The Iowa City Community School District recognizes that children come to kindergarten with different abilities, backgrounds and interests. Therefore, the Kindergarten Program of the Iowa City School District provides a climate that allows your child to learn at his/her own pace. The program is designed to teach the Kindergarten Iowa Core Curriculum and provide experiences in which your child meets success and becomes a well-rounded, self-confident learner.

Additional information about the Iowa City Community School District can be found at www.iowacityschools.org.

The Iowa City Community School District Kindergarten Program is designed to help children:

- Develop a positive self-concept
- Maintain and extend the desire to learn
- Increase self-discipline, independence, and responsibility
- Develop language as both a tool of learning and means of communication
- Develop skills in coordinating body movement
- Develop logical thinking at a concrete level
- Express himself or herself creatively and respect the creativity of others
- Meet new situations with confidence
- Learn to cooperate through working together
1. Vocabulary
Vocabulary building begins in the home with parents talking with their children. Parents can increase a child’s vocabulary through conversations. Conversations in which you speak in complete sentences and use the correct name for objects helps a child learn new words. Take the time to explain ideas and concepts, then follow up by asking your child questions to see if they understand. Make it fun for your child to learn new words.

2. Shapes/Sizes
Recognition of shapes and sizes is important.
Take opportunities to point them out. For example:
• The tire on the car is round. The tire on your bicycle is round, too. Which do you think makes a bigger circle?
• The front door of our house is in the shape of a rectangle. Can you find anything inside the house that is also a rectangle?

3. Colors
Learning the names of colors is an important skill for young children. Parents can help by asking their child to name the colors of everyday items. For example, ask your child to find something that is blue when driving to the grocery store.
Point out colors of the environment: The sky is blue today. Is it the same color as your shirt?

4. Matching
Matching activities will aid your child in becoming aware of likenesses and differences. Let your child match colors with crayons, scraps of fabric, or pieces of yarn. Next try matching letters he/she finds in the headlines of the daily newspaper.

5. Sorting
The ability to group things or to sort them into categories is important. Point out to your child that bananas, oranges, apples, and pears are all fruit; potatoes, onions, carrots, and beans are all vegetables; shirts, pants, dresses, and coats are items of clothing, etc. Play a game with him/her by sorting the laundry into different types of clothing items.

6. Movement
Increase motor coordination by giving your child easy tasks to do such as, I will throw you the dust cloth. Catch it and dust the table. The child who is clumsy may begin with this type of activity and move to tossing pillows and beach balls and finally to playing ball. Motor coordination may also be improved through everyday chores such as sweeping floors, putting away the groceries, and setting the table.

7. Basic Information
Help your child learn his/her full name, birthdate, home address, and telephone number. Your child should also know the name of the place where mom or dad works, and have a general idea what mom or dad does at his/her job.
Q. What time does school start and dismiss?
A. School begins at 7:55am and ends at 2:55pm (Monday-Wednesday and Friday). On Thursdays, school begins at 7:55am and ends at 1:55pm.

Q. What is the Thursday dismissal schedule?
A. School is dismissed one hour early each Thursday so teachers can attend in-service meetings.

Q. What do I need to know if my child rides the bus?
A. You must live at least 2 miles away from your school to be eligible to ride the bus. You will need to complete a form in the office so bus transportation can be provided for your child. For exact times when your child will be picked up and dropped off, please call the Transportation Office at 319-688-1187.

Q. When do we have conferences and do children attend?
A. Parent/teacher conferences are held twice a year, in the fall and spring. You will be signing up for an exact time later. Sometimes children are involved with the conferences and other times they are not, so you should ask their teacher.

Q. What name should my child go by at school?
A. On the official school records, your child’s legal name must be listed. If your child goes by a nickname you can let the teacher know this information. For example, if your child’s name is Nicholas, please fill out the registration forms with Nicholas listed and let the teacher know ahead of time that your child prefers to be called Nick so that teachers can use the preferred name on name tags, classroom charts, etc.

Q. Is there a school district calendar with vacation dates on it?
A. Yes, a copy can be requested from your school’s office. You can also find the calendar on our District website (www.iowacityschools.org). All of the important dates for the school year are included.

Q. How do we pay for school lunches and what is the cost?
A. A hot lunch at school costs $2.75 per day and includes a carton of milk. If your child brings a sack lunch from home and needs a carton of milk, the price is 50 cents. Checks should be made payable to the Iowa City Community School District or you may pay online at www.iowacityschools.org under “Online Payments”.

