

# YOUR CHILD IS STARTING KINDERGARTEN FOR 4-YEAR-OLDS OR 5-YEAR-OLDS

INFORMATION

FOR PARENTS





# BEGINNING A NEW JOURNEY TOGETHER



Your children take  
a crucial step in their  
developmental process  
as they enter  
a new world of discovery  
and learning.



We are delighted to welcome you to this new adventure. As parents, you are valued partners in your children's educational success. The school team<sup>1</sup> sees you as essential partners who can encourage your children in their first steps in school and support them at every stage along the way.



Because its mission is to spark your children's enthusiasm for school, kindergarten plays an essential role in their development process. Your children are welcomed with open arms and every effort is made to take into account their background, experiences and culture.

1. The term "school team" refers to all school staff who work on behalf of the children.

**We believe  
in your children and  
in their ability to learn,  
and we listen to  
their needs.**



# THE PRESCHOOL CYCLE PROGRAM OF THE MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉDUCATION



The **Preschool Cycle Program** is for children who attend kindergarten for 4-year-olds and 5-year-olds.

**With the intention of promoting school success, the mandate of preschool education is as follows:**

- **To foster the global development of all children:**
  - Provide a reassuring, welcoming and inclusive environment
  - Cultivate enjoyment through exploration, discovery and learning
  - Lay the foundations for future schooling
- **To take preventive action:**
  - Provide universal prevention activities
  - Provide targeted prevention activities





# THE JOY OF LEARNING

In kindergarten, **play is the best way to learn**. The classroom is full of different types of evolving play. It is organized in such a way as to foster the children's participation and encourage them to explore.

Play contributes to enjoyment and involvement in learning. It fosters your children's curiosity, autonomy, social skills, creativity and ability to find solutions to the problems they encounter.

When a child plays alone, either games that they initiate or that the teacher suggests, as well as when they play with their peers, these are great opportunities to develop skills that will allow them to reach their full potential. With the support of their teachers, your children will become more involved and engaged in more complex play. By participating in activities led by the teacher, your children will acquire knowledge that will foster their educational success.

When children play,  
all their senses  
are awakened, and  
their minds develop  
in extraordinary  
ways.



# YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT



In kindergarten, the Preschool Cycle Program aims to foster each child's **global development** and to take **preventive action**, whether in the classroom, the gym or the schoolyard. These quality environments allow children to blossom and grow in order to reach their full potential.

The program covers five areas of development (physical and motor development, emotional development, social development, language development and cognitive development).



# A PARTNER IN THEIR JOURNEY



By talking to your children about what they experience in the classroom every day, you help them view school in a positive light. You become **valued partners** in their discoveries by engaging with them about their play, their songs, their projects and their relationships with others, to name just a few examples. In so doing, you contribute to maintaining your children's **perseverance** and **motivation**.

The school team uses various means to keep you informed of your children's progress. This information reflects the child's development.

We believe that you have your children's well-being and success at heart and know that, **TOGETHER**, we can support their development.



# A CARING TEAM



**An entire team** is on hand to welcome your children, and to take care of their well-being, safety and health. At the centre of this team is the teacher your children will interact with on a daily basis, but the school's professional resources are also available to support your children's needs, if necessary. The school team will be there for your children to help them succeed in their new environment.

# SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN

We encourage you to play an active role by taking part in the activities organized by the school and the governing board. Contact your school for more information. The educational project and commitment-to-success plan of your children's school provide information about the school's objectives and the steps it is taking to help students succeed.

**A relationship based on mutual respect and trust will strengthen the school-family bond.**

**You can count on the school, just as the school depends on you, to help your children meet this demanding and exciting challenge.**

© Gouvernement du Québec  
Ministère de l'Éducation

ISBN 978-2-550-90641-4 (Print)  
ISBN 978-2-550-90642-1 (PDF)

Legal Deposit – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, 2022