



Kindergarten Countdown

Time has a way of moving surprisingly quickly and even though your child may have just started pre-k, before you know it, it will be time to begin thinking about kindergarten! Below is a guide for your family as you begin the transition to kindergarten!

DECEMBER



Find your child's neighborhood school at <https://gis.sdhc.k12.fl.us/schoollocator/>

Learn about school choice options: <https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/choice>

Find out when the Kindergarten Countdown event will be held at your child's school: <https://sdhc.k12.fl.us/kindergartencountdown/>

JANUARY-FEBRUARY



Know the procedures and required documents for enrolling your child in kindergarten www.hillsboroughschools.org/kindergarten

Attend Kindergarten Countdown!

MARCH-APRIL



Complete the school's enrollment process.

Required documentation:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Florida Physical HRS Form
- Florida Immunization Record
- Two forms of verification of address

Examples: utility bill, lease

MAY-AUGUST



Help your child develop independence by learning how to work belts, zippers, and buttons on clothing.

Read books together about kindergarten.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS

Talk with your child about what will happen during the school day and about making new friends in kindergarten.

Start to establish an evening "going-to-bed" and a morning "getting-ready-for-school" routine.

If your child will bring a lunch, practice opening and closing food storage containers and bags.

Plan to attend a back to school event to learn more about your child's school, the kindergarten program, and to meet your child's teacher.

Talk with the school nurse/your child's teacher if your child has allergies, dietary restrictions, or special needs.

Practice the route from the car or bus circle to the classroom with your child before school starts to develop confidence in new routines.

Help your child lay out clothes and backpack for the following day.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Allow plenty of time to get ready for school.

If you are taking your child to school, leave early to allow time to find parking and navigate the school.

Make sure your child and the child's teacher knows how the child will be going home.

Have fun and celebrate the first day of kindergarten with your child!

Begin to establish good attendance habits by making sure your child attends kindergarten every day.

Make backup plans to be sure your child can get to school on rainy days.

After school talk with your child about their day.

Read everything the school sends home.

Become involved in your child's education.