Q. What if my child needs to take medication during the school day?
A. A physician’s order is REQUIRED for all medications, including over the counter drugs such as aspirin, cough syrup, etc. A form is REQUIRED by the District and must be completed/signed by the parent and the physician for the dispensing of all medication. Cough drops only require parent written consent.

Q. What if my child is going to be absent or late?
A. Parents are asked to call their child’s school and report the reason why their child will be absent or late. The school secretary will call your home or workplace if you do not call in by 8:30 a.m. All students need to be accounted for each day.
School lunches are not only delicious, but also nutritious

School lunches are served every day that school is in session. Elementary students line up for lunch by class or grade and cashiers identify them by name, picture, and their unique 5-digit dining number. They learn to enter their number as they get older. The dining number is used until they leave the district or graduate. Students may purchase a full lunch or milk only. Elementary students who have a negative account balance will be served a lunch but cannot buy extra milk. Account balances are cumulative and will continue to carry over from year to year. Spending limits and restrictions can be set up by contacting the Nutrition Services Office. If a student has food allergies or restrictions and requires substitutions we ask that families fill out the Diet Modification Request Form yearly and submit to the Nutrition Services Office. This form can be found on the District website at www.IowaCitySchools.org/domain/68.

Payments can be made online at no charge. Information can be found on the District’s website, under Online Payments. Follow the noted steps to log in and create an account. Payments can also be made at your student’s school. All schools have the ability to accept credit and debit cards for payment or you can bring cash or checks to the school. Payment by cash or check can also be made at the Nutrition Services Office between 8 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

Free and Reduced Meal applications will be available online mid July. You can find the link to the application on the District website in the News section, under Iowa Eligibility Information 2019-20 Application and also in the Nutrition Services section. Online applications are more confidential and will have a shorter processing time than paper applications.

Computers will be available at the Nutrition Services Office and at each school for those who don’t have access to a computer at home. Families will be notified of status through email when possible, otherwise via US mail to addresses listed in Power School. Paper applications are not preferred, but limited quantities are available at each school.

Please remember, you must fill out a Free and Reduced Meal application each year. Please include all school-age children in the household on the application. Students start the year with the status (free, reduced or paid) from the previous year. This only lasts for 30 days and then, in the absence of a current application, students will return to full priced status. Each family is responsible for all debt incurred if they fail to fill out an application. Status will be effective once the application has been processed, which can be up to 10 days as allowed by the Iowa Department of Education.

Please contact the Nutrition Services Office at (319) 688-1021 with any questions or concerns.

**The Iowa City Community School District Meal Prices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elementary</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Price</td>
<td>$1.90</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
<td>$0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adults</strong></td>
<td>$2.10</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Required Forms**

**Certificate of Dental Screening**
Iowa law requires that all kindergarten students receive a dental screening sometime after the age of three before starting school. Please have your child's dentist or other health care provider fill out the dental certificate and return it to your student's school. Only this form will be accepted.

**Certificate of Immunization**
Your child's immunizations need to be up to date prior to starting school. Please bring a copy of your child's current immunization record to school BEFORE the first day. If the record is not in English, it will need to be translated before returning it to your child's school.

**Certificate of Vision Screening**
Iowa law requires that all kindergarten students receive a vision screening by December of that year. Please have your child’s eye doctor or other health care provider fill out the vision screening certificate and return it to your child's school.

**Home Language Survey**
Federal law requires this form to be filled out for each student. If a language other than English is spoken in the home, it will be indicated on this form. The building registrar will register the student and then communicate with the English Language Intake & Assessment Coordinator (ELIAC) if an assessment needs to take place.

**Kindergarten Questionnaire**
Please answer the questions to help provide information about your child to their kindergarten teacher.

**Kindergarten Student Health History/Health Status**
Please complete the Student Health History form. If your child has a special health issue that the school should be aware of prior to the start of the school year, please contact the main office of your school. The other side labeled Kindergarten Student Health Status is a form for your health care provider to complete. A physical exam by your child’s health care provider is NOT required, but is recommended prior to starting kindergarten. If you do not have health insurance or a healthcare provider, the school-based Healthy Kids Clinic provides free medical services.

