



SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL WAKEFIELD

A 21st Century Learning Community Based on Timeless Catholic Values

Basic Criteria Guidelines for Entry to Kindergarten

General Criteria:

- Kindergarten screenings required
 - Progress reports from Pre-school
 - A child should be 5 by 8/31
 - An exception: The child must demonstrate readiness, and be approved by principal.

Thinking and Learning (cognitive)

Reading

- Names most letters; upper and lower case
- Listens to someone reading; looks at books often
- Retells events from a familiar story
- Uses reading skills with books (top/bottom, left/right, front/back, finger-point)
- General time concepts (yesterday, today, tomorrow)

Writing

- Draws and writes letter-like shapes/letters
- Writes first name
- Writes labels/words on drawings
- Tells a short story about self by drawing and/or writing

Math

- Sorts familiar objects
- Creates simple patterns (AB, ABC)
- Names shapes (circle, triangle, rectangle, square)
- Counts groups of objects to 10
- Counts to 20; names numerals 1-10
- Recognizes colors (red, blue, orange, etc.)



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Talking and Listening (expressive and receptive language)

- Speaks clearly in complete sentences
- Takes turns talking and listening about the same subject
- States first and the last name
- Listens and follows two-step directions
- Able to sit still for at least 10 minutes

Feeling Good/Getting Along with Others (socio-emotional)

- Learns words for different feelings (happy, angry, sad, etc.)
- Engage in activity, for at least 15 minutes, individually and with others
- Follows rules at school
- Interacts freely with their peers

Moving Large and Small Muscles (gross and fine motor)

- Balance for ten seconds on one foot
- Hops on one foot, five times
- Washes hands before and after bathroom
- Climbs stairs one foot per step
- Holds a pencil, crayons, and scissors correctly
- Puts simple parts together
- Dresses oneself, puts on a coat, zippers coat