



Kindergarten

Gradual Entry

SEPTEMBER 2017



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

In Nanaimo Ladysmith we welcome Kindergarten children to their new school in small groups and for shorter attendance times.

This gentle introduction to Kindergarten sets the foundation for a comfortable and secure beginning to your child's school career. Gradual entry is designed to ease the transition to school by:

- Giving children an opportunity to adjust to their teacher, classroom, and peers in a smaller group and for a shorter period of time.
- Providing time for a "welcome" conversation between the child, parent and teacher. You can begin to get to know each other and share important information about your child.
- Enabling the teacher to work with small groups of children in order to build positive relationships, familiarize students with classroom routines and introduce basic procedures.

MAKING A GOOD START

When the first day arrives there are a few things you can do to help:

- Tuck a comfort item like a photo or stuffed toy into your child's pocket or backpack.
- Arrive early, explore the playground and make a relaxed start to the day.
- Stay positive and cheerful. Talk about the exciting things your child will learn.
- Keep your goodbye cheerful and brief. Don't come back after your goodbye and don't slip away unnoticed! Let your child know that you'll be waiting when school ends, and be sure to be on time for pick up!
- We understand gradual entry can be challenging for families.

Thank you for helping us support your child's positive start to school!

Sample Schedule 2017



**SEPTEMBER
5**

Kindergarten not
in session

Family
"welcome"
conversations
begin

**SEPTEMBER
6,7**

Partial days

Small groups

Family
"welcome"
conversations
continue

**SEPTEMBER
8, 11, 12**

Partial or full
day

Larger groups

**SEPTEMBER
13**

Full day

Whole class

All Kindergarten programs will be open full time on the 7th day of school.

QUESTIONS?
Please call M. Jane
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Services-Early Years
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