**Student Residency Questionnaire**
All families enrolling students in the district are asked to complete this short questionnaire about their housing status. Please fill out this form to determine if you may be eligible for additional supports for your family.

**Optional Forms & Information**

**Application for Pupil Transportation**
Students who live over two miles from their Elementary & Jr High School (over three miles for High School students) may apply for Bus transportation by completing this form. Turn in the form to your child’s school.

**Half-Day Kindergarten Preference Form**
Fill out this form if you prefer your child attend a half-day kindergarten program in his/her neighborhood school. Please return to your building principal's office.

**Medication Administration Permission Form**
Please read and fill out the Parental Permission for Administering Medication at School form IF your child will need to be given any type of medication during the school day. These forms are available in the school office and on the district website, under Health Services.

**Additional Information**

**To Help Your Child Start Each Day Right**
- Be sure your child is well rested; ten to twelve hours of sleep is recommended for children going into kindergarten or first grade.
- Be sure your child is well nourished; meals should be well balanced and unhurried. Insist on wholesome and nutritious food. Avoid junk food.
- Be sure your child is properly dressed for the weather; be sure your child is dressed appropriately for cold and wet weather. All children go outside for recess unless the temperature or wind-chill is below zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit.

**In Case of Sickness**
- Be sure your child's school has the emergency number where you can be contacted in case your child gets sick or is injured at school. It is very important that the school be able to reach you in case of an emergency.
- Contact the school office when your child will be absent. Your child will only be excused from outside recess and physical education after an illness or injury with a note from your child's health care provider.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she is vomiting and/or has diarrhea, and for 24 hours after the vomiting and/or diarrhea have stopped.
- Keep your child home from school when he/she has a fever of 100 degrees (F) or more and for 24 hours after the fever is gone without fever reducing medication.
- If your child has diabetes, seizures, heart problems, or any other health conditions, please contact the school and the school nurse will obtain more information from you to help us meet your child's health needs.

**Healthy Kids School-Based Health Clinic** provides free medical care, including pre-participation sports physicals, immunizations, and sick care to children without health insurance. Please call the clinic coordinator at (319) 631-3204 to schedule an appointment. [www.iowacityschools.org/HealthyKids](http://www.iowacityschools.org/HealthyKids)

**Johnson County Public Health** provides immunizations to children without health insurance or with Medicaid. Call the Health Department at 319-356-6045 to schedule an appointment. [www.johnson-county.com/dept_health.aspx?id=12287](http://www.johnson-county.com/dept_health.aspx?id=12287)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the District’s Educational Services Center at (319) 688-1000.
KINDERGARTEN Literacy

Reading to Children

- Reinforces lifelong learning
- Creates a positive attitude toward reading
- Models a desire for the child to learn how to read
- Enlarges vocabulary
- Improves listening skills
- Allows for nurturing and shared experiences
- Demonstrates connections between oral and written language
- Sparks imagination

Tips for Busy Parents

- Put books in places where your child will see them
  - Carry books along on outings
- Keep books and magazines in your child’s room
  - Have your child help with the grocery list
    - Read road signs
  - Get taped recordings of books

As you are reading to your children:

- Have your child predict what the story will be about from the title and/or pictures
- Count objects in the book
- Find certain letters of the alphabet on a page
- Act out the story or retell the story when it is finished
- Tell your favorite part
- Talk about other books that have been read that remind you of this book
- Talk about what you learned from the book
- Read and recite nursery rhymes
- Read alphabet books

Ways to Encourage Writing

- Give your child markers or unlined paper and pencils
- Give your child a blackboard and chalk
- Draw pictures for or with your child
- Write messages to your child
- Show your child things you write
- Label your child’s possessions
- Make alphabet books
- Put magnetic letters on the refrigerator
Counting and exploring numbers:
- Pennies, buttons, and beads
- Beans and pasta
- Dominoes and game chips
- Muffin tins and egg cartons (to count into)
- Games such as Candy Land, Chutes and Ladders, Hi Ho! Cherry-O, and Hopscotch

Exploring shapes:
- Containers and boxes of various sizes and shapes
- Blocks
- Games such as tangrams

Measuring:
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Tape measures, rulers, scales, and timers
- Materials to scoop and measure such as sand, rice, tiny noodles, and dry beans

