

# Welcome to StrongStart in NLPS



StrongStartBC

The BC Provincial StrongStart Program has been developed to support families to prepare young children for Kindergarten.



Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools is proud to have 8 StrongStart Early Learning Centres. In alignment with NLPS Strategic Plan Goal #2, our schools with StrongStart Centres seek to create welcoming and inclusive environments for families across the district. This goal is achieved through the following:

- StrongStart families are part of the school community, just like K to 7 families are. In fact, schools that have StrongStart Centres, are considered StrongStart to 7 rather than K to 7 schools.
- StrongStart Centres are ideally located in the heart of the school near the Kindergarten classrooms so that connections can be easily made.
- StrongStart families have access to the library and are welcome to sign out materials. In addition to the regular library items, StrongStarts-7 libraries offer a wonderful "Toy Lending Library" with a variety of playthings that support creative, dramatic, and energetic play.
- StrongStart families are welcome at school events such as concerts and fairs.
- StrongStart Centres have regularly scheduled gym times where preschoolers have the opportunity to run, jump, and play with their caregivers.
- StrongStart Principals connect with StrongStart families through frequently scheduled visits to the Centres
- StrongStart Centres welcome families on most school days and are closed when schools are closed.

**NLPS Strategic Plan Goal #2:** Safe, caring and healthy learning and working environments that is inclusive of the diversity of our entire learning community.

**Objective:** Increase the number of students who feel welcomed, safe, connected and have a sense of belonging in their school.