



Alexander Ferguson School

Open House
January 2024



Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Kindergarten at AFS
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Learning Through *PLAY*



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Early Literacy & Numeracy





Kindergarten at AFS

AFS is an Art Focused, Inclusive Community

- Focus on learning through the arts
 - Artist residencies
- Play based program
 - Focus on literacy, numeracy, social, fine and gross motor skills through high quality play
- Everyone is welcome
 - Multitude of supports available
- Small school community
 - Active school council, parent society and volunteers
- Before and after school
 - On-site Out of School Care
 - No bussing – guardians responsible for hand to hand drop off/pick up

AFS Out Of School Care for Kindergarten

(AFESSOSC)



Offers full-time out of school care to Kindergarten Children who are registered at Alexander Ferguson school.

Program hours are Monday – Friday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. The program is open on **regular school days** only. CLOSED on all PD days, Conference, Teachers' Convention, Winter Break, Spring Break and Summer Break.

Alberta Government Subsidy is available. This is a highly sought after program and has already received multiple registrations for next year.

For registration, fees, or subsidy information please contact our program director:

Bev Soroka afessosc@gmail.com

AFS Out Of School Care for Kindergarten



AFS School Council and Parent Society



- The connection between the school and the community
- Play an advisory role to the school administration, ensuring the perspective of the parent community is represented in decision making
- Organise fundraising for the school
- Coordinate school events
- Run the out of school care program

The best way to have your voice heard is to join us at the table

AFS SC /PS What do meetings look like?



- Every meeting includes an informative update from the school administration addressing a variety of topics from budgeting to teaching approaches
- Every meeting we hear from one of our teachers about current teaching innovations happening in the classroom.
- Plan and discuss school events and initiatives

Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Build your child's independence by encouraging them to:



- Dress themselves (zippers, buttons)
- Use the bathroom and wash their hands on their own
- Put away toys and help around the home
- Practice opening and closing snack containers and using a water bottle
- Play games, take turns and compromise
- Develop a consistent bedtime routine



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Take time to talk and read with your child about everyday!

- Talk, read, sing and play in *your first language* every day, develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- Share special activities together, such as walks to the park
- Talk about what you are seeing and doing
- Praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks
- *Talk about how it is okay to make mistakes*
- Visit your community library (when possible)
- Encourage your child to talk about the pictures and stories as you read together



AFS Community



What you can expect at AFS over the next 7 years



- Small community school
- Arts based learning (integrated into all subjects)
- Highly involved/supportive school council
- Share special activities together, such as Gully Day and Winter Lunch
- Work with artist and gym residencies



Volunteering



We are always looking for volunteers

- **Current police clearance is required**
- **Annual authorization forms are required (annually!)**
- **Must have been an Alberta Resident for a minimum of 1 year (to receive police clearance)**

Process:

- **Share ID with office/admin personnel**
- **Complete annual authorization form**
- **Receive CBE letter**
- **Complete application, and submit payment, online**
- **Receive clearance letter from CPS or RCMP**
- **Share letter with office/admin personnel**

Registration Information



How do you register your child for Kindergarten?
Started Monday, January 15, 2024, ongoing for all students
in our catchment area.



All the information you need can be access here:
<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/registration/registration/Pages/Kindergarten-to-Grade-9.aspx>

The entire registration process is now online!
Confirmation will be received starting near the end of
February and continuing throughout the remainder of the
school year.



ELL parents, please check the CBE website for information
about Google Translate and how it can help you complete
your child's registration.

Registration Information cont'd



- For students born outside of Canada:
- Follow the same online steps to register your child.
- Please ensure to **upload all of the required documents** so as not to delay the application.
- If you are New To CBE, once you have submitted the registration form through SchoolEngage, **Welcome Centre staff will contact you** to arrange an appointment to complete the registration.
- If you have any questions or need assistance please contact the Welcome Centre at 403-817-7789 or welcome@cbe.ab.ca.

Questions

