



Kindergarten Orientation for 2025 – 2026

Cambrian Heights School



Calgary Board
of Education

Welcome to Cambrian Heights



- Introduction to Office Staff



Principal:
Todd Webber



Assistant Principal:
Erin Laberee Lee



Secretary:
Jennifer Boyce

Introduction: Current Kindergarten Teacher



Carrie Harich

- 11 years teaching kindergarten
- Previous to teaching kindergarten, I taught grades 1 and 2 and was also an English as a Second Language teacher

About Our School Community

- We are a K – 6 school
- There are approximately 430 students at Cambrian Heights
- We welcome families from the communities of Cambrian Heights, Highwood, Queen's Park, Evanston, and Livingston
- Overflow students from Evanston's Ken Taylor School attend Cambrian Heights for Grades K-4 and will attend Simon Fraser for Grade 5
- Our school is home to a System Class called Bridges



Truth and Reconciliation Commitment

We commit to engaging staff and students in learning about, and valuing of, Indigenous ways of knowing, knowledge systems and language through land-based learning experiences with the support of Elders and Knowledge Keepers.



Kindergarten Hours

- Kindergarten has its own school calendar – Times below are not approved yet and are tentative.
 - **AM Regular Hours:**
 - Mon-Thurs 8:00 – 10:50
 - Selected Fridays 7:58 – 11:55
 - **PM Regular Hours**
 - Mon-Thurs 11:40 – 2:30
 - Selected Fridays 8:00 – 12:00
- We must ensure AM and PM class sizes are equitable
- We do our best to give families their choice of AM/PM classes
- You'll receive a confirmation email with your AM/PM class prior to end of June
- If you are registered in Kids Come First child care please send the office and email to let us know.



Staggered Entry

- Not all kindergarten students will start on the same day.
- A staggered entry allows the staff to give each student more attention on their first few days with a smaller number of students.
- Your welcome email will contain your staggered entry group and the schedule is on the Kindergarten Calendar.

[Cambrian Heights Website](#)



KINDERGARTEN Cambrian Heights School 2022 – 2023 Calendar

CBE Schools are closed on the dates shaded in gray		August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
Aug 29, 30, 31	Non-instruction days	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
September 1-9	Staggered Entry (Please refer to schedule)			
September 1	First day of school			
September 2	No School – Kindergarten			
September 5	Labour Day			
September 22	Conferences – No School			
September 23	Conferences – No School			
September 23	Non-instruction day			
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation			
October 7	Non-instruction day Indigenous Education day			
October 10	Thanksgiving day			
October 28	Non-instruction day			
November 11	Remembrance day			
November 24	Conferences – No School			
November 25	Conferences – No School			
November 25	Non-instruction day			
December 22	Last day of classes			
January 9	Classes resume			
February 3	Non-instruction day			
February 10, 17	Teachers' Convention			
February 20	Family Day			
March 9	Conferences – No School			
March 10	Conferences – No School			
March 10	Non-instruction day			
March 24	Last day of classes			
April 3	Classes resume			
April 7	Good Friday			
April 10	Non-instruction day			
May 5	Non-instruction day			
May 22	Victoria Day			
May 29	Non-instruction day			
June 9	Non-instruction day			
June 29	Last day of school			
June 30	Non-instruction day			

	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022
Su	1	1	1
Mo	2	2	2
Tu	3	3	3
We	4	4	4
Th	5	5	5
Fr	6	6	6
Sa	7	7	7

	November 2022	December 2022	January 2023
Su	1	1	1
Mo	2	2	2
Tu	3	3	3
We	4	4	4
Th	5	5	5
Fr	6	6	6
Sa	7	7	7

	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023
Su	1	1	1
Mo	2	2	2
Tu	3	3	3
We	4	4	4
Th	5	5	5
Fr	6	6	6
Sa	7	7	7

	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023
Su	1	1	1
Mo	2	2	2
Tu	3	3	3
We	4	4	4
Th	5	5	5
Fr	6	6	6
Sa	7	7	7

Kindergarten	Start Time Mon to Thurs	Dismissal Mon to Thurs	Alternating Friday
AM Kindergarten	7:58 AM	10:50 AM	7:58 AM - 11:55 AM
PM Kindergarten	11:40 AM	2:32 PM	7:58 AM - 11:55 AM

Kids Come First



- Kids Come First (KCF) is a private rental group that provides before and after school care in our school.
- KCF is not part of CBE or Cambrian Heights school.
- School staff is not able to support you in dealing with KCF as they are a private business
- School staff can help your student get from the bus to KCF or vice versa.
- KCF does not offer both AM and PM care during the school day. The availability of care is not a factor for deciding on AM or PM class placement, although we do honour parent requests for AM/PM if possible.
- We cannot guarantee that KCF will remain in the school, although we fully expect them to be here in September. If they were to leave, families would need to look at alternate mid-day transportation.

