



Welcome to Kindergarten for the 2017-18 Academic Year!

**Your child must be 5-years-old on or before August 31, 2017 to enroll.
Enroll your child at your assigned school starting March 1, 2017.**

Starting Kindergarten is a big step. We are excited to help make this a positive experience for you, your child and for the teachers who will be your partner in the coming year. To enroll, here's what you need to KNOW and DO, and what you need to BRING to the school your child will attend.

What you need to KNOW and DO?

Determine where your child will attend Kindergarten.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the online tool at www.gcsnc.com and click on "School Assignment Locator" under the Schools tab or Quick Links Section. Follow online directions. • If you don't have access to the Internet, please call (336) 370-8303.
Prepare your documents for registration.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the enclosed Application for Enrollment • Complete the enclosed Pupil Data Sheet • Take the enclosed North Carolina Health Assessment Transmittal Form to your child's 5-year-old well visit and ask your child's doctor/health provider to complete the form. (Make sure your child receives a vision and hearing screening, too.) • Ask your child's doctor/health provider for your child's updated immunization record. (See page 2 for list of required immunizations.) • See below for other materials you need to bring to school when you register.

What you need to BRING to your child's assigned elementary school.

APPLICATION MATERIALS & BIRTH CERTIFICATE	PROOF OF RESIDENCE	HEALTH ASSESSMENT REPORT *
Completed Application for Enrollment	Collect and bring the item(s) listed in A, B, C, D, E <u>OR</u> F below. Your document must show the name and address of the child's parent or court-appointed guardian.	Fully completed NC Health Assessment Transmittal Form
AND	OR	AND
Completed Pupil Data Sheet	A. A utility bill dated within the past 30 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural gas, water or electric bill (telephone and cable bills will not be accepted) 	Immunization (shots) record from your child's doctor/ health provider. * These documents must be submitted within 30 days of the start of school.
AND	OR	
Child's Certified Birth Certificate	B. Rental Agreement or Lease Agreement	
AND	OR	
	C. Driver's License/ State ID card (from Department of Motor Vehicles) AND Voter Registration Card	
	OR	
	D. Driver's License/State ID card AND Car Registration	
	OR	
	E. Driver's License/State ID card AND letter from employer verifying address (must be on company letterhead)	
	OR	
	F. Driver's license/ State ID card OR voter registration card AND Medicaid card	

Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get a certified copy of my child's birth certificate?

- Contact the Register of Deeds in the county or state where your child was born. If your child was born in Guilford County, call **(336) 641-7556**.

Where do I get my child's immunization records?

You can get a copy from your child's health care provider. Immunizations required by state law include:

- 4 or 5 DTP/ DTaP (last dose must be on/after 4th birthday)
- 3 or 4 Polio (last dose on/after 4th birthday)
- 2 Measles* (1st dose must be given on/after 12 months of age)
- 2 Mumps* (1st dose must be given on/after 12 months of age)
- 1 Rubella* (must be given on/after 12 months of age)
- 3 Hepatitis B (last dose must be given after 5 months of age)
- 2 Varicella (first dose must be given on/ after 12 months of age)

What if my family is in transition?

- If your family doesn't have a permanent residence, your child has certain educational rights under federal legislation. Forms and information are available at each school or the Student Assignment Office (120 Franklin Blvd., Greensboro, NC).

A *Student in Transition Affidavit* **must** be completed for each child. For questions, contact the office of Homeless and Transitional Services at **(336) 621-4001**.

Where can I find more information?

- Visit **www.gcsnc.com** (under the "Quick Links" tab, click on "Enroll a Child in School.")
- Download the **Guilford County Schools App** to learn more about the district and the school your child will attend.
- Call the **GCS Student Assignment Office** at **(336) 370-8303**.

What else should I do?

- **Complete additional forms provided by your child's school.** When you submit your materials to the school office, your child's school will give you other forms about bus transportation, after-school care (if available at that location), and other school-specific information.
- **Attend any "Welcome to Kindergarten" events** that will happen at your child's school.
- **See the attached page for ways you can help your child prepare for Kindergarten.**

Ways to Help Your Child Get Ready for Kindergarten

Kindergarten has changed over the years, and there are five key areas of focus when it comes to readiness (shown below). Want to learn more? Join the “Fabulous Fives - Guilford County” Facebook page to get accurate, timely information that can help with this transition to Kindergarten.

Approaches to Play & Learning

- **Encourage your child to watch, wonder, and ask questions.** Help your child find answers for questions in books, newspapers, the internet or library, or by trying it out.
- **Show interest in your child’s play—talk about it or join in.** Ask questions and introduce some new ideas. For example, if your child is playing grocery store, use old food boxes and write the “price” of the food on the box. You can cut up paper to use for money, and “buy” things at the store.

Emotional & Social Development

- **Talk about friendships and how to be a good friend.** Teach your child how to get along with others: “Let’s set the table together. I’ll get the plates. Could you please get the forks?”
- **Talk about feelings with your child.** Talk about some ways people can feel when things happen: “Your granddad is happy when you draw him a picture” or “Your brother feels angry when you take his toy.”

Health & Physical Development

- **Offer your child a variety of healthy foods,** and teach him to clean up small spills. You can have your child help with meal time routines. Teach your child how to take off and put on clothes and use zippers and buttons. Try to leave enough time for your child to dress himself.
- **Encourage your child to try new challenges, such as climbing, kicking, and catching and throwing balls.** Play active games with rules, like soccer or tag. Talk about health and safety, and show your child how you use healthy and safe behavior—washing hands, holding hands in crowded places, and more.
- **Help your child gets plenty of sleep each night** (10 to 12 hours is recommended).

Language Development & Communication

- **Talk with your preschooler all the time.** Listen, ask and answer questions. Introduce new words.
- **Try to read picture books every day.** Read the words or make some up. Talk about the pictures and ask questions about the story. Re-read favorite stories and different kinds of books, too.
- **Encourage your child to write, using paper and pencils/crayons.** Praise her efforts, even though some of her marks may not look like the letters she is trying to write.
- **Whatever language you speak at home, continue to use it at home and in our community.** Learning two languages is good for a child’s brain development!

Cognitive Development

- **Encourage your child’s interests and curiosity.** Get books from the library about things that interest your child, such as sports, insects, super heroes or flowers. Share your interests with your child, and talk about things that you find interesting. Let her know that you think learning is fun, too!
- **Take advantage of free experiences.** Go to the library, a museum, church, school, the park or even a local business for free music, art, drama and dancing for your family to watch and join.
- **Count and measure things in your daily routines.** Ask questions that encourage your child to count, compare, and predict. (For example: “Let’s count how many cars are parked on this street.” “How many more cars will fit on our street? What will happen if a very big car comes?”)

Source: North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning & Development

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