

Stamina for teacher-directed tasks, independence, resilience, and positive social interactions are key factors for success in primary grades.

Students should be able to meet the expectations for the grade that they are entering--as well as all previous grade-levels.

Continuum of Expectations

On the first day of school, students are expected to:

Prekindergarten Kindergarten First Grade

Social-Emotional

- follow simple directions successfully
- speak understandably
- stay on-task during a teacher-directed activity or center for a minimum of 10 minutes
- participate in group activities with control (E.g. wait turn, listen to others speak, stay in assigned spot)
- complete an assigned task without needing ongoing feedback
- comply with classroom rules and procedures as taught
- articulate feelings and needs appropriately
- treat adults and peers respectfully
- use words instead of reacting physically when angry or frustrated
- share and play cooperatively with others
- show respect for adults and peers
- separate from parents comfortably
- use the bathroom independently
- can relax and rest quietly at nap time

- follow two-step (at minimum) directions successfully
- stay on-task during a teacher-lead activity (sits in assigned spot, does not interrupt) for a minimum of 15 minutes
- stay on-task at a teacher-selected center or activity independently for a minimum of 20 minutes
- persevere with assigned activity until it is complete;
- independently identify necessary tools for successful completion of task
- independently comply with rules and procedures
- understand that actions have consequences
- indicate positive feelings about self
- speaks in complete sentences of 5-6 words minimum
- demonstrate self-control in managing body and voice-level as appropriate to situation
- independently initiate and sustain appropriate play with other children; uses words to solve problems
- properly use/care for toys and tools and put them away in the correct place
- manage belongings independently, bringing them from home to school and vice-versa
- manage all clothing independently (E.g. buttoning, zipping, etc.)
- independently enter the school and walk to their classroom

- follow three-step (at minimum) directions successfully
- stay on-task during a teacher-directed activity for a minimum of 25 minutes, then transition to independent work for an equal amount of time
- stay in seat and complete assignments independently; self-check work to ensure it meets expectations before turning it in
- independently comply with, and understand the purpose of rules and procedures
- communicate appropriately attempt to problem-solve social situations with peers first before turning to adults
- demonstrate resilience in situations where things do not go as expected
- demonstrate grit; tries again and learns from failed attempts
- persevere to complete assignments and keep pace with instruction

Fine/Gross Motor Skills

- use age-appropriate pencil grip, draw with a variety of tools; scribble write
- cut with scissors
- begin to trace shapes as directed with finger or another classroom tool
- participate in balance and hand/eye coordination-building activities
- use proper pencil grip; begin to form letters independently
- cut with scissors, near the line as directed
- trace basic shapes, letters and numbers
- hop, jump, skip, and catch and bounce a ball
- can maintain pencil grip for the time necessary to complete tasks in an appropriate length of time
- cut on the line as directed
- color appropriately within the lines
- participate appropriately in sports activities

Language/Literacy Skills

- recite alphabet, begin to identify the names of letters with the letter shapes
- listen to stories and answer simple comprehension questions
- write name (all caps is fine)
- understand that words convey messages

- recognize, write, point-to letters in first name
- recite alphabet and identify the names of most letters
- handle books properly; right side up, front/back
- retell key events and characters from stories that have been read-aloud
- understand vocabulary related to position, size, direction, comparison: up/down, front/back, like/different, first/last, big/little, inside/outside etc.
- identify the beginning sounds of some words
- recognize rhyming sounds/words

- identify all letters: lower case, capital
- articulate and write all letter sounds, including long vowels
- write all letters lower case and capital legibly
- decode CVC, CVCC, CCVC, CCVCC, and CV words
- recognize all pre-primer (at minimum) highfrequency words (Dolch)
- read independently at Level C (F &P)
- retell stories read aloud; can identify main character, setting, main events, and key details
- identify fiction and nonfiction text features
- write simple/complete sentences with proper usage of capital and lower-case letters/punctuation/spacing
- identify initial/medial/final sounds and can write appropriate letters to represent them; use phonetic spelling and word wall to create readable text
- illustrate and compose stories/nonfiction pieces of writing as directed

Math

- identify colors, and can sort objects by shape/color
- count to 5
- match small amounts of objects with number words
- display interest in patterns/sequences
- identify colors, basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle)
- count to 10
- sort by shape/color/size
- understand more than/less than
- use one-to-one correspondence to model amounts from 1-5

- recognize color/number words
- count to 100 by ones/tens
- categorize items in multiple ways by identifying key characteristics
- write numbers 0-20 (at minimum)
- add/subtract within 10, writing equations and drawing appropriate models
- model and identify 11-19 as a number of items added to a group of 10
- quickly identify one more and one less than a given number
- use academic vocabulary properly (add, subtract, greater than/less than, fewer, sum, equation, etc.)