

**Students entering kindergarten should be able to...**

**LIFE SKILLS**

- Listen to and follow 1 and 2 step directions
- Show a strong desire to be independent
- Play well with other children
- Have strong fine-motor skills
- Be able to dress themselves and feed themselves
- Be able to sit for 10-20 minutes
- Be separated easily from parent
- Express themselves verbally
- Be able to tuck in their shirt

**HYGIENE**

- Students should be potty trained
- Be able to wash their hands correctly
- Know to sneeze and cough in their elbow

**ACADEMIC**

- Read his/her name
- Recite the alphabet
- Recognize some letters in the alphabet
- Correspond some letters to sounds
- Make simple rhymes
- Hold a book correctly
- Know that the proper progression of text is from left to right and top to bottom
- Retell a favorite story
- Know colors and shapes
- Count and recognize numbers 1-10
- Hold a pencil, crayon, and scissors correctly
- Be able to cut
- Print first name using a capital letter for only the first letter

**Irvington Community Elementary School**

Irvington Community Elementary School is a tuition-free public charter school sponsored by the Indianapolis Mayor's Office of Education Innovation. Our school is open to all students. ICES features highly skilled teachers, well-rounded curriculum, and community-based support. ICES strives to make a difference in the lives of our students by preparing them not only academically but as contributing members of society.

The elementary school's team of highly qualified teachers includes Special Education, Physical Education, Art, Music, and Technology teachers dedicated to delivering a high-quality, foundation-building educational experience. Instructional assistants are available to support students' learning through small-group instruction and one-on-one intervention. Instructional assistants provide instructional interventions for the most at-risk learners. Irvington Community Elementary School also provides a full-time licensed school counselor to assist students with their social and emotional development.

**Contact Us**

Deanna Dehner  
Principal  
Phone: (317) 357-5359  
Email: [ddehner@ics-charter.org](mailto:ddehner@ics-charter.org)  
Web: [www.ics-charter.org](http://www.ics-charter.org)

# Kindergarten

# Readiness



# A Kindergarten Transition Guide for Families

# Five Domains of Kindergarten Readiness

## PHYSICAL WELL-BEING AND MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

- Children's physical development (e.g. growth patterns of height and weight)
- Health status (the ability to see and hear)
- Physical abilities (e.g. ability to move to get needs met, assisted or unassisted)
- Proper nutrition and rest have a strong impact on readiness to learn, providing children with the energy and mobility to explore their environment and increase their ability to concentrate.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Children's knowledge of their own feelings and those of others
- The ability to develop positive relationships
- An interest in and demonstration of interpersonal skills needed to maintain positive relationships with adults and peers
- The capability of engaging and cooperating within a group
- The ability to demonstrate the skills needed to get along with peers (e.g. managing conflicts in a positive way)

*Highlights of this domain serve as a foundation for later school success and meaningful life experiences as an adult and consist of: developing and maintaining friendships, appreciating differences, solving conflicts, and functioning effectively in groups.*

## APPROACHES TO LEARNING

- Curiosity
- Enjoyment of learning
- Confidence
- Creativity
- Attention to task
- Reflection
- Interests and attitudes



*These are manifested in all domains and curriculum areas, including music, dramatic play, and art.*

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- Expressive (e.g. expressive speech that is understood or use of a nonverbal system of communication)
- Understanding skills to effectively interact with others
- Early literacy skills are a part of language development (e.g. an awareness of print, an understanding that writing has a purpose).

*Language development and early literacy skills are correlated to how effectively children can communicate their needs, interact socially with others, and describe events, thoughts, and feelings.*

## COGNITION AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

- Basic knowledge of concepts and the workings of the environment in which the child participates (e.g. knows his/her own name, understanding basic science concepts)
- Cognitive competencies like early mathematical skills (e.g. number sense, discriminating shapes and colors, simple patterns, size, location, and time)
- Basic problem-solving skills (e.g. acknowledging similarities and differences, identifying solutions, and increasing attention and focus to challenging tasks).

*A child's innate sense of curiosity and the ability to acquire, organize, and use information in increasingly complex ways are indicative of how the child acquires new knowledge and learns about the impact he/she has on others and the environment.*

### Age Requirement for a Kindergartner Living in Indiana

- A child living in Indiana must be five years old on or before August 1 to enroll in a kindergarten program offered by a public school.
- A child turning five years of age between August 1 and August 31 must be assessed to be granted a waiver for early entry.