



Kindergarten Orientation

Hidden Valley School



Calgary Board
of Education

Agenda



- Regular Programming and French Immersion Programming
- Learning through *PLAY*
- Enhanced supports in kindergarten
- Getting ready for kindergarten- tips for parents
- Important dates & times
- Transportation
- First day of kindergarten

The Calgary Board of Education



The early years are a time of significant development in a child's life. Personalized attention is extremely beneficial to early learners.

At the Calgary Board of Education, we understand that children bring their own unique talents and gifts to their learning experience. Our dedicated staff know how to help children reach their full potential.

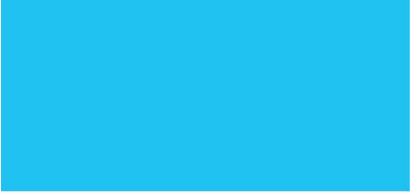
Regular Programming and French Immersion

**Still accepting registrations
Primary language of instruction is French**

Benefits of Learning an Additional Language

- **Strong Academic Performance**
Bilingual learners often outperform peers in core subjects like Math, Science, and Literacy.
- **Cognitive Benefits**
Multilingual students show improved problem-solving, multitasking, and memory skills.
- **Enhanced Communication Skills**
Learning French and English builds the ability to speak, read, and write in multiple languages.
- **Boosted Confidence & Identity**
Language learning supports self-esteem and helps students connect with their cultural heritage.
- **Long-Term Success**
Bilingual students excel on standardized tests and are better prepared for future global opportunities.





Learning Through **PLAY**

More than just skill building or practicing for the world we will grow into, play is the primary way in which children manipulate new information, fit it into their pre-existing understanding and then adjust what they know accordingly.

formulating **hypothesis**

engaging in experimentation and exploration

discovering patterns

creating **theories**

Learning Through *PLAY*



Learning Through PLAY



“Research shows that children who engage in complex forms of socio-dramatic play have greater language skills than non-players, better social skills, more empathy, more imagination, and more of the subtle capacity to know what others mean. They are less aggressive and show more self-control and higher levels of thinking”

~Miller & Almon

Enhanced Supports



The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom.

This team may consist of:

Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners

Early Learning Strategists

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)

Psychologists

Occupational Therapists (OTs)

Physiotherapists (PTs)

School Family Liaison (SFL)

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

Create a consistent bedtime routine:



- Sleep plays an important role in concentrating, managing emotions, problem-solving and creativity
 - Children age five to six need 9 to 12 hours a sleep a night



Build independence by practicing the following skills with your child:



- Dressing themselves
 - Practice using zippers, buttons and velcro
- Opening/closing snack containers
- Using a water bottle
- Using a bathroom and washing hands
- Turn taking and compromise
 - Play games



Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Read to your child every day:



- Read stories together in your first language
 - Helps develop vocabulary, listening and speaking skills
- Read different types of books
 - Picture books, information books, nursery rhymes, poetry
- Talk about pictures and the story as you read together
- Visit your community library (when possible)



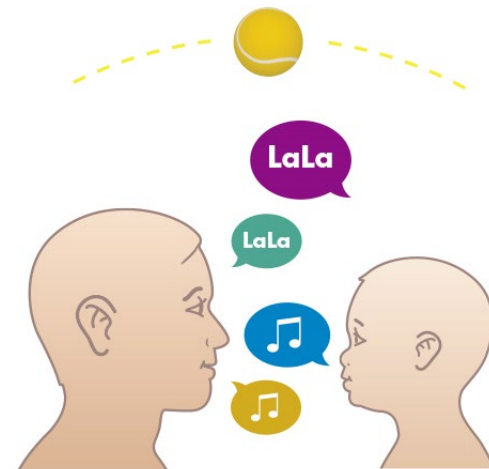
Getting Ready for Kindergarten



Take time to talk with your child about everyday activities:



- Share special activities together, like walks to the park
Talk about what you are seeing and doing
- Talk, read, sing and play in your first language
- Practice labelling emotions
 - Brainstorm ways to deal with difficult emotions
 - body break, breathing, talking about it with someone
- Emphasize a growth mindset
 - Talk about how it's okay to make mistakes
 - Praise children for their efforts and courage to overcome setbacks



HVS Calendar



Hidden Valley School - 2025 – 2026 INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR

CBE schools are closed on the days shaded gray.

