



September 11, 2025

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Dear Parents and Caregivers:

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Starting school is a big milestone for both children and their families. As your child begins learning to read, know that their early literacy skills are being supported every day in the classroom. Early literacy skills refer to the foundational reading skills that children develop before they can fully read, and are crucial to becoming successful lifelong learners.

Beginning this fall, all BC school districts will implement early literacy screening in Kindergarten, expanding to Grades 1–3 in future years. These brief classroom checks help teachers understand where students are in their reading journey and provide extra support when needed. While not diagnostic, they help guide instruction and track progress.

Many districts already use these tools, but for some, this will be new. If you have questions about your child's literacy development, please speak with their teacher or principal. You can also learn more at the Ministry of Education and Child Care website (www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/literacy-supports).

Ensuring that all children learn to read is much more than a government commitment – it is the right of every learner in our education system. As you embark on this journey with your child, I want to thank you for your dedication to supporting their literacy learning at home and for your support of early literacy screening at your child's school.

I wish your family the very best this school year and a big welcome to the future class of 2038!

Sincerely,

Lisa Beare
Minister of Education and Child Care