PowerSchool



- Please sign up as soon as possible at <https://cbe.ab.ca/support/Pages/MyCBE-PowerSchool.aspx>
- Pay fees, sign up for bussing, book parent teacher conferences, view attendance and report cards
- You will need your child's CBE ID# and access key to sign up
- Please feel free to call our main office for further information or support at 403-777-6150

Transportation



- Eligible students in the AM class can ride the school bus TO school
- Eligible students in the PM class can ride the school bus HOME FROM school.
- There is no mid-day bus. Parents are responsible for transportation.
- Kindergarten pays a reduced transportation fee of \$180 for one-way bus
- Students who are registered for before/after school care can ride the morning and afternoon bus. They still pay the same \$180 fee.
- Families must register by **Sunday, June 22** for students to be added to routes for the start of the next school year.
- Families who do not pre-register for the bus by June 22 will not be added to a bus route until September. It can take **SIX WEEKS** before they are able to ride the school bus – this could be as late as Thanksgiving.
- [CBE Transportation](#)

Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

School Policies



- Please do not come in any of the side doors. All visitors need to go through the main entry door and check-in at the office.
- If your child is late, please take them to the office.
- If your child is going to be absent, please call the main office at 403-777-6150 or email CambrianHeights@cbe.ab.ca
- **IMPORTANT: If your child is not taking the bus home, please call the main office before the end of the day to avoid any confusion!**

School Policies



- Any medical concerns need to be communicated to the Main Office and you will need to fill out a 'Student Health Plan' to ensure your child gets the specific care they require in the case of an emergency.
- If your child has an epi-pen or inhaler, they will need to always have access to it. Please let the teacher know where they can be found in your child's backpack.
- We love volunteers!
 - All adult volunteers require a valid security clearance.
 - You need to have lived in Canada for one year.
 - Contact Mrs. Boyce in the office to start your volunteer registration.

School Policies

- Dismissal

- We do a hand-to-hand transfer at the end of class for Kids Come First, bussing, and parent pick up
- Your child will not be dismissed to an adult we do not know
- If your child will be picked up by someone else, please let the teacher and office know as soon as possible.

- Nut Aware

- Students can bring nut products to eat for snack, keeping in mind they may need to sit at a separate table if there are allergies in the classroom



Learning Through **PLAY**

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way which children manipulate new information, fit it into existing schema or create new ones and then adjust their understanding accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**
engaging in experimentation and exploration
discovering patterns
creating **theories**



Learning Through **PLAY**



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Play-based Program

Students also explore with a variety of materials.

- Loose parts
- Art supplies
- Building materials
- Writing materials
- Natural materials



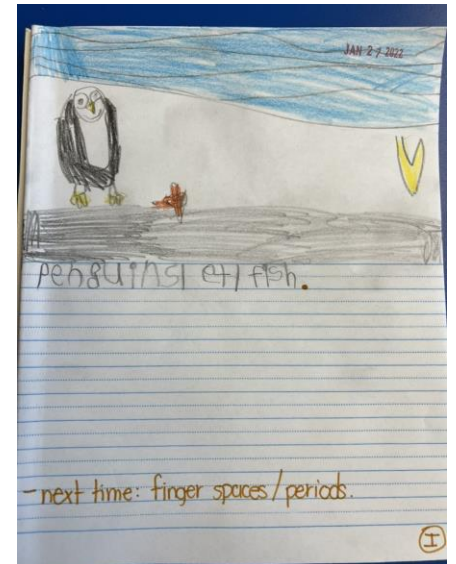
What does a day in Kindergarten look like?