August 27, 28, 29	Non-instruction days
September 1	Labour Day
September 2	First day of school
September 2, 3, 4	Kindergarten Staggered Entry
September 16	Meet the Teacher / Open House
September 29	Non-instruction day
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October 13	Thanksgiving Day
October 20	Non-instruction day, Calgary General Election
November 7	Last day of classes
November 8-12	Fall Break
November 13	Classes resume
November 27	No K, K Conferences all day, PM Conferences K-4
November 28	Conferences K-4
December 19	Last day of classes
Dec 20 - Jan 4	Winter Break
January 5	Classes resume
January 22	No Kindergarten
January 22	K-4 Open House
January 30	System Professional Learning Non-instruction day
February 12, 13	Teachers' Convention
February 16	Family Day
February 27	Non-instruction day
March 19	Last day of classes, No K, K Conferences all day, PM Conferences K-4
March 20	Conferences K-4
March 21-29	Spring Break
March 30	Classes resume
April 3	Good Friday
April 24	Ugandan/Bahamian Professional Learning Non-instruction day
May 15	Non-instruction day
May 18	Victoria Day
June 4	No Kindergarten
June 11	K-4 Open House
June 20	Last day of school Early Dismissal
June 29, 30	Non-instruction days & Appeals

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2025 – 2026 INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR



Bell Schedule

Bell Schedule Grades 1 – 4

Monday – Thursday

8:52am – 3:21pm

Friday

8:52am – 12:51pm

Bell Schedule Kindergarten AM

Monday – Thursday

8:52am -11:45am

Friday

8:52 – 12:51

Bell Schedule Kindergarten PM

Monday – Thursday

12:28 – 3:21pm

Friday

8:52 – 12:51



AM or PM Kindergarten

Afternoon Kindergarten

Morning Kindergarten

September 2025							October 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
					12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	



Non-Instruction Days

January 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

September 2, 3, 4	Kindergarten Staggered Entry
September 29	Non-instruction day (Org. and PL)
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

June 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 11	K-4 Open House
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November 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

November 27	No K, K Conferences all day. PM Conferences K-4
November 28	Conferences K-4

January 22	No Kindergarten
January 23	System Professional Learning Non-

Other Important Dates



Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	August 27, 28, 29	Non-instruction days
Monday	September 1	Labour Day
Tuesday	September 2	First day of Classes, Term 1 <u>Begins</u>
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	September 2, 3, 4	Kindergarten Staggered Entry
Monday	September 29	Non-instruction day
Tuesday	September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Monday	October 13	Thanksgiving Day
Monday	October 20	Non-instruction day, Calgary General Election
Friday	November 7	Last day of classes before Fall Break
Thursday	November 13	Classes resume
Thursday	November 27	K Conferences, No School for K; PM Conferences for K-4
Friday	November 28	<u>K – 4</u> Conferences, No School
Friday	December 19	Last day of classes before Winter Break
Monday	January 5	Classes resume
Tuesday	January 27	Term 1 Ends
Wednesday	January 28	Term 2 Begins
Friday	January 30	System Professional Learning <u>Non-instruction</u> day
Thursday, Friday	February 12, 13	Teachers' Convention
Monday	February 16	Family Day
Friday	February 27	Non-instruction day
Thursday	March 19	K Conferences, No School for K; PM Conferences for K-4
Friday	March 20	<u>K – 4</u> Conferences, No School
Monday	March 30	Classes resume
Friday	April 3	Good Friday
Friday	April 24	Maatoomsii Pookaiks , Professional Learning Non-instruction day
Friday	May 15	Non-instruction day
Monday	May 18	Victoria Day
Friday	June 26	Last day of school for students; Early Dismissal Day ; Term 2 Ends
Monday	June 29	Non-instruction day
Tuesday	June 30	Non-instruction day

Transportation | Bussing



Register for the 2025-2026 School Year

Registration for next school year is now open until **June 22.**

- Register using [MyCBE](#)

Families must register by Sunday, June 22, 2025 for students to be added to routes for the start of the next school year.

We continue to accept registrations after the deadline; however, students are added to the closest existing bus stop with available space. Processing times for registrations submitted after the June 22 deadline will be delayed.

