

J-5 ENTRANCE AGE FOR KINDERGARTEN

Plainfield Community School Corporation offers a full-day kindergarten. To be eligible to enroll in the kindergarten program, a child must be five (5) years of age on or before August 1 of the enrolling school year. The child's birth date is to be verified by the presentation of a birth certificate or other satisfactory evidence of age for the school officials to register.

Students entering Plainfield Schools for the first time at any grade level shall furnish a written statement of immunization, accompanied by the physician's certificates or other documents, and testing history.

SOURCE: Plainfield Community School Corporation
Plainfield, Indiana

ADOPTED: Prior to 08/10/66

REVISED: 08/01/72, 03/10/76, 06/12/79, 02/13/86, 12/10/87
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12/12/13, 2/12/15, 5/10/2018, 5/9/2019, 5/14/2020



PCSC Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Criteria for Early Entrance to Kindergarten

A child is eligible for consideration for Early Entrance to Kindergarten (EEK) if s/he turns five (5) years of age between August 1 and October 1 of the enrolling school year. *No exceptions will be made for children born after October 1.* The child must demonstrate pre-academic/academic skills above average when compared to skills of the majority of entering kindergarteners, based on formal assessments and observations. In addition, s/he must demonstrate socialization and behavioral skills more advanced than the majority of entering kindergarteners, based upon results of a normative behavior rating scale, and kindergarten teacher observations made during a simulated kindergarten experience.

Students must perform at a high level in all critical areas listed below:

- Ability to separate easily from parent
- Ability to transition easily from task to task
- Ability to focus attention for appropriate amount of time during learning tasks
- Ability to complete tasks in a reasonable amount of time
- Relative ease in socializing with peers
- Ability to verbalize easily with teacher and peers
- Willingness to participate, share, and cooperate in groups
- Well-developed fine motor skills for drawing and cutting tasks

Procedures

To allow ample time for evaluation, those eligible to apply for early entrance must apply no later than two weeks before the beginning of the school year. The school principal will contact the family to schedule an interview and assessment. Parents may attend Kindergarten RoundUp at the designated school in the spring with the understanding that their child may not qualify for EEK the following fall.

Decision Making

The determination for eligibility for EEK is made by a consensus decision of the district assessment team. Each elementary school will give the same assessments with results tallied at the district level. A district team will determine cut scores for the upcoming school year. This determination is considered final. Results will be shared with parents through the school principal.

Follow-up

Annually, data will be gathered on all Early Entrants to Kindergarten to determine if the students are academically successful in their advanced placement. This data will help assess the effectiveness of the early entrance process.

Parent Considerations

Early Entrance to Kindergarten is to be viewed as a way to meet a child's needs. The developmental readiness of a child is important to determining the appropriateness of early entrance. Even if a child exhibits strong ability, s/he may not be a good candidate for early entrance. It is important to also consider the child's social maturity, personal development, and motor development.





EEK is designed for the exceptional child who is both academically ready as well as developmentally mature when compared to others his or her chronological age. Some considerations in determining the appropriateness of early entrance are:

- Is my child capable of working in a classroom setting with children who are one year older?
- Will my child be frustrated by this placement?
- What are the possible long-term impacts for my child as s/he progresses through elementary, middle and high school?
- Early entrance is not designed as a replacement for child care. Is this a need or a want?
- Do I understand the expectations for students in kindergarten?

Once the decision for early entrance has been made, the choice is difficult to reverse. If a child is evaluated as a good candidate for EEK, it is important that all stakeholders are supportive of the decision.

Please Note

Very few children qualify for EEK. Please make sure you proceed with child care arrangements as a contingency. If you are selecting a preschool program, understand that those programs fill up quickly. Please register your child as you normally would, but let the preschool know that your child is being screened for early entrance to kindergarten.

