# GRADUAL ENTRY INTO KINDERGARTEN

August 2024

Dear Kindergarten student families,

Welcome to Kindergarten! In September, your child will begin a new adventure of exploration and learning. This is sure to be an exciting time for your child, your family, and our school staff as we begin the school year together. To help each child begin the year successfully, we have a **Gradual Entry** schedule into Kindergarten. Please see the **Gradual Entry** sheet for more information.

Your family will also be invited to a 10 minute Welcoming Conversation, during which you will be able to share information about your child with the Kindergarten teacher.

Each child entering Kindergarten is viewed as a unique individual which is why Gradual Entry, along with the Welcoming Conversation, is essential for creating the foundation of support among the family, school, and child. We welcome both you and your child to Kindergarten at **Diefenbaker Elementary School** and are excited to begin a partnership between home and school to help build childrens’ confidence, enjoyment, independence, and success! See you in September!

\*Please note that the **Gradual Entry schedule** is consistent across the Richmond School District for Full Day Kindergarten.

**Important information for the first two weeks of school:**

* We are providing you with our school’s Kindergarten **Gradual Entry** schedule for September so that you may make arrangements in your schedule for childcare if needed. Please note that the students will be divided into two groups. **Your child will be in Group A or B, please see the attached list.**
* We will be having 10 minute Welcoming Conversations with families during the week of September 9th. More information will follow in the first week of September about signing up for a time during these weeks.
* A “Getting to Know Your Child” form is attached. **Please fill out this form and** **return it on the first day of school** as it will be used to guide our Welcoming Conversation.

**Welcome to Kindergarten!**

**Diefenbaker Elementary Gradual Entry Schedule**

All children in attendance **Full Day** by Thursday, September 12th, 2024

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 2  **Labour Day:**  **School not in session** | 3  **First Day of School**  Kindergarten students come for 45 minutes, from 1:00-1:45  **\*All students go to Room 101 for drop off and pick up.** | 4  **Group A attends:**  8:45-9:45  **Group B attends:**  10:15-11:15  **\*All students go**  **to Room 101 for drop off and pick up.** | 5  **Group A attends:**  8:45-11:15  (bring recess snack)  **Group B attends:**  12:15-2:45  (bring recess snack)  **\*All students go to Room 101 for drop off and pick up.** | 6  **Group A attends:**  8:45-11:15  (bring recess snack)  **Group B attends:**  12:15-2:45  (bring recess snack)  **\*All students go to Room 101 for drop off and pick up.** |
| 9  **All students attend:**  8:45-11:15  (bring recess snack) | 10  **All students attend:**  8:45-11:15  (bring recess snack) | 11  **All students attend:**  8:45-12:15  (bring recess snack and lunch) | 12  **All students attend FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN**  8:45-2:45 (regular school hours)  (please send recess snack and lunch) | 13  **All students attend FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN**  8:45-2:45 (regular school hours)  (please send recess snack and lunch) |