



"I'm so glad we made the choice to enroll my son in transitional kindergarten. He's very confident in school now and he's excited to learn more."

-Transitional Kindergarten Parent



Why is Transitional Kindergarten Good for Kids?

Transitional Kindergarten provides children with an opportunity to learn in an enriching and academically challenging environment that nurtures their growth. Research shows that children who attend kindergarten readiness programs like Transitional Kindergarten are more likely to do well in school and attend college.

Parents all over California recognize the benefits of Transitional Kindergarten, and many parents have already been enrolling their children in similar programs, public and private, for years. Offering Transitional Kindergarten will help all of our kids get the best start possible, with curriculum that is designed just for them.



Transitional Kindergarten

A strong start for young learners

CORONADO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



The CUSD TK Program

Trained TK teachers: Our TK teachers have many years of experience in kindergarten and special training in TK.

Length of school day: All TK students will gradually increase to a full day of school by the start of the last third of the school year (spring) in preparation for a full day of school in traditional kindergarten.

1st Third of the Year (Fall)	Morning only
2nd Third of the Year (Winter)	Morning every day and two afternoons per week
Last Third of the Year (Spring)	Full day for all TK students

Aligned to traditional kindergarten and the CUSD Instructional Program: The TK curriculum is fully aligned to CA State Standards in English Language Arts and mathematics, and other CA content standards. TK students participate in kindergarten activities such as computer lab, science lab, visual and performing arts, all special services, and align with the CUSD Board Goals for a personalized education plan for all students.

How Can I Learn More?

Please contact your child's school site:

Silver Strand Elementary 522-8934
 Early Childhood Development Center 522-8923 or
 Village Elementary 522-8915

For answers to some Frequently Asked Questions on Transitional Kindergarten, visit

www.coronadusd.net

Look under your school's webpage under Academics





What is Transitional Kindergarten?

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) is a bridge between preschool and kindergarten for children turning 5 years old, typically between September and December. It gives young learners a head start and provides them with an opportunity to learn and grow in an environment that is tailored to meet their academic and social needs.

Transitional Kindergarten:

- Is part of the public school system and is free for families
- Uses a unique, specialized curriculum that is based on the kindergarten standards and is designed to support young 5 year olds
- Is taught by credentialed teachers with specialized training to teach young kindergarteners



“Transitional kindergarten gives the gift of time to children who are smart and capable but need another year to grow.”

- Transitional Kindergarten Teacher

Starting school is a very exciting time for children and their families! It begins a new chapter in their lives and sets the tone for children's future. California's kindergarten standards and curriculum have changed over the years and continue to do so with the advent of new standards. Many of the skills children were once taught in first grade are now expected in kindergarten. This can make the transition into kindergarten difficult for some children, and the youngest children entering the kindergarten classroom often struggle to adjust.

The good news is that California passed a law in 2010 to create Transitional Kindergarten, giving children an opportunity to learn in a hands-on, interactive way that supports their development, while still maintaining the rigor and high standards of kindergarten. CUSD has offered TK since 2012-13 with great success. Both Silver Strand and Village Elementary School's Early Childhood Development Center offer transitional kindergarten.

When Ryan first began transitional kindergarten, he had trouble focusing in class and struggled to write many words. After just a few months, Ryan's focus is much better and he is now able to write sentences. "He feels so much more confident now," says his mother, Monica. "Transitional kindergarten was a perfect fit for him."

Who attends traditional kindergarten? Who attends Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for 2017-18?

A law was passed in California in 2010 to change the age when children can begin traditional kindergarten. **For school year 2017-18, children must turn 5 years old on or before September 1 to enroll in traditional kindergarten.** September 1 is the state of California's cut-off date for traditional kindergarten admittance every year. While this change of a few months from the previous cutoff date of December 1 may seem small, it can mean a big difference during these early years when children are rapidly growing and developing.

The same law also created Transitional Kindergarten (TK) so that children who are affected by this change have an opportunity to continue building their skills and abilities. Their time in TK will help them to succeed in kindergarten the following year, become leaders in the classroom and confidently navigate the school day routine. **All children who will have their 5th birthday between September 2 and December 2, 2017 (inclusive) must be admitted to Coronado Unified School District's Transitional Kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year.**

Parents of children who turn five on or before September 1, 2017 may be able to opt for *Early Admission to Transitional Kindergarten* if enrollment is available at Silver Strand Elementary and Village School's Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC). *Early Admission to Transitional Kindergarten* requires parents to complete a required form indicating agreement to a two-year kindergarten program, if such an option becomes available. Please contact your school for details.

California's New Kindergarten System: Preparing Children to Succeed



Transitional kindergarten is the first year of a two year kindergarten experience for those students who are born between September and December.