



Ridgeway Early Learning Center 2023-2024 FAQ for Parents



When does school start for pre-k students?

Pre-K students **DO NOT** begin school on Monday, August 7, 2023. Your child's teacher will contact you on July 31, 2023, to schedule a staggered entry date. Staggered entry dates are Thursday, August 10th and Friday, August 11th. Your child will only come to school on one of the two dates for a half day (8:15am-11:45pm). You will stay for parent orientation, which is usually about an hour, when you return to pick your child up at 11:45am on their staggered entry day. All pre-k students will begin their **first full day of school on Monday, August 14, 2023.**

What time does school start? School begins at 8:15am daily. Students are marked tardy at 8:31am. We are unable to open our doors for students before 8:15am unless they are enrolled in before school care.

What time does school dismiss? School dismissal begins daily at 3:00pm. Students are marked as "late pickup" at 3:16pm. Students enrolled in after school care should be the only students in the building after 3:15pm.

What should I do if I need to pick my child up early from school? All pre-k students are expected to attend a full day of school Monday-Friday from 8:15am-3:00pm. However, we do allow students to be picked up from school early, up until 2:30pm, in the event of unexpected emergencies or scheduled appointments. All parents are expected to notify their child's teacher well in advance of arriving to pick their child up early. We'd kindly ask that you let the teacher know of any scheduled appointments during morning arrival or call ahead to notify someone in the main office at (901) 416-1530 to avoid interrupting classroom instruction.

Please note that early dismissal for unexpected emergencies and scheduled appointments ends at 2:30pm. We will not allow students to be checked out early between 2:30pm-3:30pm. This time is reserved for teachers to close out the school day and prepare students for dismissal.

How do I sign-up for before and after school care? The YMCA of Memphis offers a tuition based before and after school care program called Y-Care that is offered onsite to our Ridgeway Early Learning Center students. Enrollment, payments, and all other concerns are handled by the YMCA of Memphis. For more information, please call (901) 766-7677 or visit their website https://www.ycamemphis.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=01_BASC_Overview&category=childcare

Can my child bring their lunch to school? Due to the funding of our program and USDA food program guidelines, we are unable to allow students to bring in any outside food. However, we are fortunate enough to offer a variety of foods for breakfast, lunch, and snack time. We understand that students may be picky eaters, but we can guarantee you that your child will have plenty of options throughout the school day. You might even be surprised when your child begin to like foods that they would never try at home simply because of the ongoing encouragement and support of their teachers and peers during mealtimes.

Is there a school supply list? No. All supplies are provided by the school. Teachers may share a classroom wish list with parents for specific items needed for their classroom. However, the wish list should only consist of inexpensive items/supplies that have been preapproved and not exceed 3-5 items/supplies. You may purchase your child a backpack big enough to hold their daily home/school communication binder aka "homework binder."

Please visit our school website for more information and updates at <https://schools.scsk12.org/Domain/182> or feel free to contact the main office at (901) 416-1530