

SD8 District Office

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**School District 8
Kootenay Lake**

**Learning Together
Kindergarten**



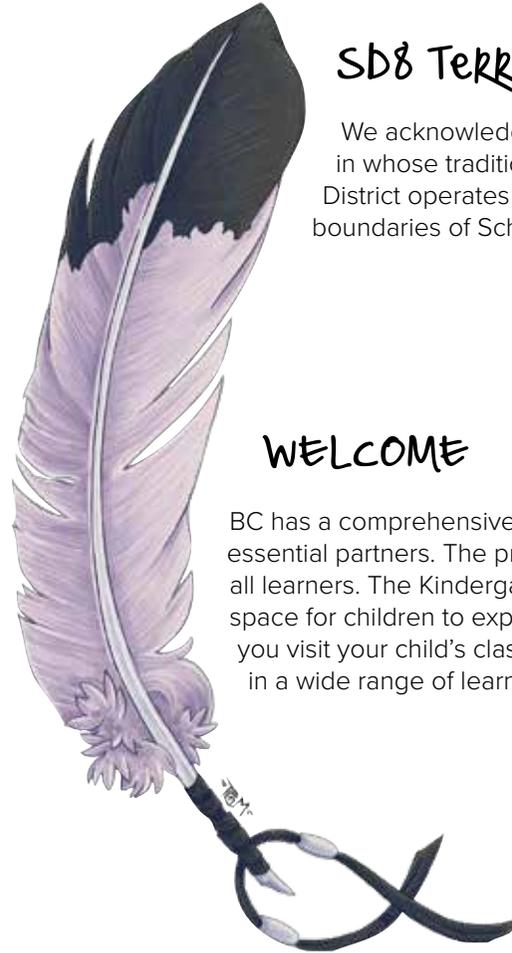
Crawford Bay • Creston • Kaslo • Nelson • Salmo • Slocan Valley



The transition from home to school is an exciting milestone, and we will work together to make kindergarten a positive and happy experience for you and your child.

SDB Territory Acknowledgement

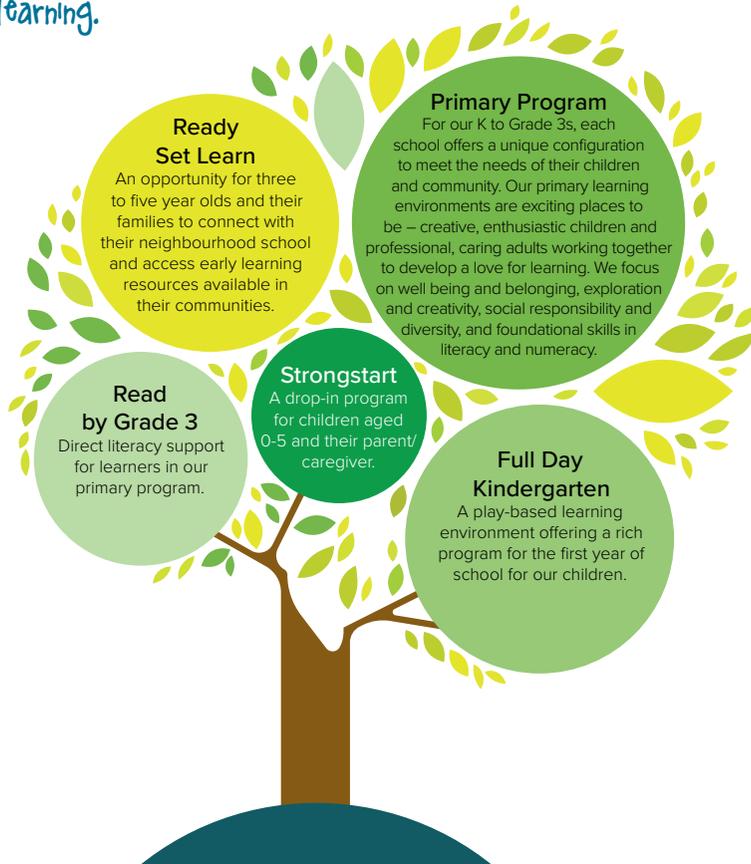
We acknowledge, respect and honor the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District 8.



WELCOME

BC has a comprehensive primary program that recognizes families as essential partners. The program is designed to support the needs of all learners. The Kindergarten learning environment provides time and space for children to explore and develop at their own pace. When you visit your child's classroom you will see children actively engaged in a wide range of learning opportunities.