Confirmed routes are posted in August. For those who register after the June 22 deadline, it may take until mid-October before your child is able to ride the bus.

Transportation can be cancelled with no financial impact by submitting the cancellation form by Sept. 30, 2025.

[Transportation Service Levels & Fees](#)

[Walk Zone Changes](#)

English Language Learners



About one-quarter of our students are identified as English as Additional Language Learners (EAL). Our schools offer many different kinds of programming and supports to assist learners to develop English skills while also advancing academically.

Keep the home language alive!

Why?

1. Your child will develop stronger English skills if you continue to use and develop your home language.
2. Your home language will help your child to learn. When a child knows about things in the home language, he or she will learn about things in the second language more easily.

Read books

Make a
photo album

Family
dictionary



Google Translate on CBE Websites

Browser address bar: school.cbe.ab.ca/school/ForestLawn/Pages/default.aspx

Navigation links: News Centre | Calendar | Print | For Staff | QuickLinks | **Google Translate** | Search this site...

Forest Lawn High School
Viator Via Veritatis | Travel by Way of the Truth

Menu items: About Us (Contact & Information), Teaching & Learning (Programs & Classes), Extracurricular (Activities, Clubs & Athletics), Culture & Environment (Support, Health & G...), Get Involved (Parents & Volunteers), Registration (Fees & Transportation)

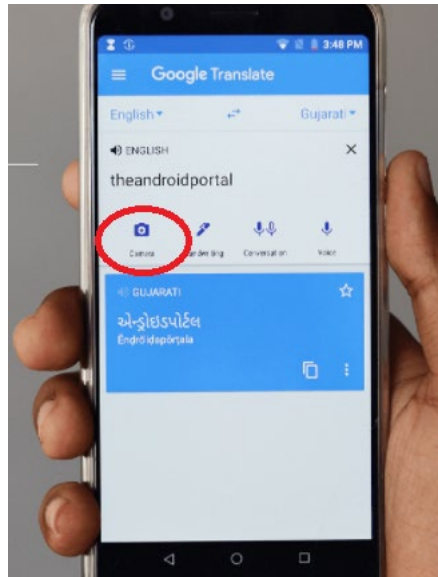
ALERT: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12 LEARNING FROM HOME
Starting Friday, May 7, most K-12 students will be learning at home. At this time, students are expected to return to in-class learning on Tues., May ... [View Full Details](#)

Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students Move to At-Home Learning [Read More](#)

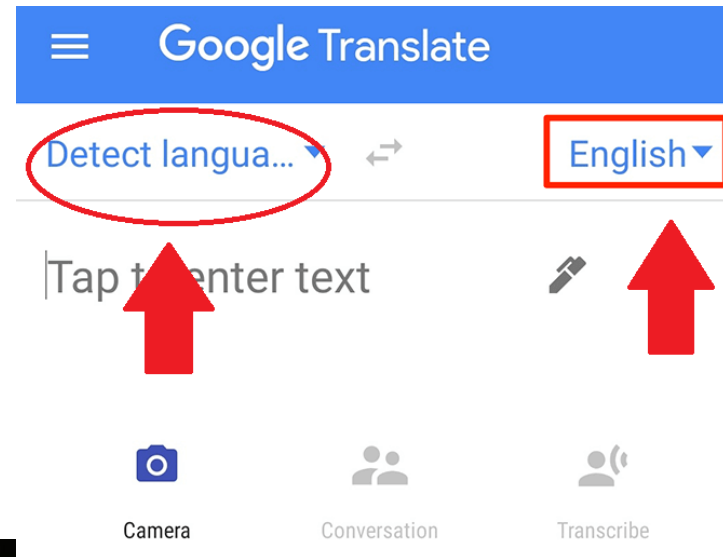
CBE Recognizes CMHA Mental Health Week 2021 [Read More](#)

Grade 7-12 At-Home Learning Extended

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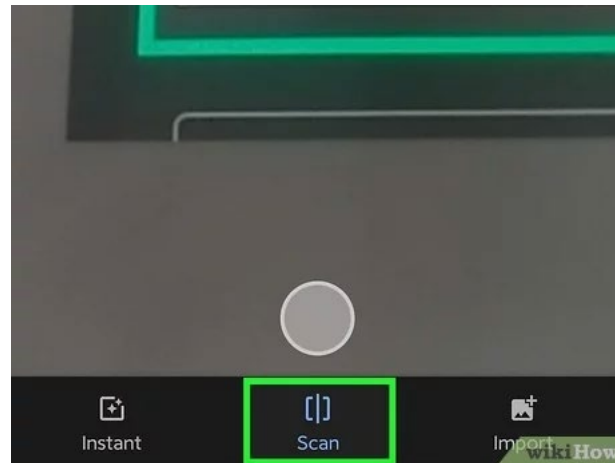


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If you have a **long document** tap the **camera** and then the **scan button** at the bottom of the app to translate the entire document.



