

What is Transitional Kindergarten?

Senate Bill 1381 was passed in California to change the age when children can begin school. Under this new law, students can enroll in a two year kindergarten program called **Transitional Kindergarten** (TK). The program is designed for students who will turn five between September 2 and December 2 for the 2015-2016 school year and each school year thereafter.

Transitional Kindergarten is designed for children who may not be socially and/or academically ready for entry into a traditional kindergarten program, although they were previously age-eligible.

Many parents feel their children may not be quite ready for the academic rigor of today's kindergarten. These students often have birthdays in the fall and may still be developing the skills they need for academic work. Just as children learn to walk and talk at various rates of developmental growth, academic readiness occurs at different times in different children.

Our program gives children additional time to develop the necessary social and academic skills for success throughout their school experience. **Transitional Kindergarten** is based on the California Kindergarten Standards, including focused instruction in pre-reading and math readiness skills with a strong emphasis on self-regulation and social engagement.



How can families be involved in Transitional Kindergarten?

Communication between home and school is essential in helping all children succeed. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their child's learning journey at home and at school. There are a variety of activities planned to support you and your child in **Transitional Kindergarten**.

Your child's teacher will work with you and communicate your child's progress and ways you can support your child at home.

Working together will help you stay connected! We look forward to working with you and your child in **Transitional Kindergarten!**

How is the program structured?

Transitional Kindergarten will be offered at a few CVUSD schools, but each student will return to his/her resident school the following year for kindergarten. **Transitional Kindergarten** is part of the public school system and is free for families.

Classes will be taught by "Highly Qualified" credentialed teachers. **Transitional Kindergarten** uses a modified kindergarten curriculum that is age appropriate and follows the same schedule of the daily traditional kindergarten program. Our **Transitional Kindergarten** may be combined with a regular kindergarten class.

The length of the **Transitional Kindergarten** school day will be the same as a traditional kindergarten day. As with kindergarten, **Transitional Kindergarten** requires 36,000 instructional minutes per school year.; with the minimum length of daily instructional time that must be offered is 180 minutes.

The CVUSD daily schedule includes whole group instruction and activities, small group instruction, and independent "hands-on" learning. In addition to pre-reading and math readiness experiences, transitional kindergartners participate in numerous activities such as music, art, social, and motor skills development.

Assessments and teacher observations will be used to monitor your child's growth and progress throughout the year. Staff will use this information to guide instruction that is individualized to meet your child's needs.

By registering your student at the resident school, parents ensure their children enter kindergarten with the maturity and skills they need to excel.

Who benefits from
Transitional Kindergarten?

Transitional Kindergarten benefits children who need time to develop socially, emotionally, physically, and/or intellectually. This program acts as a bridge between a pre-school environment and the more structured academic setting of kindergarten.



Transitional Kindergarten gives children the opportunity to learn and access curriculum in a classroom that implements small group and “hands-on” learning in a language-rich environment.

Transitional Kindergarten curriculum is a hybrid that blends best practices from the pre-school learning environment with the best practices from the kindergarten environment.

Transitional Kindergarten may prepare students for the social and academic expectations of a traditional kindergarten the following year. Our program gives children the gift of time to be successful in kindergarten the following school year when students return to their resident school.

Transitional Kindergarten vs.
waiting a year

Since birth, parents have watched their child grow and develop. They have noted their child’s height and weight and kept track of when he/she crawled, stood, walked, and spoke those first words. We know that each child develops at his/her own pace.

Think about your child in the areas of language, social, cognitive, and motor skills development and consider what program(s) will best meet his/her needs.

Parents know their child best and will ultimately decide if **Transitional Kindergarten** makes sense for their child. Having options will help parents make the best decision for their child.

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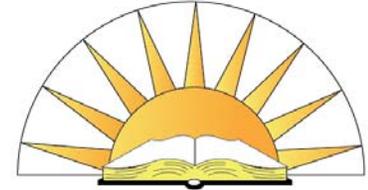
For the 2015-2016 school year, Intra District Open Enrollment – Transitional Kindergarten Forms will be available at the Office of Student Support Services between November 03, 2014 – December 5, 2014 at 13453 Ramona Avenue Chino, CA 91710.

Bring original birth certificate.

The Transitional Kindergarten Program will be offered at a limited number of sites.

Transportation is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Transitional Kindergarten



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