

Welcome to
Kindergarten!



Lawton Elementary School

*Need-to-know information to help answer some your questions.
There will be plenty more information coming in your
start-of-school packet, but this overview will help make the first
days/weeks of kindergarten a little smoother.*

Key Contacts

School Address

4000 27th Ave West
Seattle, WA 98199
206-252-2130

School Contacts

Main office 206-252-2130
Attendance line 206-252-2139 or lawton@seattleschools.org

District Contacts

Transportation 206-252-0900
Enrollment 206-252-0760
Advanced Learning 206-252-0130

Helpful Websites

Seattle Public Schools www.seattleschools.org
Lawton Elementary <http://lawtones.seattleschools.org/>
Lawton PTA <http://www.lawtonelementary.org/>
Kinder Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2215403658785421/>

After School Care Providers

Lawton Elementary does not provide before or after school care for students.

Located on-premises:

Boys & Girls Club www.positiveplace.org/clubs/lawton/ 206-283-4361

Other popular providers that currently provide transportation from Lawton include:

The Makers Club www.themakersclub.org 206-282-2965
Hilltop Children's Center www.hilltopcc.com 206-283-3100
North Queen Anne Childcare www.ffmc.org 206-281-2919
Illumination Learning Studio www.illuminationlearningstudio.com 206-466-1931

The Lawton PTA offers students two separate sessions of after school enrichment activities (Fall/Spring). More information about the classes can be found on the [Lawton PTA website](#).

Key Dates

Kindergarten Play Date @ Lawton Park

Saturday, August 10th from 10-11 a.m.

Jump Start

Aug. 19-23 (9 a.m.-Noon) at Lawton Elementary

Popsicles with the Principal

Friday, August 23rd after Jump Start on the Lawton Playground

Kindergarten Family Connection Meetings

Sept. 4-6 (meetings scheduled with classroom teacher)

Look for a Lawton-specific calendar in your first day packet, but plan ahead for these key dates:

Wed., Sept. 4, 2019

First day of school for grades 1-12

Mon., Sept. 9, 2019

First day of Kindergarten

Fri., Sept. 13, 2019

Back to School Bash (5-7:30 p.m.)

Tues., Sept 24, 2019

Curriculum Night

Fri., Oct. 11, 2019

No School - In-Service Day

Mon., Nov. 11, 2019

No School - Veterans Day

Nov. 25 - 27

No School (elementary) Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 28-29

No School - Thanksgiving Break

Fri., Dec. 20, 2019

1-hour early dismissal (Winter Break)

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3

No School - Winter Break

Mon., Jan. 20, 2020

No School - MLK Jr. Day

Tues., Jan. 28, 2020

No School - Day Between Semesters

Feb. 17 - 21

No School - Mid-winter Break

April 13 - 17

No School - Spring Break

Mon., May 25, 2020

No School - Memorial Day

Thurs., June 18, 2020

1-hour early dismissal - Last Day of School

Arriving and Departing School

Parking around Lawton is limited. We encourage students and families to walk or ride the bus when possible. Following our traffic patterns and obeying the Safety Patrol is important to making morning drop off and afternoon pick up run smoothly.

- 27th Ave W (front entrance to Lawton) is a drop-off only zone. Pull up, drop-off, move on.
- Do not park, idle, or get out of your car because you will stop the flow of traffic and block buses from entering and exiting the area. 5th grade safety patrol members will open doors for children.
- 26th Ave W turns into a ONE-WAY street going south in the morning.
- The parking lot is reserved for staff and families with disabilities.
- Yellow bus zones must remain clear of cars.
- Never park in the bus turn-around area. Delivery trucks and buses cannot clear the corner when cars are parked here.
- Do not block neighbor driveways. City laws require a minimum of 5 feet from the driveway to your car bumper.



Walkers should stay on the sidewalks and cross at crosswalks. Lawton has a Walking School Bus on Mondays and Wednesdays. More information is available online.

