

Beginners or Kindy??

Where should your 3y.o. be?

Dear Parents,

The purpose of this notice is to explain when and how to move your child from Beginners to Kindergarten Sabbath School.

When should my child move to Kindergarten?

- It is the recommendation of the Children's Ministries Leadership Team at Kellyville that children **should celebrate** their **3rd Birthday** in the Beginners Sabbath School class. The Kindergarten Gracelink Sabbath School curriculum caters for 3-5 year olds. The age of **3 ½ years** is suggested as a good time to move from Beginners to Kindergarten. At this age, we find that the children are moving towards independence, are able to sit and concentrate for longer, and are learning to take turns and cooperate.

How do I go about moving my child to Kindergarten?

- As a courtesy to the leadership team, we suggest you **move** your child from Beginners to Kindergarten only at the **beginning of a quarter**. This makes for a more seamless transfer between the classes.
- Please **talk to** a member of the **Beginners or Kindergarten Sabbath School teams** in the quarter before you wish to move your child up to Kindergarten. We can, this way, be adequately prepared for the change and give them a little farewell from Beginners.

We want all children to feel a sense of belonging to a group and with notification we can therefore adequately prepare for new students – i.e. making them feel welcome on the first day, giving them a name tag, having enough resources prepared, remembering them on their birthday, including them on the sign in sheet etc.

Please also appreciate that it is necessary to keep the numbers between Beginners and Kindergarten Sabbath Schools somewhat even. It is also important to maintain an average age, especially in Kindergarten – if we are bottom-heavy with 3 year olds, it makes it difficult to cater for the 6 year olds in the class.

Is my child ready for Kindergarten SS?

These are some things to consider when wondering if your child is ready to move up to Kindergarten. Please consult with one of the leaders if you are unsure.

- If your child is not properly toilet trained, still really requires the company of a parent during Sabbath School, quite shy, not at all interested in completing craft independently, cannot use a pair of scissors independently or is developmentally a little less mature than his/her peers, then consider leaving them in the Beginners class until they are at least 3 ½, then reassess the situation. It is ok to remain in Beginners until the child is nearly 4 if the need be.
- If your child is confident, developmentally mature for their age, can use a pair of scissors independently, enjoys doing craft independently, can toilet themselves independently, confidently attends pre-school during the week then you might like to consider moving them to the Kindergarten class soon after their 3rd Birthday. On the flip side if they are still content in Beginners - there is no rush.

We thank you for your support and cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact any of the team leaders (listed below) if you have any questions.

Children's Ministries Team 2010

Amanda Bews (Director), Kyla Judd (Kindergarten Leader) Premeena Quick (Kindergarten Assistant) & Rebecca Quick (Beginners Leader)