



Kindergarten in the Stamford Public Schools

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Stamford Public Schools

EXCELLENCE IS THE POINT.

Our Mission

The mission of the Stamford Public Schools is to provide an education that cultivates productive habits of mind, body and heart in every student.

Our Vision

The Stamford Public Schools will be a learning organization that continuously improves its effective, innovative and transformational teaching and learning. We will challenge, inspire and prepare all students to be productive contributing members of society.



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Our District Overview

- 23 schools
 - 1 Early Childhood Center
 - 13 Elementary School
 - 5 Middle Schools
 - 3 High Schools
 - Adult Ed Program

7 Magnet Programs

3 IB Programs

2 College Dual Enrollment Options

- 75 languages spoken in students' homes (approx)
- 13 % English language learners (approx)
- 57% Free/reduced lunch (approx)



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Where will my child go to School?



Davenport Ridge
Elementary School



NEWFIELD
Elementary School



NORTHEAST
Elementary School



JULIA A. STARK
Elementary School



ROXBURY
Elementary School



STILLMEADOW
Elementary School



WESTOVER MAGNET
Elementary School



SPRINGDALE
Elementary School



KT Murphy
Elementary School



Hart Magnet
Elementary School



ROGERS INTERNATIONAL
A K-8 IB World School



Strawberry Hill

An Extension of Rogers International School



TOQUAM MAGNET
Elementary School



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Virtual Tours of Elementary Schools

[Davenport Ridge](#)

[Hart](#)

[Stark](#)

[KT Murphy](#)

[Newfield](#)

[Northeast](#)

[Rogers](#)

[Roxbury English](#)

[Roxbury Spanish](#)

[Springdale](#)

[Stillmeadow](#)

[Strawberry Hill](#)

[Toquam](#)

[Westover](#)



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Is my child *ready* for Kindergarten?

- ❖ Children are eligible for kindergarten if they are age 5 on or before January 1st 2023.
- ❖ *“According to research, keeping an age-eligible child out of kindergarten does not result in any long-term benefits.”* CSDE



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Stamford's Definition of Kindergarten Readiness

Habits of the Mind

Habits of mind enables a kindergartner to:

- Develop communication skills
- Answer questions
- Follow directions
- Identify and manipulate shapes, letters and numbers
- Solve problems
- Tell a story through pictures
- Acquire pre-reading skills like rhyming and breaking words into sounds
- Recognize their name in print
- Actively participate in learning
- Attend to instruction
- Interact with a book

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when their minds are flexible, inquisitive, focused and ready to learn.

Habits of the Body

Habits of body enables a kindergartner to:

- Listen
- Take care of their belongings and perform tasks like putting coat away, toileting independently, cleaning up after themselves
- Use scissors and hold pencils/crayons properly
- Follow classroom routines/ rules
- Adhere to regular bedtime and hygiene routines

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when they have the strength to regulate a range of motor development and self-help skills.

Habits of the Heart

Habits of heart enables a kindergartner to:

- Take turns
- Learn how to resolve conflicts
- Learn to identify and handle emotions
- Play imaginatively
- Make choices
- Express love and kindness towards others
- Possess self-esteem
- Seek out others to play with
- Form friendships

Stamford students are ready for kindergarten when they can be mindful of their emotions and how those emotions affect others.



Brochure Available by emailing
Kbrown@stamfordct.gov



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Pre-school skills helpful for Kindergarten!

- Personal Social Skills
- Language & Literacy Skills
- Numeracy Skills
- Physical & Motor Skills
- Creative Skills



[CT ELDS Strategies for Learning at Home](#)



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What will my child learn in Kindergarten?

- ❖ Reading
- ❖ Writing
- ❖ Mathematics
- ❖ Science/Social Studies
- ❖ Life Skills- cooperative group work, technology
- ❖ Art, Media Center, Music, Phys Ed
- ❖ Social Emotional Skills (Kindness, Cooperation)



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What's a typical in person schedule?

❖	8:45 a.m.	Morning Meeting
❖	9:00 a.m.	Read Aloud
❖	9:30 a.m.	Reading
❖	10:30	Snack
❖	10:45	Centers
❖	11:25	Lunch
❖	11:50	Recess
❖	12:10	Writing
❖	1:05	Art, Music, P.E. or Media
❖	1:50	Snack
❖	2:05	Math
❖	2:50	Science/Social Studies
❖	3:30	Dismissal



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How are children assigned to classrooms?

