



# Welcome to Forest Heights School Kindergarten Program 2023-2024

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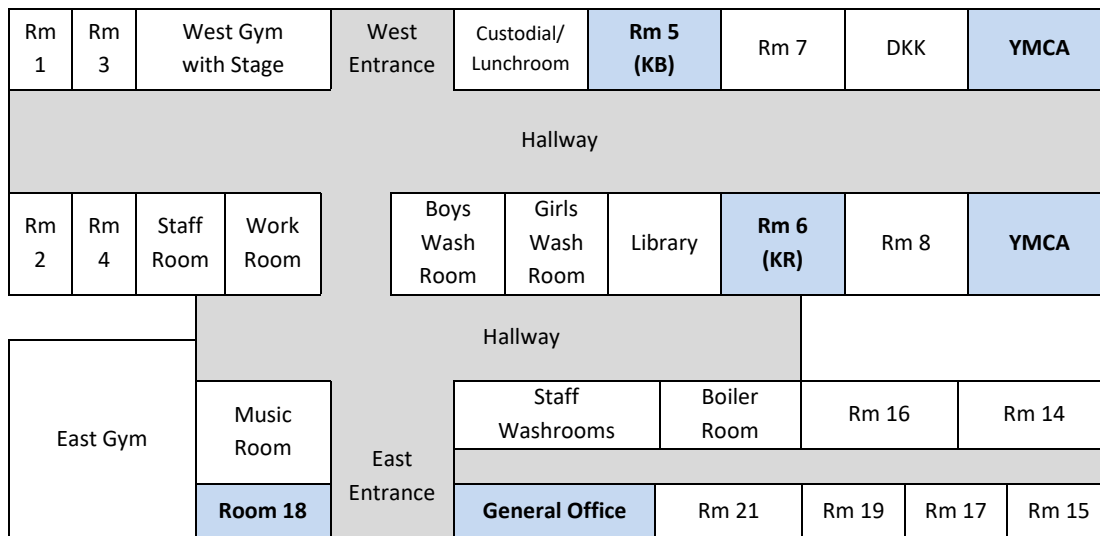
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## Forest Heights School Map



# WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

All staff and students at Forest Heights School welcome you and your child to our school – your school! Kindergarten is an exciting year for children and parents. There are lots of opportunities for new learning experiences. Kindergarten is also a year of change for children as they make that transition from out-of-school to in-school. It is important to ensure that they are prepared and supported in their learning so they have a positive first year in school. Some key areas in which parents can assist their children, prior to their arrival in September, is by providing opportunities for them to:

- relate to others, by playing with family members and friends.
- learn independence, by getting themselves dressed.
- develop self-confidence, by learning to be competent in different areas.
- solve problems, by talking out problems and solutions together. develop general knowledge, by going places and talking together.
- develop language skills, by talking and reading together.
- develop a positive attitude to learning, by having fun as you learn together.

Communication between you, your child and the teacher is the key to having a rewarding year. We look forward to embarking on a learning voyage of discovery and success with your child.

## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

In the fall, students will come to school in small groups for their first day of school, either September 5, 6 and 7, 2023. This gives students an opportunity to acquaint themselves with some of the school routines and to get to know their teacher. You will be contacted by letter about the day your child is to attend. All students will come to school on Friday, September 8, 2023.

## KINDERGARTEN HOURS

All Kindergarten classes at Forest Heights School are in the morning. Current class times are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

## ROUTINES THAT MAY OCCUR ON A “TYPICAL” KINDERGARTEN DAY

- calendar and math-related talks
- sharing of experiences and ideas
- shared reading and writing activities
- story time and follow-up activities
- read by yourself
- music and poetry, rhymes and fingerplays
- learning centres (paint, blocks, play dough, drama, science, math, writing, reading, puppets, games, iPads, etc.)

- physical education
- library/book exchange
- large group activities (art, craft, writing, math, science, etc.)
- small group activities (painting, kindercooking, special projects) snack, recess

## ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is important to continuity of learning. However, if your child is ill, he or she should be kept home. Please contact the school to inform us of your child's absence. This is done to ensure the safety of your child. There is an answering machine on at the school at all times for your convenience. Or you can email the school at [forest@epsb.ca](mailto:forest@epsb.ca)

## RECESS

All children will be sent outside for recess. These are short play times, which enable the children to get fresh air. During extreme weather conditions, -23°C or colder, including the wind chill, outside recess will be cancelled and will be held indoors. *If your child is too sick to go outside for recess, then he/she should be kept at home.*

## SNACKS

Students are responsible for bringing their own snack each day, if they wish. We ask you to please send nutritious snacks, such as fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers, yogurt, etc.

## KINDERCOOKING

Kindercooking is incorporated into the program for a variety of themes. It involves opportunities for children to cut, measure, pour and make a variety of snacks, as well as to try new foods. You will be notified in the monthly class calendar when we will be cooking. On those days we will require a few volunteers in the classroom and you are encouraged to sign up if you can help out.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

You are invited to become involved in your child's program in a variety of ways. These may include the following:

- working with children in the classroom. Each month there will be opportunities to help and you will sign up via email.
- share a talent, a skill or information with the students.
- assist with supervision on field trips.
- assist with special classroom or school wide activities.
- assist with preparation of classroom materials (can often be done from home).
- attend School Council meetings.

Involvement in the school gives you the opportunity to become familiar with your child's teacher, classroom, friends and other parents, and yes, it can be fun! Kindly arrange child care for younger siblings on the days you volunteer. Thank

## SUPPLIES

Each child is required to supply a backpack (big enough for large library books), a snack bag, a box of Kleenex and a pair of indoor shoes with non-marking soles to be left at school. No laces please, unless your child is **proficient** at tying their own shoes.

## NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

If your child is new to Edmonton Public Schools, you can register for school online. Visit the Division website to learn how to register for school. <https://epsb.ca/schools/register/newstudentregistration/>. Pre-enrolment for 2023-2024 closes on **Friday, April 14 at 4:00 p.m.** After pre-enrolment, late requests or transfers are considered where there is space in planned classes. Refer to <https://www.epsb.ca/ourdistrict/policy/h/hc-ar/> for more information.

## APPLYING FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION (Yellow Bus)

If your child is requiring yellow bus service for the 2023-2024 school year, you can apply at <https://epsb.ca/schools/gettoschool/applyingforyellowbusservice/> for the service. Application deadline for having your transportation in place for Tuesday, September 5 (first day of school) is **Thursday, June 1, 2023**. There is a monthly charge for this service and not everyone qualifies.

### Forest Heights School

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