



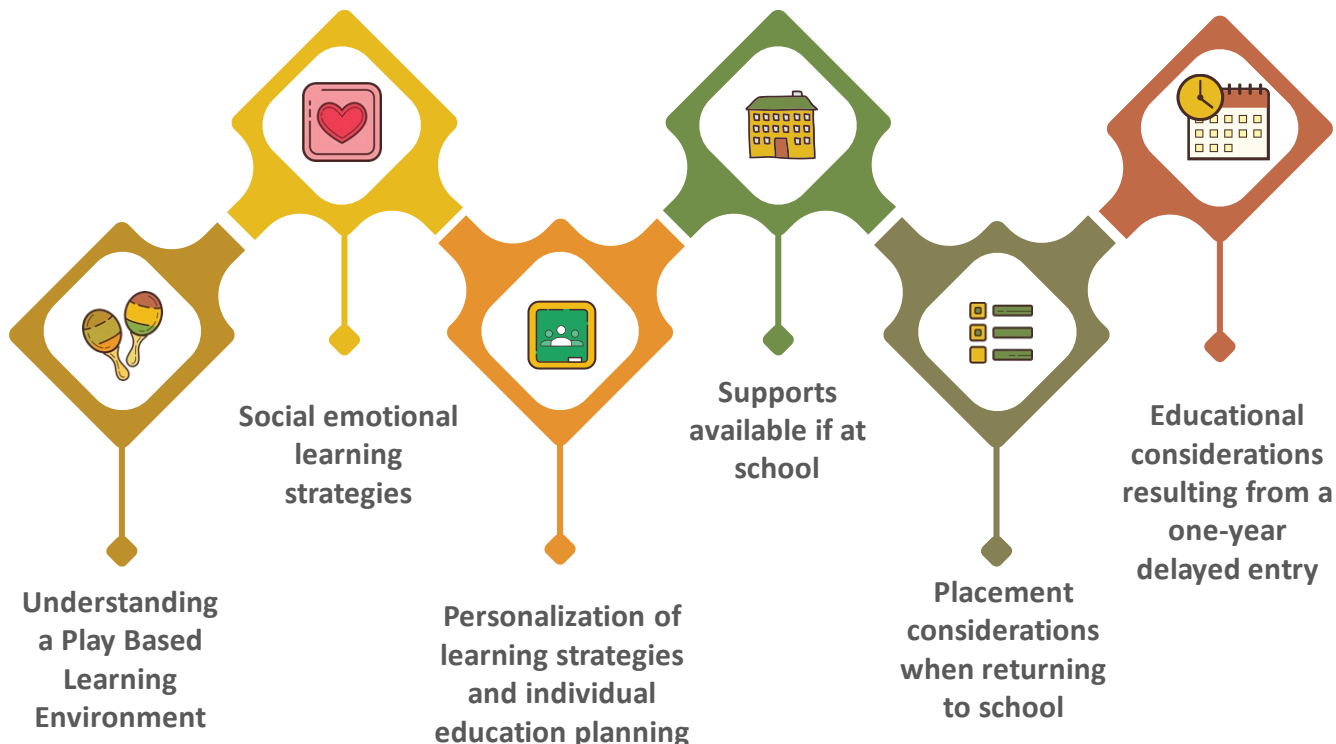
Delaying Kindergarten Enrollment:

The School Act states that parents/guardians must enroll their child in an educational program, provided by a Board of Education, on the first school day of a school year if, on or before December 31st of that school year, their child will have reached the age of 5 years.

The School Act also states that parents/guardians, of a child this age, may defer the enrolment of their child until the first school day of the next school year, when you may choose to register your child in either Kindergarten or Grade One.

We encourage you to take this opportunity for a meaningful consultation regarding the programming we provide in Kindergarten, future placement and educational considerations, and also the program you would be providing at home, if you elect for that choice. This conversation would include, but not be limited to:

If you are wishing to delay school enrollment for your five-year-old child, we request that you meet with your child's catchment school principal.





According to the Ministry of Education, children are 15% less likely to graduate on time if they are held back before grade 5. The table below summarizes some of the research with respect to delayed entry to kindergarten:

✓ Potential benefits of a delayed start:	✓ Potential outcomes of a delayed start:
<p>Delaying school start may benefit children with significant developmental delays who will receive intensive early intervention in the preschool setting.</p>	<p>Delaying entry to school also delays early intervention and supports that can be provided through the school team.</p>
<p>Students with significant challenges with self regulation may show lower levels of inattention and hyperactivity after a delayed entry to school.</p>	<p>Delayed entry is of less benefit for students who have lagging social skills, but do not have specific medical or developmental diagnosis.</p> <p>Often, students with lagging social skills are bright academically, and thrive when given opportunities to explore the learning opportunities provided in school.</p>
<p>Students born between the beginning of October and the end of the December may have lagging motor skills, social skills and self regulation skills than their peers.</p> <p>Some of these students may struggle to meet the demands of kindergarten.</p>	<p>As children develop at different rates, the gap with peers often narrows as they mature over time.</p> <p>There is little evidence that it makes a long-term difference in terms of academic learning or social development after grade 5.</p>

The continuum of learning in the primary years is deliberately broad, as young learners all reach the developmental milestones in their own time and pace. Many students who seem behind at school entry catch up with peers given time and the opportunity to practice new skills with others.

We appreciate you taking the time to meet with us for this important discussion, so you can make the most informed decision for your child.

Please keep in mind that, upon returning your child to school following a delayed entry year, it will be presumed that your child will be placed in grade 1 with their age group peers. Should you wish, at this point, to have a kindergarten entry considered for your child, it is required that you meet with your child's catchment area school principal.