Arrival
Table Tasks
Sharing Circle
Story Time
Direct Instruction & Small Group Work
Gym
Snack
Centers
Music
Home Time

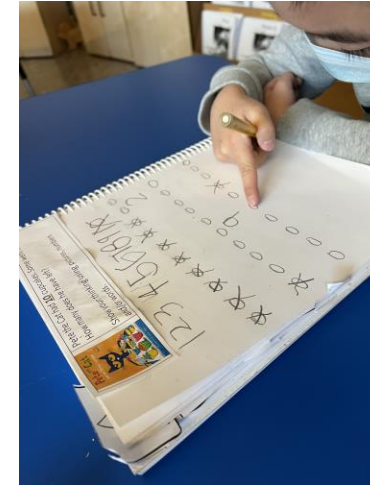
Early Literacy

- Exploring fiction and non-fiction texts
- Identifying initial, medial and final sounds in a word
- Rhyming, syllables, blending, deletion
- Practice listening and speaking skills through the sharing of oral stories
- Develop new vocabulary through a variety of literacy experiences



Mathematics

- Representing quantities in a variety of ways (objects, pictures, numbers, words)
- Counting within 10, forwards and backwards Numbers to 10
- Subitize
- Recognizing patterns in daily routines and play, including songs or dances
- 2D and 3D Shapes
- Sequencing



Science and Social Studies

Environment & Community Awareness	Citizenship & Identity
• Investigating topics in the "real world" and using our senses to explore • Describing and understanding our world	• How we are all unique • How we are all connected to different communities • How people come together
Often more open-ended and collaborative	

Music

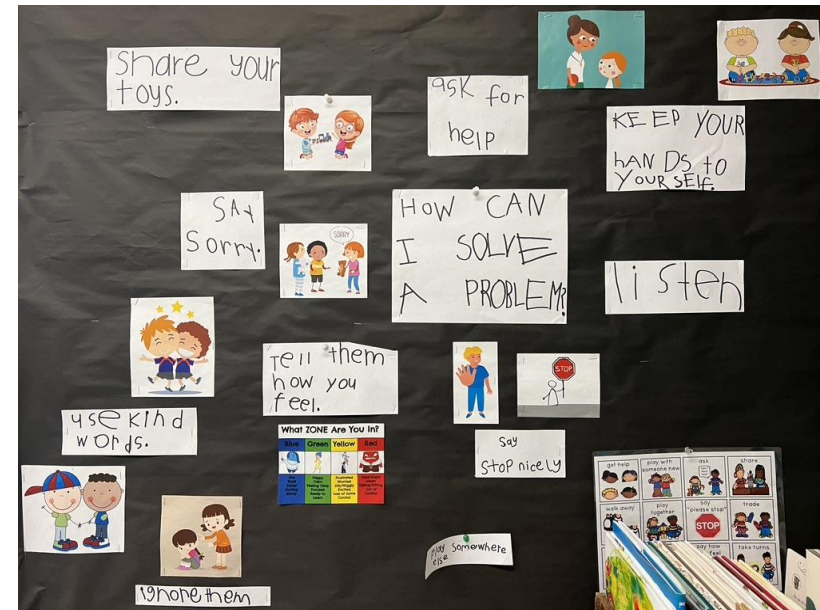
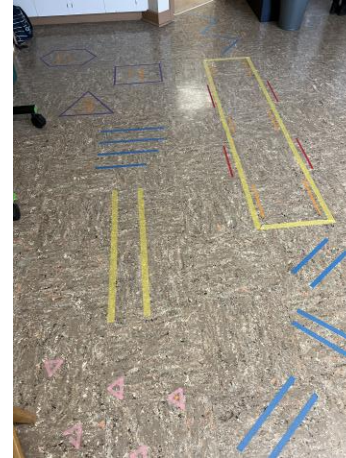


Our dedicated Music Room is spacious and well-equipped.

We are looking forward to incorporating movement in our music classes.

Physical Education & Wellness

- Spatial awareness
- Respect and fair play
- Identifying and expressing feelings
- Conflict resolution
- Healthy relationships
- Food that helps the body grow
- Identify the value of Canadian coins and bills



Things to Bring Every Day

- A healthy and nutritious snack
 - A water bottle
 - A backpack with a Ziploc bag for a change of clothes, including underwear and socks
 - Indoor shoes that will be kept at school – velcro shoes are preferred for the beginning of the year
- *Please label your child's items

First Day of School



- Students who are dropped off will meet their Kindergarten teacher on the compound.
- For students riding the bus:
 - Staff members take students to/from the bus and do attendance.
 - Please print off a copy of your child's bus route and place it in their backpack, with their stop number circled.
 - Writing your child's bus on their hand is also very helpful!
 - Knowing their first and last name, and phone number is helpful.

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- put away toys and help out in other small ways at home
- practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- play games, take turns and compromise
- develop a consistent bedtime routine



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:

- read stories together in *your first language* to help your child develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- enjoy reading different types of books: picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together
- visit your community library (when possible)

Q & A

We have some time now to take some questions that you may have.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our main office at 403-777-6150.

Thank you for coming!