Our schools offer a warm, safe and caring environment to welcome all families to the wonderful new world of discovery and learning.

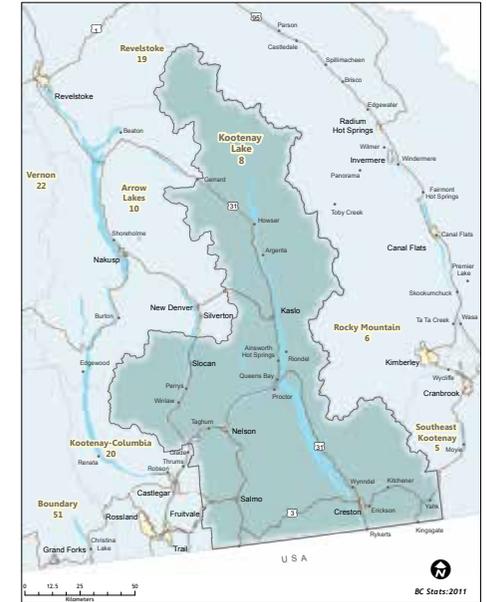


what we offer

School District 8 covers a large geographical area – it includes the communities of Nelson, Kaslo, Crawford Bay, Creston, Salmo and the Slocan Valley. We have 15 elementary schools and alternative learning options for families, including HomeLinks, Wildflower School, and Distance Education School of the Kootenays.

In each of our communities we have Strongstart and Ready Set Learn programs for families of children aged 0 to 5. These free drop-in programs give families an opportunity to connect with their neighborhood school, meet families with similar aged children, and access early learning resources.

We have approximately 5,000 students in our school district, and employ over 800 staff members and contractors who are dedicated to inspiring each child to be fully engaged in their learning from Kindergarten to grade 12.





starting out right

Our Kindergarten program creates the foundation for your child's positive learning journey – encouraging children to play and learn through a variety of experiential education opportunities to support their emotional, social, physical, intellectual and creative development.

BC Curriculum

We encourage you to visit British Columbia's Education website to learn more about the Kindergarten curriculum.

- [gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/early-learning](https://www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/early-learning)
- [curriculum.gov.bc.ca](https://www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca)



Full Day Kindergarten

Kindergarten provides a wonderful opportunity to build a strong foundation for lifelong learning. It is designed to enhance a child's overall development and reflects an understanding that children learn through active engagement and play.

Gradual Entry

To ensure a successful and comfortable beginning to school, children attend in small groups for the month of September. This gradual entry model is supported by the BC Ministry of Education.

Please check with your local school for details about their gradual entry schedule.

FAQS

How do I enroll my child in kindergarten?

To enroll your child in kindergarten for the upcoming school year, your child must be 5 years old by December 31st of this year.

Please bring your child's birth certificate and proof of home residence when registering.

We encourage parents and guardians to enrol their child between January and March to help schools with their planning.

Visit sd8.bc.ca for registration information, district calendar, catchment areas, bussing, and school hours.



What if my child is not ready for full days?

Some children benefit from an extended gradual entry process. Your child's teacher and school principal will work with you to determine what is best for your child's needs.

Is transportation available?

We offer free bussing for all our school-aged children. Visit sd8.bc.ca for more information.



As you prepare for September

In BC children are considered ready for Kindergarten during the calendar year that they turn 5.

Important routines to practice with your child include hygiene and self-care (washing hands, toileting) and development of independence in dressing (zippers, buttons, shoes, backpack).

How can I support my child's success at school?

Read with your child every day.



Be excited about school!

Get involved: attend PAC meetings or volunteer in the classroom.



Encourage independence in daily activities: bathroom, cleaning up, dressing themselves.



Establish predictable home routines: meal times, story time, bed time.



What if my child needs support at school?

If you believe your child might require additional supports, please talk to your child's teacher. Some services are available within your child's school:

- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Speech & Language Pathology
- Additional support services



Kindergarten establishes the foundation for your child's life-long learning journey.

In School District 8, we offer flexible learning environments designed to stimulate children's natural curiosity, encourage exploration, and build strong self-confidence and global citizenship skills.

We recognize every child's unique gifts and strengths. We use those strengths to nurture and develop the whole child.

For more information about our education programs, please contact us

Phone: 250-352-6681
Toll Free: 1-877-230-2288
Website: sd8.bc.ca

We are looking forward to meeting all children and their diverse families!