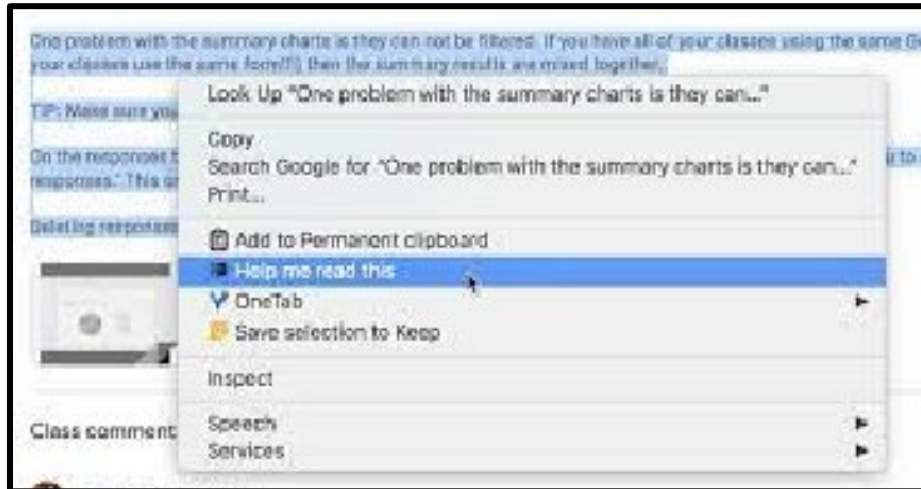
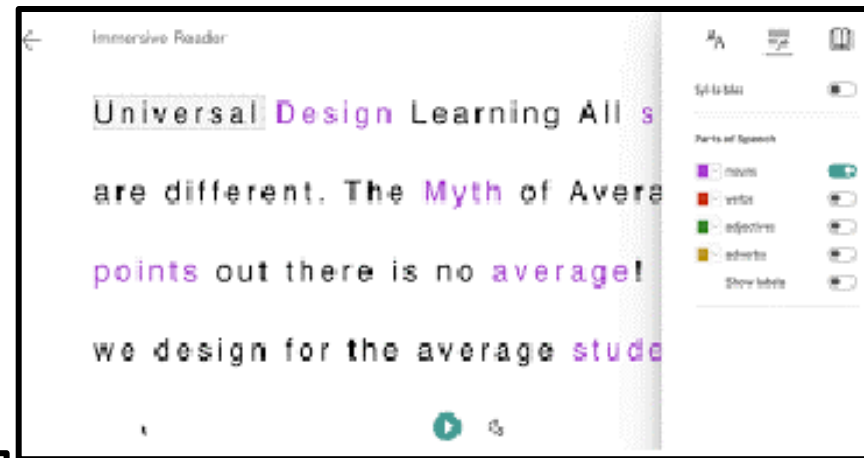
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Immersive Reader



