

## KINDERGARTEN READINESS

*A kindergarten-ready child has a strong foundation in social emotional development, oral language, reading and writing, thinking skills, and physical development. Thoughtful and engaging early experiences, beginning at birth, strengthen these kindergarten readiness indicators.*

*Children who meet our community's age requirements for kindergarten are ready for school in many areas, but may need support in others. All children develop differently over time. It is normal for children to have strengths in some areas of growth and development and not in others.*

*The following indicators are not meant to **prevent** a child from entering kindergarten; they are simply to show **typical child development** at this age.*

*It is the responsibility of our schools to be ready for all of our children.*

- **Self-Control:** A child, who is socialized to solve problems through words, takes turns, and pays attention is ready to be a good classroom citizen.
- **Self-Confidence:** Confident, enthusiastic children are ready to learn. They follow their curiosity and are quick to recover from mistakes.
- **Oral Language:** When babies and young children hear words and engage in conversations with adults, they learn language. A growing vocabulary strengthens a child's readiness for reading and writing.
- **Reading and Writing:** When babies and children are read to and see their parents reading, they begin to connect the written word with the spoken word. When they are exposed to books that interest and captivate them, they begin to develop a love of reading.
- **Thinking:** Children are natural scientists, exploring and questioning. Their first hands-on experiments teach them about the world and help them get ready for math and science.
- **Physical Development:** When children are active, healthy, well-nourished and well-rested, they are ready to learn.