Bus riders with questions about their bus assignments (or needing a drop off at a location other than their home address) should call or email the SPS Transportation Office (206-252-0900 transdept@seattleschools.org). Staff meet bus riders in the morning and direct them to the playground. After school, students line up and are escorted to their buses. The first week of school, kindergartners will be given a lanyard or sticker with their Student ID number and Bus Route Number. As an extra layer of safety, please include the following information in or on your child's backpack: Name, Address, Phone Number, Bus Number, Bus Stop Cross Streets.

Other Important Information

There are a million things you might be wondering about. We promise, you'll figure it all out and feel like an expert in no time. Our goal is not to overwhelm you with information here or cover every question you will ever have. We just want to give you a few highlights to help the first weeks go smoothly. If you have more questions (and you will!), reach out to the front office, the PTA, or a fellow parent with older students at Lawton. We're all in this together!

Jump Start Basics

Jump Start is a free week-long experience for kindergartners to learn about school. It runs **Monday, August 19, 2019 - Friday, August 23, 2019 from 9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Lawton Elementary School**. Please arrive at 8:45 a.m. to begin the check-in process. No transportation is provided.

Please send your child to Jump Start with a leak-proof water bottle, nut-free snack, and a backpack. All items, including any jackets or removable items, should be labeled with the kindergartner's first and last name in permanent marker.

Children need to be signed in and out by a parent or caregiver every day. On the first day, parents will be able to escort children into the building and will have the opportunity for a quick meet and greet with the principal. On all subsequent days, a teacher or staff member will escort your child into the building and escort your child out to you at during pick-up.

Kindergartners will be divided up into groups for the week. They will explore each of the kindergarten classrooms and take tours of different areas of the building. During this time, they will also be engaged in creative mental and physical activities. Lawton teachers work diligently to make sure children are placed in the "just right" kindergarten classroom based on personality and learning style.

We have a few helpful suggestions for you to prepare kindergartners for this new experience. It is helpful for students to know their full name as well as the name of their parent/caregiver. We also suggest kindergartners learn to use a public restroom. Knowing how to lock and unlock a stall door is an important skill and will allow kindergartners to feel more comfortable in using the restroom during the school day.

Teacher Assignments & Family Connection Meetings

All kindergartners participate in WaKIDS -- the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills, which includes a one-to-one teacher visit with every kindergarten family. You will receive an email with your teacher assignment shortly after Jump Start ends that will also include an opportunity to sign up for a 30-minute "Family Connection" visit during September 4-6. **Please remember that kindergartners start school on Monday, September 9, 2019.**

School Schedule Basics

- 7:40am** **Supervision and breakfast begin**
This is the earliest students may arrive on campus. Students should play on the playground unless a rainy-day recess morning has been announced.
- 7:50 a.m.** **First Bell**
This is the time to line up with your class and come inside.
- 7:55 a.m.** **Starting Bell**
This is the time we want students in class and ready to learn. If you arrive after this time, you need to check in at the front office for a stamp.
- 1:10 p.m.** **Dismissal on Wednesdays *except September 4th**
- 2:25 p.m.** **Dismissal (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)**

First Day of School

The first day of school kindergartners in Seattle Public Schools is **Monday, September 9, 2019** (note that other grades begin on September 4, 2019). You will feel like a rookie on the first day of school. That's ok. There will be signs and helpers to get you where you need to go. Look for your teacher's name on a sign on the playground.

Lunch at School

Students may pack a lunch from home or buy one at school. Packed lunches are dropped into a bin in the classroom and brought up at lunchtime. Hard-sided lunch boxes or hard food containers within a soft-sided lunch bag help lunches survive this process. Each student receives a four-digit pin number for buying lunch. Kindergartners receive this number during the Family Connection meeting. To add money to your child's lunch account, pay through PayPams (www.Paypams.com/onlineapp), which is also accessible on the district website under [Nutrition Services](#). Free and Reduced lunch forms are available on the district website.

