

Frequently Asked Questions About Young 5 Kindergarten

1. Will Young 5 Kindergarten be mandatory for children with birthdays between September 2nd and December 1st ?

Just like kindergarten, Young 5 Kindergarten enrollment will be voluntary.

2. How is Young 5 Kindergarten different from preschool?

The standards, curriculum and teaching requirements in Young 5 Kindergarten will be different from preschool. Young 5 Kindergarten will be part of the K -12 public education system and it will be based on the kindergarten standards. It will build on the skills children may have learned in preschool to ensure they will be able to begin kindergarten with confidence.

3. How is Young 5 Kindergarten different from traditional kindergarten?

Although the curriculum in Young 5 Kindergarten will be based on the kindergarten standards, it will be modified to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of younger children. The Young 5 Kindergarten environment will include more opportunities for social, emotional, language development, and communication through dramatic play; small group instruction; and intentional teaching through hands-on activities.

4. What is the length of the Young 5 Kindergarten school day?

The Young 5 Kindergarten program is the same full-day program of the traditional kindergarten.

5. What school has Young 5 Kindergarten?

The Young 5 Kindergarten is available at all elementary buildings.

6. Will Young 5 Kindergarten provide support for children who do not speak English?

English learners in Young 5 Kindergarten will have the same level of services as those in kindergarten.

7. Will Young 5 Kindergarten be free or will I have to qualify based on income?

Young 5 Kindergarten will be free and open to all age-eligible children residing in Lincoln Schools or entering through School of Choice.

8. What kinds of qualifications will Young 5 Kindergarten teachers have?

Young 5 Kindergarten teachers are required to have a teaching credential, just like kindergarten teachers.

9. How will this affect children in special education?

Districts will be required to offer the same services to Young 5 Kindergarteners with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) as they currently offer to children in kindergarten.

10. What grade will children go into after Young 5 Kindergarten?

Young 5 Kindergarten is the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience. Children will go on to kindergarten after completing Young 5 Kindergarten.