

# Prekindergarten in Prairie Spirit School Division



Prekindergarten is active, experiential learning through play, focused on the development of the whole child: physically, socially, emotionally, spiritually and intellectually.

Prekindergarten focuses on:

- · fostering social development and self-esteem
- nurturing educational growth and school success
- promoting language development

The Prekindergarten program is designed for **three and four-year-old** children who would benefit from extra support prior to starting school. The program offers developmental opportunities and supports for children at an early age, provided by school-based staff with recommendations from Division-based staff.

Each Pre-k class has 16 spaces available and is part of the elementary school. Pre-k is led by a professional teacher who is experienced in Early Childhood Education.

Pre-k is a half-day program that follows the school year calendar, with time designated for special events and family engagement activities.

The year begins with the Pre-k teacher arranging individual visits with the child and their family.

Message from Tracey Young, Director of Education

Prairie Spirit School Division is excited to join with you in supporting your child's learning journey.

We are committed to partnering with you on this journey, families and school together. We are humbled by your trust and grateful for the opportunity to support and nurture the learning development and wellbeing of your child together with you.

We recognize that the decision to be part of a Pre-k program is made with excitement and caution as you open up your family to include others in your child's life. We promise to create a place of safety and care, recognizing that Pre-k is one of the many firsts in the life of a child.

We look forward to working and learning together as we support your child's passions and dreams.

## Applying for the Prekindergarten program

To participate in the Pre-k program, parents must complete an online Pre-k application for their child: <u>Application for Prekindergarten Program</u>. Please contact your local school if you need assistance in completing an application.

A school division selection committee will review the Pre-k applications received. Decisions about the class are made based on the Ministry of Education's specific criteria and the availability of spaces, while meeting the needs of the most vulnerable children first. Other determining factors that are specific to each child will also be taken into consideration.

## Frequently asked questions

#### How is Prekindergarten different than preschool?

Preschool or play-school are community-driven and community funded. The Pre-k program is entirely funded by the provincial government and administered by the local school. **There is no cost to parents for Pre-k.** 

A Pre-k program has a minimum of 12 hours of instruction per week. This program is not meant to replace any preschool programs already operating in the community.

#### How do I know if my child qualifies?

The Pre-k program is designed for three and four-year-old children who would benefit from extra support prior to starting school. A child who has a specific challenge in the area of social, behavioral, emotional, cognitive or communicative skills will be considered.

For the 2024/25 school year, children born in 2020 or 2021 are eligible to apply for the Pre-k program at their local school. Please see the list of Pre-k programs offered in Prairie Spirit schools (below).

#### What is my involvement in the program as a parent?

The Pre-k teacher encourages the active involvement of family members in the classroom. The Pre-k teacher works together with families to form positive relationships that promote shared responsibility for a child's learning and development.

Parents will be invited to attend special events and family engagement activities, scheduled throughout the school year. There is no parent volunteer commitment in the classroom as there would be in a cooperative preschool program.

For more information about Pre-k, please contact your local school. Pre-k applications close on May 15.

## Prekindergarten programs in Prairie Spirit

Allan Composite School

Phone: 306-257-3311 Email: allan@spiritsd.ca Clavet Composite School

Phone: 306-933-1022 Email: clavet@spiritsd.ca

**Dundurn School** Phone: 306-492-2050

Email: dundurnschool@spiritsd.ca

**Hague Elementary School** 

Phone: 306-225-2104 Email: hes@spiritsd.ca

Lake Vista Public School (Martensville)

Phone: 306-683-4300 Email: lakevista@spiritsd.ca

Open to both public and Catholic students in Martensville.

**Leask Community School** Phone: 306-466-2206 Email: leask@spiritsd.ca

Lord Asquith School

Phone: 306-329-4331 Email: las@spiritsd.ca

**Rosthern Community School** 

Phone: 306-232-4868 Email: rcs@spiritsd.ca

Stobart Community School (Duck Lake)\*

Phone: 306-467-2185 Email: stobart@spiritsd.ca

**Venture Heights Elementary School (Martensville)** 

Phone: 306-934-2185 Email: vhs@spiritsd.ca

Open to both public and Catholic students in Martensville.

École Warman Elementary School\*

Phone: 306-933-2066 Email: wes@spiritsd.ca

Open to both public and Catholic students in Warman.

\*school offers two Pre-k programs