



## STS Transitional Kindergarten 2023-24

**What is TK?** TK is a bridge between Preschool and Kindergarten. It is a separate class for learners who are not yet ready to enter Kindergarten based on age, teacher recommendation, parent wishes, and/or assessment results.

**Why is Transitional Kindergarten a valuable option?** There is a lot of development going on in a child's early years of education! Children mature at different rates, handle expectations differently, and respond to instruction differently. **Our goal is to make sure that Kindergarten is a positive, uplifting start on the long road of education.** Ensuring that each learner is prepared for Kindergarten helps to create a life-long love of learning...and we want to cultivate success for our learners.

**How do we decide Kinder or TK placement?** All learners born August - December (late born) are placed in TK. A learner must be 5 years old by July 31 to register in Kindergarten.

**Can TK learners be promoted to 1st grade?** The goal of TK is to give learners a bridge year to be fully confident and ready to master Kindergarten. Although TK does not replace Kindergarten, we are a small school with very individualized attention. If a TK learner is progressing at a rapid rate academically and socially, a conference will be held with parents to determine whether Kindergarten or 1st grade is the right choice for their child. *If transferring to a DOE school after TK, the DOE school will enroll in Kindergarten and provide testing for 1st grade readiness if deemed appropriate by the school.*

**What is the TK learners uniform?** Regular school uniform.

**Are TK learners going to have naptime and recess?** Yes, for the first quarter they will have naptime. Then they will be transitioned to rest-time, and finally transitioned to no nap by the end of the year. There is no nap time in Kindergarten. The TK recess time is at the same time as Kindergarten. They will have daily interaction allowing for large group socialization skills to develop.

**Will TK learners follow a set curriculum?** Yes, they follow a curriculum that introduces the concepts taught in all subject areas of Kindergarten, but at a pace that allows them to progress with full confidence.

**Thank you for working with us in creating a love of learning during these important first years!!**