Building Administrators consider the following:

- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Ethnicity
- ❖ Learning Styles and Needs
- ❖ Data: Pre-School Screening Form and PELI Literacy Screening



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How do teachers work with children who are learning at different levels?

- ❖ Small Group Instruction
- ❖ Learning Centers
- ❖ Intervention Supports



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What are ELL classroom supports?

Indicators:

- ❖ Home Language Survey
- ❖ Observation Form & English Proficiency Interview form w/ Q&A
- ❖ PreLAS score 1-5
 - ❖ Identified as an ELL Student
 - ❖ Supports: (Differentiation in the mainstream classroom)
 - ❖ ESL Services, Bilingual Classroom, New Arrivals



Students with Special Needs

- If your child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and attends APPLES, your child's current PPT team will work with the Kindergarten team to develop a plan for services for kindergarten to ensure that your child is optimizing their ability to access the general education curriculum.
- If your child does NOT have a current IEP, and you have a concern, please call Gabrielle Massa at 203 977-6666 or email her at gmassa@stamfordct.gov.



Specialized Programs in the Stamford Public Schools

Presented by Kathy Quaglino, Assistant Director of Special Education

Email: kquaglino@stamfordct.gov

Phone Number: 203 977 5621

- Team- Together Everyone Achieves More
- CORE- Creating Opportunities for Readiness and Exploration
- ASD programs supporting students on the spectrum



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TEAM Classrooms

- Together Everyone Achieves More
- This program currently services students that are medically fragile and require require a health care plan that is closely monitored by a nurse.
- Students require adaptive equipment, specialized augmentative communication, and assistive technology in order to access their environment.
- Art and music therapy are provided to support the student's ability to become connected to their environment.



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CORE Classrooms

- Creating Opportunities for Readiness and Exploration.
- Students have challenges with intellectual functioning, social skills, and daily living skills.
- Classrooms have at least one teacher, three paras, and up to 8 students.
- Related supports include: BCBA, speech and language, occupational therapy, social skills, and physical therapy



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Programs supporting students with a diagnosis of Autism

- Students are diagnosed on the spectrum or require a more intensive systematic approach to learning.
- These students also get art and music therapy
- Learning is occurring in small groups, with individual instruction as well. Data is taken to drive educational decision making.
- Related services can include BCBA, speech therapy, social skills, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.



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School Look Up

www.Stamfordpublicschools.org

The Stamford Public Schools prepares each and every student for higher education and success in a

Home

Information?

Schools

District

Parents

Staff

Curriculum



Click Information?
Next, click School-Lookup

Step 1 - Select Street Name: In this section a dropdown with all the street names in Stamford are listed. Click on the dropdown and select your street. Once your street name is selected, you will see a list of street numbers in Step 2

Step 2 - Select your House Number: Select your house number from the list provided by clicking on select on a given line. Please note that some streets are categorized with odd and even numbers.

Beginning House Number	Ending House Number	Side of Street	Street Name
<u>Select1</u>	<u>9999</u> <u>B</u>		<u>ABEL AVE</u>

Step 3 - Results: After you have completed Steps 1 and 2, your results will appear below.



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What time does the school day begin and end? (Approximate)

Davenport, Hart, K. T. Murphy, Strawberry Hill,
Rogers International, Roxbury, Springdale, Stark,
Toquam and Westover

9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Newfield, Northeast and Stillmeadow

8:10 AM to 2:40 PM



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Which are the magnet schools?

How do I apply?

- **Stamford has Five Elementary Magnet Schools**
Hart, Rogers, Strawberry Hill, Toquam, Westover
- It is not *what* is taught but *how* it is taught that makes a magnet school different
- All schools are held to the same standards and content demands
- Methods of delivery and focus vary among magnet schools.

Elementary Magnet School Lottery applications is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2021. The lottery drawing is Wednesday, December 15, 2021 and acceptances are due on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

Once you are accepted to a magnet school, you must respond “yes” or “no” by the deadline (January 18th) and register your child for school by March 1st.



[SPS Magnet Website](#)



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How do I enroll my child for Kindergarten?