Attendance matters

Kindergarten is an important time for building school habits. Maximizing instructional time is critical to the success of students. Below is a list of actions you can take to help your student maximize instruction time and building healthy attendance habits:

- Avoid appointments and travel when school is in session.
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick (see guidelines on last page).
- Establish a regular bedtime and morning routine. Finish homework and pack backpacks the night before.
- Have a back-up plan in place with family members, neighbors, or other parents for getting your child to school if they miss the bus.
- Talk regularly with your student about the importance of being in school.

When your child is going to be late or absent

We want students at school and on time whenever possible. However, if your student is sick or has an appointment that will make them late, please email lawton@seattleschools.org or call the attendance line. Telling the office of absences or late arrivals before school begins is extremely helpful for our office staff and saves them unnecessary calls home to check on student safety.

Late arrivals and early departures

Students who arrive after 7:55am (regardless of whether it is an excused or unexcused tardy) must check in with the office to receive a stamp for entry to class. If you need to pick your student up early, come to the main office to sign them out and have them called from class.

When after school plans change

It's important that you notify the Main Office in writing before noon of changes to your child's pick-up schedule for the day. Changes can be sent by email to lawton@seattleschools.org. The front office will deliver the message to your student before the end of the day.

Volunteering in the classroom or on field trips

Volunteers make great things possible for Lawton students. SPS requires that all interested volunteers submit an online application prior to working with students in the classroom, chaperoning field trips, or assisting in school-wide events. The volunteer application form and requirements can be found on the Seattle Public Schools website under "get involved." The front office works to clear volunteers in September to begin work as soon as October.

Finding things that go missing

Inevitably, students will leave something in the classroom, on the playground, or at an after school activity. The lost and found is in the front lobby. Help us return items to their owners by labeling *everything* with your student's name. Unclaimed items are routinely donated to those in need throughout the school year.

Lawton PTA

Lawton has a very active Parent Teacher Association made up of staff members and parent volunteers. The PTA funds and manages after school enrichment programming, evening activities, science week, art docent program, and much more! Stay in the loop about upcoming activities and events by visiting the Lawton PTA website and [subscribing to the weekly newsletter](#). Look for PTA membership information in your start-of-school packet.



Seattle Public Schools

Is My Child Too Sick To Go To School? A Guide for Parents

APPEARANCE/ BEHAVIOR– unusually tired, pale, no appetite, hard to wake, or confused.

EYES– If there is drainage, vision change, and/or redness of the eyelid, itching, pain or sensitivity to light. This may be a sign of “pink eye” (conjunctivitis) and the student should be checked by a health care provider.



FEVER– temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees C) or higher. Students need to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school **WITHOUT** medications to reduce the fever.

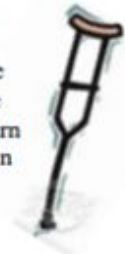
BAD COLD AND/OR COUGH – Students need to be able to cover their cough to be at school. If a cough or cold persists for more than 2 weeks, the student may need to be seen by a health care provider.

DIARRHEA– 2 or more watery stools in 24 hours, especially if the student acts or looks ill. Students should stay home for 24 hours after the last watery stool.

VOMITING– vomiting 2 or more times in 24 hours. Student should stay home for 24 hours after the last time they vomited.

RASH– Bothersome body rash, especially with fever or itching. Some rashes may spread to others and should be checked by a health care provider.

INJURY/SURGERY – if students are unable to concentrate due to pain or pain medication, they should stay home. Please have your health care provider contact the school nurse to help your child safely return to school. Letting the school nurse know in advance of any planned surgery will be helpful.



STILL HAVE QUESTIONS about whether or not your student is healthy enough to come to school? Contact the school nurse or your child’s health care provider.

Keeping ill students at home, encouraging frequent hand washing, and covering coughs protects everyone, including those with fragile immune systems.

Students are expected to participate in all parts of the school day including recess or PE. If your doctor has restricted activity please send a doctor’s note, for example: “No contact sports x 1 week.”

Thank you for your support to keep students safe & healthy.