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What should my child know before entering kindergarten?

2022-2023 School Year

<u>Self- Help Skills</u>

-Zip coat, attempt to tie shoes -Use bathroom independently -Button/snap pant fasteners -State full name and age -Follow simple directions -Handle emotions, ask for help

Fine Motor Skills

-Hold pencil correctly -Use scissors and glue -Trace lines -Color & draw a picture -Run, hop, skip, balance

Academic Skills

- Recite the alphabet (not sing the alphabet song) -Write their first name -Know basic shapes -Identify colors -Count to 20 orally -Recognize some letters of the alphabet -Listen to a story, hold book -Say some letter sounds -Recognize most numbers 0-10 - Count up to 5 objects -Sort items by color and size

<u>How will I find out who my child's</u> <u>teacher will be?</u>

When teachers receive their class rosters (about 2 weeks before school starts), you will be sent a letter of introduction and an invitation to Open House.

Beginning of the School Year: Staggered Start

On the first 3 days of the school year, your child will be assigned only 1 day to attend for staggered start. This helps the teacher and students get more comfortable with the start of school. On the 4th day of school, all students will begin regular, full-time attendance. *Elmore County Schools will begin school on August 8, 2022

School Supplies

Most school supplies will be provided by the district at the start of the 2022-2023 school year. Each teacher will have their own wishlist for classroom needs. More information to come soon!

Important Information

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Student Attendance

Alabama Law places the responsibility of student attendance upon the parent/guardian.
If the student is absent, a written excuse must be sent in within 3 days of the absence.

Visit <u>www.elmoreco.com</u> for current district information and updated parent resources.

School Safety

2022-2023

School Year

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- All visitors must sign in at the office for any reason.
- A picture identification card is required to enter the building.
- In order to become a volunteer or chaperone a field trip, you must complete a background check in our main office.
- Parent conferences are by appointment only.

Curriculum and Assessments Year

Assessment

-Progress reports will be sent home every 4 weeks. -Report cards will be sent home at the end of each quarter.

Assessment Cont.

- -Teaching Strategies Gold Objectives for Development and Learning
- -STAR Early Literacy

Standards Based Curriculum

- The ALCOS standards are explicitly taught
- The students are engaged in the learning process
- The teachers use higher order thinking questions
- The student and teacher dialogue is often about the student's progress

Promotion Policy

- Your teacher will have a criteria for promotion form that will be discussed.
- Skills must be mastered in order for the child to be promoted to 1st Grade.



<u>Medication</u>

 If your child requires medication at school, you will need to obtain the appropriate forms from the school nurse.
 *This includes a form to be signed by the prescribing physician.
 Children are not allowed to carry any medication (this includes cough drops and Tylenol).

Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack

2022-2023 School Year

Snack & Juice

Students must bring a snack and drink from home each day or purchase a snack from the WES Snack Shack.

Super Snack

A "Super Snack" cart comes around on certain Fridays of each month. Fun snack items will be available for purchase.

Breakfast and Lunch

- Breakfast is currently provided for all students free of charge and is eaten in the classroom between 7:15-7:40 am.
- Your child may order a lunch from the cafeteria or bring a lunch from home.
- *Due to safety regulations, meals from home can not be reheated at school.
- *Breakfast is free for all students, more information to come this summer regarding lunch costs.

Arrival and Dismissal

- Students can begin entering the building at 7:15 am.
- The tardy bell rings at 7:40 am, after this time you must bring your child in the front doors of the building to be signed in.
- The dismissal bell rings at 2:45 pm.
- This information is subject to change for the 2022-2023 school year.

Bus Procedures

- -Buses are unloaded at school at 7:15am
- -Buses are loaded at 2:45, therefore transportation changes cannot be made past 2:00 -All transportation changes MUST be submitted in writing by a parent/guardian.

If you have questions about bus routes, please contact the Elmore County Transportation Department at 567-1229





-Car riders may be dropped off at the front of the school between 7:15-7:40 am.

-Parents/Guardians picking up their student will display a car tag provided by the school that will be scanned by the CarRider Pro system. You will be directed to follow a lane and then will be prompted to step out and meet your child. -Students must be picked up from school by 3:05 pm.

> All transportation changes MUST be submitted in writing.

Whole-Child Education

Here in kindergarten at WES, our approach to teaching is "Whole Child Learning". The whole child approach focuses on supporting and nurturing multiple areas of children's development and learning. It's important that educators, family members, and the community all work together to create a safe, supportive, and positive learning environment for children.

Whole-child Learning Areas of Development

- <u>Social-emotional</u>-interaction with students and adults, cooperation, self-confidence, sense of community, taking care of one's needs
- <u>Cognitive</u>-problem solving, flexibility in thinking, making connections, engaging in learning, remembering experiences
- <u>Physical</u>-gross motor, fine motor (run, skip, hop, balance, hold pencil)
 <u>Language</u>-comprehending language, following directions, verbally expressing thoughts and needs
- <u>Literacy</u>-letter recognition, letter sound knowledge, rhyming, comprehending books, retelling stories, emergent writing and reading
- <u>Math</u>- counting and making sets, number recognition, understanding shapes and positions, comparing and measuring objects







Events and Specials at WES

Literacy Night WES Fest Field Trips **Book Fair PTO Fundraisers**

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Library Spring Sprint Art Under the Stars Music P.E. FRIOS/Super Snack Character Ed.

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Don't forget to 'Like' <u>Wetumpka Elementary School</u> and <u>Elmore County Public Schools</u> on Facebook or go to elmoreco.com. for updated information and resources.

Mission Statement:

Every Student Empowered, Every Student Succeeds



Conclusion

Please join us for a brief tour of the school. We will be checking out some areas in the school that kindergarten students visit frequently. A "Kindergarten Readiness" handout will be given to you at the end of the tour. We appreciate everyone who attended the orientation this evening. *Do not hesitate to call the school at 567-4323 if you have any questions!

We look forward to seeing you in August!