lottery run?

January.

When are assessment invitations sent?

Mid-January by email.

If my child isn't selected, are they automatically rolled over to Grade 1?

No. Parents must **email the registrar** to update the entry year.

3. Kindergarten Readiness & Assessment

How long is the assessment?

About **45 minutes**, done **in-person**.

Are parents allowed to stay during the assessment?

No.

What skills should children know?

- Counting **1–10** (more is better)
- Recognition of **capital and lowercase letters**
- Ability to **write numbers 1–10** is helpful

Is shyness a disadvantage?

Staff acknowledge shyness, but all students complete the same assessment.

Is the assessment the same for all children?

Yes — same for all eligible Kindergarten applicants.



4. Age Eligibility

What is the cutoff date?

Children must be **5 years old by December 31** of the enrollment year.

Can younger 2021-born children defer to 2027?

Yes. Families may request to shift to the next year.

5. Campuses

Where is Kindergarten offered?

Only at the **Sherbrooke campus**.

Is Kindergarten available at Skyrattler or Saddleback?

No.

How many Aurora locations exist?

- **Sherbrooke (K–7)**
- **Skyrattler (5–7)**
- **Alberta Avenue (8–12)**

6. Transportation

- **Is bussing available?**
Yes — but **one-way only** for Kindergarten.
- **Is bussing available to daycares?**
No, buses only serve **residential addresses**.
- **Can I pay for two-way bussing?**
No.
- **Are bus routes city-wide?**
Routes depend on **neighbourhood clusters**, not grade.

7. Fees & Costs

Is there tuition?

No. Aurora is a **public charter school**, so tuition is **free**.

What fees should families expect?

- **Annual school fee:** approx. \$150
- **Uniforms:** purchased separately through *Top Marks*
- **Optional bus fee**
- **School supplies and field trips**

8. Daily Schedule & Student Experience

- **How many students per Kindergarten class?**
Maximum 20 students.
- **Is recess supervised?**
Yes — multiple adults supervise.
- **Do students eat lunch at recess?**
No. Kindergarten is half-day, so children do not eat lunch at school.
- **Are extracurriculars available?**
Yes — choir, clubs, intramurals, and various activities, depending on teacher offerings.
- **Are culturally diverse celebrations acknowledged?**
Yes, the school incorporates diversity throughout the year.

9. After Acceptance

Will there be a welcome event?

Yes — **Discovery Day** in June for new Kindergarten students.

Do returning students complete yearly assessments?

No. Only a **registration update** is required each February.

10. Waitlist & Technical Questions

How do I verify that my child is on the waitlist?

If you attended the info session, your child is already updated. For specifics, email the **registrar**.

Why can't I see my position on the waitlist?

Waitlist order/credits are **not disclosed**.

Can I register a younger sibling now?

Yes — at any age, using the online waitlist form.

For further questions, please email primary@auroraschool.ca

Thank you!