Finding patterns:
- Scraps of fabric, wallpaper, wrapping paper, decorative trim

Sorting:
- Buttons, coins, shells, seeds, and rocks
- Small toys or plastic figures
- Games such as Memory, Go Fish, Crazy Eights, and Old Maid

Other activities that involve math:
- Mazes
- Puzzles
- Games such as Checkers, Clue Jr., Connect Four, Mancala, Tic-Tac-Toe, Bingo, and Cootie
- Reading books that involve counting, measuring, shapes, or patterns
- Asking questions such as, “How many in all?” or “How many are left?”
Elementary Information 2019-2020

Alexander Elementary
3571 Sycamore Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1095 Fax: 688-1096
www.iowacityschools.org/AlexanderES

Borlaug Elementary
100 Kennedy Parkway
Coralville, IA 52241
688-1155 Fax: 688-1156
www.iowacityschools.org/BorlaugES

Coralville Central Elementary
501 6th Street
Coralville, IA 52241
688-1100 Fax: 688-1101
www.iowacityschools.org/CoralvilleCentralES

Garner Elementary
80 Birch Street
North Liberty, IA 52317
688-1190 Fax: 688-1191
www.iowacityschools.org/GarnerES

Grant Elementary
1000 N. Bend Drive
North Liberty, IA 52317
688-1500 Fax: 688-1501
www.iowacityschools.org/GrantES

Hills Elementary
301 Main Street
Hills, IA 52235
688-1105 Fax: 688-1106
www.iowacityschools.org/HillsES

Hoover Elementary
1355 Barrington Road
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1370 Fax: 688-1371
www.iowacityschools.org/HooverES

Horn Elementary
600 Koser Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52246
688-1115 Fax: 688-1116
www.iowacityschools.org/HornES

Kirkwood Elementary
1401 9th Street
Coralville, IA 52241
688-1120 Fax: 688-1121
www.iowacityschools.org/KirkwoodES

Lemke Elementary
3100 Washington Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1125 Fax: 688-1126
www.iowacityschools.org/LemkeES

Lincoln Elementary
300 Teeters Court
Iowa City, IA 52246
688-1130 Fax: 688-1131
www.iowacityschools.org/LincolnES

Longfellow Elementary
1130 Seymour Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52246
688-1135 Fax: 688-1136
www.iowacityschools.org/LongfellowES

Lucas Elementary
830 Southlawn Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1140 Fax: 688-1141
www.iowacityschools.org/LucasES

Mann Elementary
521 N. Dodge Street
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1145 Fax: 688-1146
www.iowacityschools.org/MannES

Penn Elementary
230 N Dubuque Street
North Liberty, IA 52317
688-1150 Fax: 688-1151
www.iowacityschools.org/PennES

Shimek Elementary
1400 Grissel Place
Iowa City, IA 52245
688-1160 Fax: 688-1161
www.iowacityschools.org/ShimekES

Twain Elementary
1355 De Forest
Iowa City, IA 52240
688-1165 Fax: 688-1166
www.iowacityschools.org/TwainES

Van Allen Elementary
170 Abigail Ave.
North Liberty, IA 52317
688-1185 Fax: 688-1186
www.iowacityschools.org/VanAllenES

Weber Elementary
3850 Rohret Rd.
Iowa City, IA 52246
688-1170 Fax: 688-1171
www.iowacityschools.org/WeberES

Wickham Elementary
1930 Lakeside Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52240
688-1180 fax: 688-1181
www.iowacityschools.org/WickhamES

The school calendar can be found on the District website: www.iowacityschools.org

Early Dismissal will be scheduled each Thursday (dismissing one hour early)

Inclement weather notifications can be found at the following:

- Blackboard phone call, email and text notifications
- Facebook: @iowacitySchools
- Twitter: @iowacitySchools
- Instagram: @iowacitySchools
- District Website: www.iowacityschools.org
- District Mobile App
- TV and Radio

The mission of the Iowa City Community School District is to ensure all students will become responsible, independent learners capable of making informed decisions in a democratic society as well as in the dynamic global community; this is accomplished by challenging each student with a rigorous and creative curriculum taught by a diverse, professional, caring staff and enriched through the resources and the efforts of families and the entire community.

Non-Discrimination Statement: It is the policy of the Iowa City Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Jeremy Tabor, Director of Equity and Employee Relations, 1725 N. Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52245, 319-688-1000, Tabor.Jeremy@iowacityschools.org.