

StrongStart Programs

All StrongStart Programs will operate on the following schedule.

StrongStarts are closed on Non-Instructional Days (ProD) and one day a month for staff meetings.

Beaverly Tuesday/Thursday 9:00 – 12:00	250-964-9311
Buckhorn Thursday 11:15 – 2:15	250-963-7110
Harwin Monday – Friday 8:30-11:30	250-562-1773
Heather Park Monday – Friday 8:45-11:45	250-962-1811
Malaspina Mon/Wed/Fri 9:00-12:00	250-964-9874
McBride Centennial (McBride) Friday 8:45-11:45	250-569-2721
Morfee (Mackenzie) Monday – Friday 8:30-11:30	250-997-6340
Nukko Lake Mon and Wed 8:30-11:30	250-967-4314
Nusdeh Yoh Monday – Friday 8:45-11:45	250-562-7201
Peden Hill Monday – Friday 9:00-12:00	250-562-5822
Pineview Tuesday 8:30-11:30	250-963-7529
Quinson Monday – Friday 9:00-12:00	250-562-1161
Ron Brent Monday-Friday 8:45-11:45	250-562-2737
Spruceland Traditional Monday – Friday 8:45-11:45	250-563-4208
Valemount Tues/Wed/Thurs 11:30-2:30	250-566-4427

Contact us:

If you have any questions, contact your StrongStart Educator, your local school or Lynette Turcotte.

2100 Ferry Avenue
Prince George BC

www.sd57.bc.ca
Facebook: School District 57 Early Learning – StrongStart

Parent Handbook StrongStart 2022-2023



SCHOOL DISTRICT 57

Early Learning

250-561-6800 (ext 215)

www.sd57.bc.ca

Facebook: School District 57 Early Learning - StrongStart

We acknowledge the financial support of the Province Of British Columbia through The Ministry of Education for this program.



Welcome

Welcome to StrongStart, a free school-based early learning program for children ages 0-5 and their parents/caregivers.

There are currently 15 StrongStart Programs throughout SD 57 and you may choose a center that works best for your family.

The years between 0 & 5 are an important time in a child's life. The opportunities your child experiences in their early years influence their future health, well-being and life-long learning. StrongStart creates an environment that welcomes the diversity of all families and treats everyone with respect and dignity.

The StrongStart experience allows your child the opportunity to become familiar with school based routines like walking in the hall, playing in the gym & inside voices. They will participate in play based learning activities that will promote their development in literacy, math and social emotional learning. These skills will contribute to your child's success when entering kindergarten.

Please Register for StrongStart



- ☑ Children between birth and 5 can attend StrongStart with an adult.
- ☑ Families will be asked to REGISTER at the school and will then be able to drop in.
- ☑ The StrongStart program is very popular and, when at room capacity, spaces will be shared among all families that are interested.

For your first visit to StrongStart please bring

- ☑ your child's birth certificate and
- ☑ a completed registration form

Keeping our StrongStart Safe and Caring.

Cellphone free



Please turn off your cell phone so you can give your full attention to your child. For the safety of all children in our schools, please ask the StrongStart Educator before taking pictures.

Respecting all school learners

Please walk quietly in the hallways to respect the learning that happens within the school building.



Keep sick kids (and adults) at home



Please respect StrongStart families, including those who are pregnant, young, or susceptible to illness and stay at home until **you** and your child are feeling better.

Bathroom Use

Please ask your StrongStart Educator what bathrooms are available for families.



Allergy Aware



Our schools are allergy-aware. Please consult the school and Educator regarding common allergens (nuts, scents etc.).

Important things about StrongStart

StrongStart is based on Play

StrongStart provides an opportunity for parents and children to play, learn and grow together. (Have we mentioned how important play is yet?)



StrongStart is taught by Early Childhood Educators

The StrongStart program is facilitated by an Early Childhood Educator. They provide toys, activities and experiences that promote development in communication, thinking, and personal and social skills.



What happens at StrongStart?

Circle Time

A time for the children and adults to come together for stories, singing, dancing, and games. By sitting with your child, you are helping them develop skills such as listening, interacting, and learning.

Creativity & Exploration

Children can explore the world around them through painting, gluing, cutting, playdough, creative art, and exploration opportunities.

Discovery, Play & Exploration

Parents and children have the opportunity to discover and learn through toys and free play time. Have fun exploring the world with your child.

Physical Movement

A time for children to develop big body skills such as running, jumping, catching, playing and balancing. This an excellent time for you and your child to burn off some extra energy while having fun.

Snack

A free daily nutritional snack is provided for the children.

How can I make the most

Get dressed for play.



At StrongStart you will use water, paint, glue, sand etc. Please dress your child in messy-play appropriate clothing. We like to say that we create messes at StrongStart so that your house can stay clean ☺.

*Children learn as they play.
More importantly, in play, children
learn how to learn.*

Fred Donaldson

Get ready to play.

Parents are the child's first and **most important** teacher! Parents playing with their children helps support the child in social, emotional and language development.



Leave 'home toys' at home.

We have selected toys and materials for you to explore at our StrongStarts. Please leave your toys at home so you can play with ours.



of our time at StrongStart?

Sit with your child.

Circle and snack time provide an opportunity for your child to see you having fun. When they see you participate, they will want to participate too.



Acknowledge your child as a play expert.



Follow your child's interest in play. Find ways to explore their knowledge with them. Ask them questions, build on their language and enjoy their abilities and expertise.

*Play gives children a chance to
practice what they are learning.*

Mr. Rogers

Acknowledge the feelings of yourself and those around you.

As a community we are going through unprecedented times. Be aware of the feelings and emotions that both you and your child are going through. Be kind and calm to yourself, your children and those around you.

**"This is our time
to be kind, be calm
and be safe."**

- Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer

