

Welcome to Kindergarten

2021-2022

Kindergarten is just the beginning of an inspiring path forward — and we can't wait for you to get started.

At Guilford County Schools, our encouraging community of educators, staff and families works together to equip your child with everything they need to succeed. This includes steady support as your child progresses and exciting choices that individualize the learning experience.

This guide outlines important steps for enrolling and preparing your child for kindergarten and introduces families to the Guilford County School experience. We're excited for you and your student to become a part of our community!

Your path. Your potential. Your place.



Give your child a great start with safe, supportive learning environments.

At GCS, we know that feeling safe — healthy, supported, nurtured and protected — plays a critical role in learning. We have everything in place so that your child experiences the joys and excitement of school in a safe, supportive learning environment. Our dedication to your child's well-being and a partnership with you and your family starts now.

We partner with the **Guilford County Health Department** and **Duke University's ABC Science Collaborative** to develop health and safety protocols and provide regular training to our staff, creating an environment designed to keep your child safe. Professionally licensed and trained social workers and school counselors support your child's social-emotional needs beginning their first year in school. These and other top priorities make GCS stronger today than ever.

Learn more about our commitment to safety at gcsnc.com/reopening.



GCS takes care of your child — and their future.



At Guilford County Schools, a welcoming and active community rallies around each family to support you and your child with:

- A personalized learning experience that allows you and your child to choose their path beginning in elementary school with outstanding academic programming and opportunities for specialization at magnet and choice schools
- Dedicated devices for every child as a one-to-one district as well as excellent instructional materials and library access
- Several of the highest performing schools in the state and nation
- Caring, highly credentialed and professionally trained teachers, ranking GCS 10th nationwide for board-certified educators
- Tools, resources and community for parents and caregivers through Guilford Parent Academy
- A staff that works together to offer comprehensive services to support your child, day to day and year to year — nutrition, counseling, special education, accelerated learning and more

Learn more about what makes GCS a proud state and national leader at gcsnc.com/page/1835.

Enrolling Your Student

The following information will help you prepare to register your child for kindergarten using the Schoolmint online registration system.

Your child must be five years old on or before August 31, 2021 to enroll.

Confirm eligibility

All Guilford County Schools students must reside with a parent or court-appointed legal guardian who is a district resident.

Find your child's school assignment

Use our School Assignment Locator at schoolassignmentlocator.gcsnc.com or call the **Student Assignment Office at (336) 370-8303** if you need assistance finding your school assignment.

Gather required documents

Parents or court-appointed guardians must submit the following required documents in Schoolmint to register your kindergarten student. Some documents must be requested from your child's health care provider. Collect this information before beginning the registration process to make sure you have everything you need.

1. **Child's certified birth certificate**
2. **North Carolina Health Assessment Transmittal Form certified by your child's health care provider**
3. **Immunizations (shots) records from your child's health care provider**
4. **Proof of residence showing name and address (CHOOSE ONE): All items below must be in the name of the parent(s) or court-appointed guardian/custodian.**
 - **Current, original gas, oil, water or electric bill. (Telephone and cable television bills are not acceptable.)**
 - **Official lease agreement**
 - **Driver's license (or State ID card from Department of Motor Vehicles) AND voter registration card from the Board of Elections Office**
 - **Driver's license (or State ID card) AND car registration**
 - **Driver's license (or State ID card) AND letter from employer on company letterhead verifying address**
 - **Driver's license (or State ID card) or voter registration card AND Medicaid card**

Create Schoolmint account and complete your registration

Log in or create your account at gcsnc.schoolmint.net. You will need an email address or a mobile phone number. Follow the steps in Schoolmint to complete your registration. You will be able to upload your registration documents in the system. If you need support with Schoolmint, please call the **Student Assignment Office at (336) 370-8303**.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I obtain my child's health records?

The North Carolina Health Assessment Transmittal Form is the form the health care provider fills out after examining your child and is required by state law. Forms are available at elementary schools and some pediatrician offices. You may also download it at www.gcsnc.com and click on "Departments" and "Health Services and Nursing." The form is found in the "Health Assessment Requirements" section.

You can get a copy of your child's immunization records from your child's health care provider. Immunizations required by state law include:

- **Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis (DtaP).** Five doses required. If the fourth dose is after your child's fourth birthday, a fifth dose is not required.
- **Inactivated Polio Vaccine or Oral Polio Vaccine (IPV or OPV).** Four doses required. The booster (fourth) dose is required on or after the fourth birthday and before entering school for the first time.
- **Measles.** Two doses, with the first dose on or after your child's first birthday.
- **Mumps.** One dose on or after your child's first birthday.
- **Rubella.** One dose on or after your child's first birthday.
- **Haemophilus Influenza Vaccine (Hib).** One dose.
- **Hepatitis B.** Three doses.
- **Varicella.** Two doses administered at least 28 days apart, with the second dose before entering school for the first time.