- ❖ Step 1 - Complete registration form online
 - [SPS Registration Link](#) (Registration for the 22-23 school year should be open by January 30th)
- ❖ Registration documents can be dropped off in the mailbox in lobby of Government Center (888 Washington Boulevard)
- ❖ For questions please call: 203-977-5312 or email ofce@stamfordct.gov



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What documents will I need to register my child?

Personal Identification Documents

- ❖ *Registration can only be done by a parent or the child's legal guardian.*
- ❖ Photo ID of Parent or Legal Guardian
 - (Drivers License, Photo ID)
- ❖ Child's **Original** Birth Certificate or Passport including **parents' names**



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What documents will I need to register my child?

Proof of Residence in Stamford Documents

- ❖ A current Rental Lease, or Deed or Tax bill showing ownership of a residence in Stamford
 - **IMPORTANT:** If you are not listed on a lease, you must submit a **notarized Residency Form**.
- ❖ A current utility bill – gas, electric or water service
- ❖ Your name **must** be on all documents submitted.

For questions please email ofce@stamfordct.gov



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What documents will I need to register my child?

Health Requirements Documents

- ❖ Proof of Immunization Record, completed by a doctor
- ❖ Proof of Physical Exam form, completed by a doctor, for a physical exam **within one year** of the beginning of the school year in which the child is enrolling
- ❖ Children coming from outside the United States must have a physical completed by a U.S. physician
- ❖ Parent **must complete and sign the 1st page** of the Physical Exam Form
- ❖ **Health Assessment Form**



Emergency Contact Information

Emergencies happen!

Children get sick, Snowstorms require early dismissal, After School activities can be canceled.

- ❖ The registration process will ask you for Emergency Contacts. These are people who you are giving the school permission to contact to pick up your child in case of an emergency. **It is extremely important that you provide this information and that it is accurate.**



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Will my child have bus transportation?



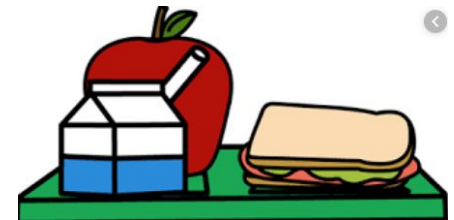
- ❖ You must live at least 1 mile from school.
- ❖ Bus stops and times are posted in the Parent Portal account the weekend before the school year begins.
- ❖ An adult must meet a kindergarten child at the bus stop. Be flexible with times!



Can my child get breakfast and lunch at school?

<https://www.stamfordpublicschools.org/district/chartwells-dining-services/pages/pay-school-meals>

- ❖ Current Paid Breakfast Fee \$1.50
- ❖ Current Paid Lunch Fee \$2.85
- ❖ Current Paid Milk Fee \$0.50



These are estimates, the price could change.

- ❖ Connecticut State Department of Education's *Application for Free and Reduced Lunch* should be completed each year! <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>
- ❖ *If you already qualify for SNAP or HUSKY –no need to apply. But you should apply for other programs and discounts!*



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What about before and after school care?

- ❖ Separate from the Stamford Public Schools
- ❖ Complete all required paperwork and payment of fees
- ❖ Transportation may be provided to some off-school site programs
- ❖ Snacks
- ❖ Homework support
- ❖ Make sure the school knows where your child should be
- ❖ Any schedule changes must be given to the school in writing!

For a list of local childcare providers, visit:
bit.ly/StamfordProviders



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Summer Start

Summer Start



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What should I do to help my child be ready to start kindergarten?

- ❖ **Plan a good-bye ritual**
- ❖ Establish routines for meals and bedtimes
- ❖ Help your child do as much for himself as possible
- ❖ Encourage the love of books and reading
- ❖ Attend Kindergarten Orientation
- ❖ Attend Play and Learn Nights
- ❖ Ask for help when you need it



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Resources for Families

- [SPS Welcome Video](#)
- [Link to SPS K Registration Page](#)
- Social Stories- [Going to Kindergarten](#), [Masks and Safety](#)
- [Link to the Ferguson Library](#)
- [Link to Stamford Public Education Foundation](#)
- [Hello Kindergarten: Home](#)
- [Read Aloud- The Night Before Kindergarten](#)
- [Parent Guide to ELDS 4-5](#)



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Questions and Answer

