



Kindergarten Program

What is Kindergarten at Calvary Schools of Holland?

Calvary's Kindergarten Program serves children who are in their late fours (children who will turn five-years-old by Nov. 15) through early sixes. The Kindergarten Program is held 3 full days per week. Kindergarten is a very special time – the beginning of your child's formal education. Calvary views each child as a precious gift from God. We want Kindergarten to be a **fun, positive, successful** experience for your child. Kindergarten will be filled with many challenges socially, spiritually, and academically. Our daily lessons are designed to be highly academic with a low frustration level. Classes will serve 18 children, but could go up to 24 with the addition of an assistant.

When does the Kindergarten class meet?

Kindergarten meets three full days on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Your child may bring a sack lunch or purchase a hot lunch from school. Parents may also send a snack to school with their child to eat during recess.

How is "Christian" education implemented into the Kindergarten Classroom?

It is our goal to build Christian character and to train student leaders. Calvary is deliberate in its approach at incorporating the Bible, worship, and godly characteristics into each subject that is taught. God's Word is central in all areas of the classroom. There will be exciting lessons daily that teach children how to think, grow, know and live "God's Way." Content and application will be taught through Bible lessons, character stories, music, activities, and memory work.

Does Calvary offer an after school program?

Occasionally, parents may require supervision of their child when a parent's schedule prevents them from being available immediately after school. By extending the school day into an Eighth Hour, students and their families will be offered the continuity and safety of a Christian environment. Eighth Hour begins at 3:05 and concludes at 4:00 and is available at a cost of \$2.00 per day.

What are the goals for students in the Kindergarten Program?

Some of our goals for students in the Kindergarten Program are:

To encourage good social interaction:

In the classroom:

- To use good classroom manners
- To talk at appropriate times
- To work well with other students
- To follow classroom procedures

On the playground:

- To play safely
- To play kindly
- To be a friend to others

To further develop manipulative skills:

- Cutting
- Coloring
- Drawing
- Gluing

To expose to academic skills:

Letter Recognition:

- Learn names and sounds of letters
- Read one and two vowel words

Number Recognition:

- Count to 100 by 1's, 5's, and 10's
- Recognize numbers
- Add and subtract
- Understand spatial concepts

Writing:

- Learn to form letters correctly
- Learn to form numbers correctly

Kindergartners will also have the opportunity to:

- Express** their creativity in art
- Worship** God through the gift of music
- Develop** large motor skills in physical education
- Grow** in the word of God through weekly chapel

Special Events for your Kindergartner

Your Kindergartner will experience a variety of special events during their Kindergarten year such as field trips, Grandparents Day, holiday parties, birthday parties, marching in the Tulip Time Children's Parade, and Kindergarten Graduation.

Helpful Hints for you and your Kindergartner

We want your child's Kindergarten experience to be a positive one!

Promote healthy habits:

Help your child to get plenty of sleep. Ten to twelve hours is recommended for children this age.

Plan a good healthy diet.

Get up in plenty of time for school so he or she does not have to hurry, and is wide awake when school starts.

Get to school at the proper time – not too early (before there is adequate supervision), not too late.

Encourage self-sufficiency:

Help your child to learn to dress himself/herself. It is helpful for your child to know how to zip up coats, tie shoes, button, and to be able to keep track of personal belongings.

Help your child by purchasing child friendly clothing.

Teach your child to be self sufficient in bathroom procedures, including flushing and washing hands.

Help your child to learn personal information such as their full name, parents' names, address, telephone number, and birthday.

Participate in your child's development:

Enjoy books with your child.

Help your child to be observant about the world around him or her. Enjoy discussing things in nature, weather, transportation, etc.

Help your child to have an awareness of the eight basic colors.

Practice fine motor skills, such as coloring, cutting, and drawing.

Practice large motor skills, such as jumping, hopping, running, and handling a ball.

Help your child to print his or her first name using a capital letter only at the beginning.

Proactively Communicate:

Talk about school in a positive way with your child. Try to answer all questions. Always address any doubts or fears your child may express.

Communicate with the teacher any special fears or needs your child may have.

Remember, your own reactions and attitudes will go a long way toward determining how your child feels about school.

How do I register my child for Kindergarten?

Schedule an appointment to meet with the Executive Director and the Academic Dean.

Complete an application for admission to Calvary Schools of Holland.

Provide Calvary with a copy of your child's birth certificate.

Supply Calvary with a completed health appraisal and immunization record.

When should I apply?

The best time to apply for the following year is during the months of February, March, and April. Early registration begins in February.

How do I benefit from Early Registration?

The ideal time to apply is during Early Registration. Registering during this period will secure your child's placement in his or her grade level and allows you to take advantage of the discounted registration fee.