learning | as unique | as every student



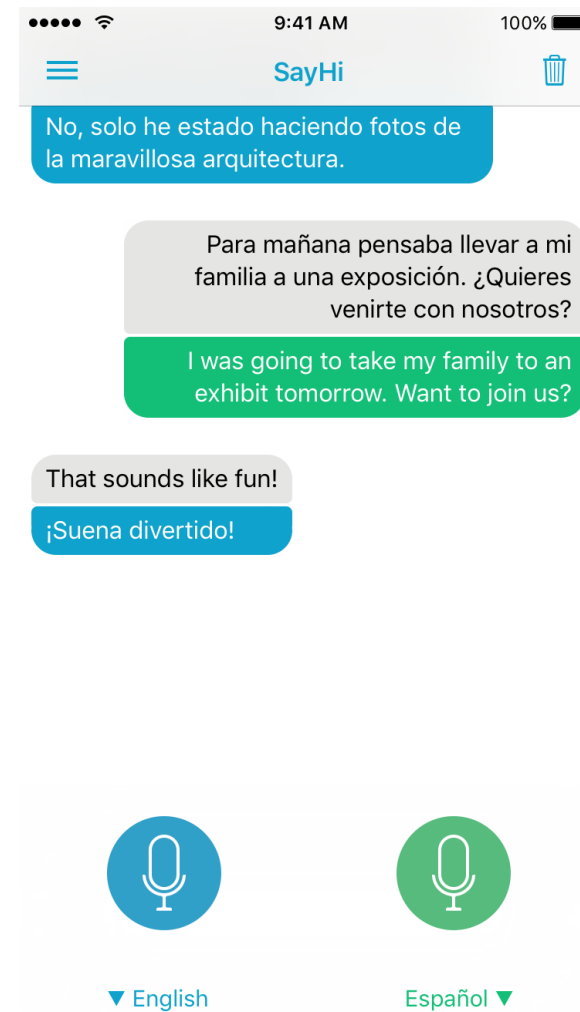
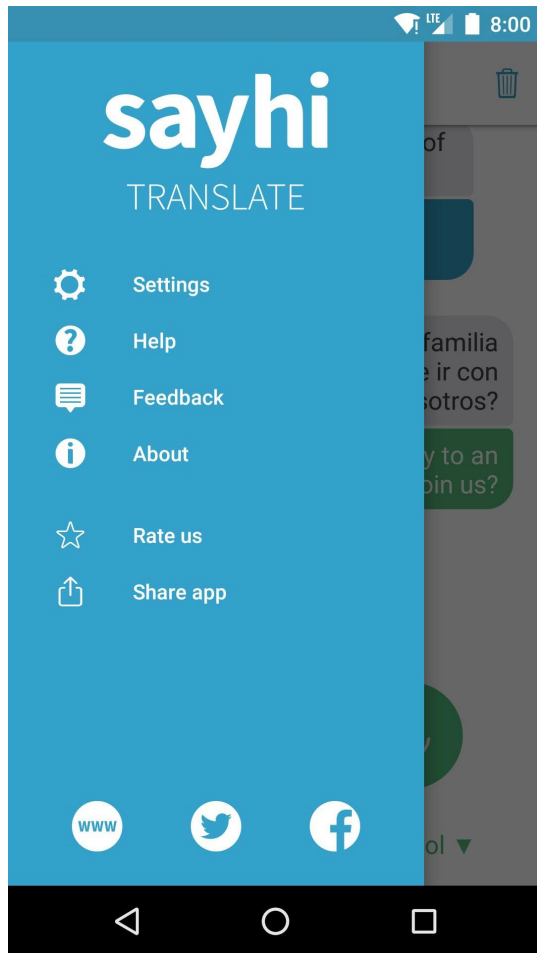
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SAY Hi App for Speaking Translation



Communication from HVS



- HVS Website



-  Emails from the school

- Google Classroom  Classroom

First Days of Kindergarten



What to expect...

- No bussing for K students for the first week
- Staggered entry for the first week (2 hours)
 - Students attend either, Tuesday, Sept. 2nd, Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, OR Thursday Sept. 4th
 - Morning Kindergarten: 9- 11am
 - Afternoon Kindergarten: 12:30-2:30pm
- Students should have their backpack, indoor shoes they can put on themselves, a litterless snack and a water bottle on their first day, to learn the routines
- There will be extra teachers to support their first day jitters and students will be well taken care of!

Additional Resources



The Calgary Public Library- Top Tips for Kindergarten Readiness*:
<https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/kitchen-table-classroom-kindergarten-readiness/>



The Calgary Public Library- Kindergarten Booklist:
https://calgary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/393767397_calgarylibrary_kids/1859193931_books_to_get_ready_for_kindergarten?_ga=2.167944481.1601611572.1619640025-939542020.1599601380



I'm Ready for Screens- Parent Resource:
https://banff.ca/DocumentCenter/View/11018/ImReadyForScreens_English

*Developed in collaboration with the CPL, Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School Division



HVS Kindergarten Open House

Friday, June 13th from
3:00 pm- 4:30 pm

Questions