How do I obtain a certified copy of my child's birth certificate?

Contact the Register of Deeds in the county or state where your child was born.

If your child was born in Guilford County, you can contact the [Register of Deeds at \(336\) 641-7556](#).

What if my family is in transition?

If you are experiencing homelessness, your child has certain educational rights under federal legislation. Forms and information are available at each school.

A Student in Transition Affidavit must be completed for each child.

For questions, contact the office of [Homeless and Transitional Services at \(336\) 370-2329](#).

For more information about enrolling your child for kindergarten, visit www.gcsnc.com/Page/11599.

How can I help my child get ready for kindergarten?

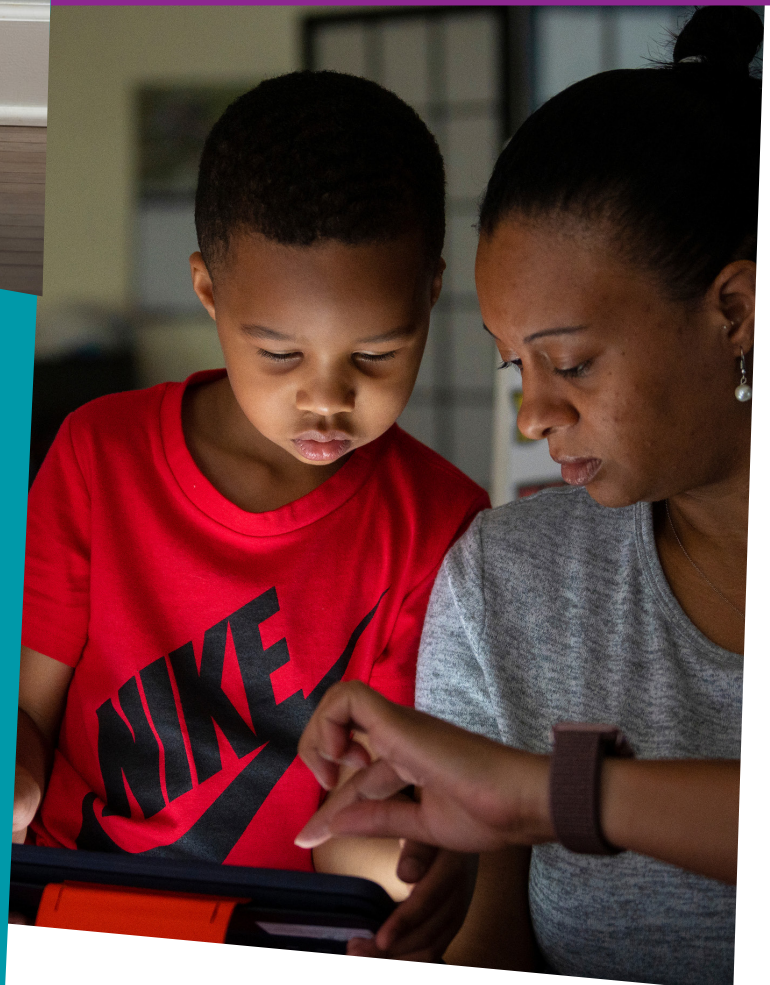
- Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep each night (10 to 12 hours recommended).
- Show interest in your child's play by talking about it or joining them. Ask questions and introduce some new ideas. Be supportive of your child and use positive language and reinforcement.
- Talk about feelings with your child. Talk about and give examples of how people may feel when things happen.
- Offer your child a variety of healthy foods and have your child help with mealtime routines.
- Try leaving time for your child to get dressed on their own. Have your child practice with zippers and buttons.
- Encourage your child to try new challenges such as climbing, kicking, catching and throwing.
- Talk with and listen to your child by asking and answering questions. Introduce new words when possible.





- Whatever language you speak at home, continue to use it at home and in our community. Learning two languages is good for a child's brain development!
- Try to read picture books every day. Talk about the pictures and ask questions about the story. Re-read favorite stories.
- Ask your child to tell stories.
- Encourage your child to count, compare, and predict things in your daily routine. For example, "Let's count how many cars are parked on this street."

- Encourage your child's interests and curiosity. Get books from the library about things your child finds interesting such as sports, insects, superheroes or flowers.
- Provide opportunities for your child to cut, paste, draw and write.
- Practice identifying colors with your child.





**Learn more about
Guilford County Schools**

www.gcsnc.com

**Enroll your child for
kindergarten**

gcsnc.schoolmint.net

The GCS Student Assignment Office is available to answer questions about the Schoolmint registration system, finding your school assignment, and other parts of the enrollment process.

GCS Student Assignment Office

Phone: (336) 370-8303

Email: StudentAssignment@gcsnc.com

Office: 120 Franklin Boulevard, Greensboro, NC 27401



In compliance with federal laws, Guilford County Schools administers all educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.