



# DEVELOPING AND SUPPORTING THE READY SCHOOL

This infographic is about system building at the state and local level and is designed for those with an interest in creating seamless transitions to kindergarten for children and their families.

## What is kindergarten (school) readiness?

Minnesota supports the educational success of all young children. “Children are not innately “ready” or “not ready” for school. Their skills and development are strongly influenced by their families and through their interactions with early learning experiences.”<sup>1</sup>

**Ready schools think critically about their current practices within a pre-K through grade three context. They work collaboratively to welcome all children and their families, and to ensure instructional and other pre-K through grade three practices meet the needs of all children.**

“Kindergarten (school) readiness occurs when children have the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in primary school, later learning and life. Physical, cognitive, social and emotional development are essential ingredients of school readiness. School readiness refers not only to ready children, but to ready communities, families and schools.”<sup>1</sup>



## TO ADVANCE EQUITY

- Conduct self-assessments of existing systems through an equity lens
- Promote equitable learning opportunities
- Support culturally responsive strategies for young children



## TO PROMOTE STUDENT LEARNING AND ATTENDANCE

- Use research-based learning standards (i.e., Early Childhood Indicators of Progress)
- Implement effective strategies for improving school attendance
- Support evidence-based instruction and curricula



## TO BUILD A BRIDGE BETWEEN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND KINDERGARTEN

- Ensure strong instructional alignment from pre-K through grade three
- Support differentiated learning in kindergarten
- Align early childhood and elementary education

<sup>1</sup> Regional Educational Laboratory Southeast. (n.d.). *The ready school: An important component of preparing a school-ready child*. Retrieved from [https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/infographics/pdf/REL\\_SE\\_The\\_Ready\\_School.pdf](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/infographics/pdf/REL_SE_The_Ready_School.pdf)

## About the Minnesota Kindergarten Transition Resources

The Minnesota Department of Education and the American Institutes for Research created a [suite of tools](#) for policymakers, community members, families and educators in early childhood education and kindergarten settings through funding from the ESSA Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five.

This infographic is made possible using federal funding: CDFA 93.434, ESSA Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five. The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Office of Child Care, the Administration for Children and Families or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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