

KINDERGARTEN READINESS CHECKLIST

Starting Kindergarten is an important step for your child. Because development rates vary so much between the ages of 4 and 7 years, the actual time of readiness for each child also varies. Readiness does not predict how smart, competent, or talented a child will be later; rather, it is a measure of a child's social maturity now.

Children ready for kindergarten must do more than learn academics. They must be able to interact with others, follow directions, and function reasonably well in a group. The readiness list below is intended as an overview of skills and qualities that parents can discuss with early educators, school staff, and health care providers when it is time to assess whether their child should begin kindergarten. It is a broad measure designed to help you be a better observer of your child's readiness skills.

Social and Emotional Development

- Separates easily from parent/caregiver
- Can meet/play with different children of his/her own age
- Participates in group setting
- Can follow two-part directions
- Demonstrates self-control in work and play

Cognitive Development

- Can listen to a story
- Recognizes own name in print
- Communicates easily
- Identifies five shapes
- Identifies and names primary colors
- Can count 1-20
- Can identify numerals 1-12
- Identifies 20 letters of the alphabet
- Can sort and label objects into sub-groups
- Makes eye contact during conversations
- Pays attention to task through completion

Physical Development

- Demonstrates toileting skills
- Buttons and zips
- Can use scissors
- Can use writing utensils
- Bounces and catches a ball

If your child has acquired most of the skills on this checklist and will be five years old by December 31, 2022, he or she is probably ready for kindergarten. If you have any concerns, please contact the Enfield Public Schools at (860)253-6500 or the school that your child will be attending.