



Valley View School Science Program

January 18, 2024



learning | **as unique** | as every student



Calgary Board
of Education



Alternative Programs



Land Acknowledgement from Kindergarten



AGENDA

1. Alternative Programs in the CBE
2. Science Program at Valley View School
3. Registration
4. Transportation
5. Q&A

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Alternative Programs



Choice | Alternative Programs

- Indigenous Education
- Arts-Centred
- All Boys
- All Girls
- Languages (French, German, Mandarin, Spanish)
- Montessori
- Science
- Traditional Learning Centre (TLC)



Alternative Programs



Why Alternative Programs?

- Providing families choices to appeal to the interests and preferences of each student
- Programs focus on a particular language, culture, subject (Arts, Science), or teaching philosophy
- Informed choice is essential – what is THIS particular program about and how does it meet MY child's needs?

Alternative Programs



Inform | Key Messages

- Each program has unique features
- Integrity of the program remains the same across sites
- All sites follow Alberta Curriculum/Programs of Study with ATA Certificated teachers
- All schools requiring a lottery follow the CBE lottery process
- Aligned with system timeframe for registration
- There is a designated Alternative Program school for each home address

Science Program



Elements of the Science Program

- An emphasis on the development of scientific literacy
- A focus on critical thinking through science and technology perspectives across subject areas using the Alberta Education curriculum
- Extensive field studies to enhance classroom inquiry (approximately 10 – 20 per year) across all seasons

Science Program



Differences and similarities with community school programs:

Differences:

- Students learn through the “lens of science”
- Focus on inquiry-based learning
- Mandatory field studies

Similarities:

- *Alberta Curriculum*
- Music
- Daily Physical Education
- Character
- Citizenship
- Personal Development

Science Program



Ignite Curiosity! Valley View Science Program



Science Program



The Science Program classroom | Sharing a Glimpse



Science Program



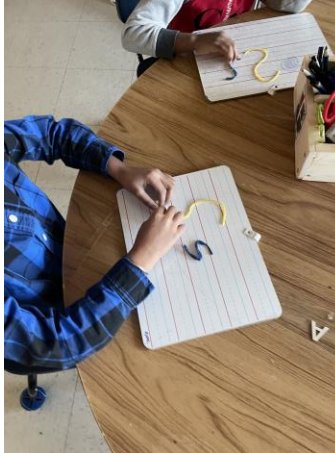
A Snapshot of the Science Program



Science Program



A Snapshot of the Science Program



Science Program



A Science Program student...

- Has a love of science and curiosity about how the world works
- Has a willingness to take risks in learning and is comfortable with ambiguity
- Exemplifies a resiliency for learning in outdoor environments in all weather conditions



Science Program



Other considerations:

- Extra field study fee per student for whole class day trips ~\$200/year
- **Parent commitment** to volunteer for field studies (3 times per year per child)
- Transportation fee ~\$35/month
- Lunchroom supervision fee (gr. 1-6) ~\$28/month
- Student supply fee ~\$40

Alternative Programs



Transportation, Registration and other Q&A

Alternative Programs



Timeline | Registration/Lottery

- Opens **January 15, 2024**
- Closed noon on Tuesday **February 13, 2024**
- Lottery drawn on Wednesday **February 14, 2024**
- Results of the lottery draw sent within 5 business days of the draw (**February 22, 2024**)
- Parents must accept/decline within 10 business days from the date of the acceptance letter (**March 7, 2024**)
- Kindergarten registration:
 - Any child who will not turn 5 by Dec 31, 2024 is too young to register for kindergarten
 - Any child who will not turn 6 by Dec 31, 2024 is too young to register for one

When Can My Child Begin Kindergarten?

Kindergarten Birthdate Calendar | 2024-25 Registration

Locate the child's birthdate in the chart below, then check the colour description below.

2018	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 6 in 2024
2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 5 in 2024
2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Students will be 4 in 2024

Children must be at least five years old as of December 31 to start kindergarten in the fall of that calendar year. This means that a four-year old child may start kindergarten if they will turn five on or before December 31 of that calendar year.

Alternative Programs



School Engage | Expression of Interest

You will need to submit an Expression of Interest

If you are not a current CBE student:
Registration is required through
SchoolEngage

Current CBE student: Complete an
Expression of Interest form through
School Engage

- By noon on February 13, 2024 for Lottery Schools
- And until further notice for all other alternative program schools

Alternative Programs



School Engage | Expression of Interest

All Expression of Interests are based on Priority Lists as stated in Administrative Regulation 6090 | Child and Student Registration and Admission

- Completing and Expression of Interest does not guarantee placement in an alternative program
- Registration will not occur until a family receives a letter of acceptance and an invitation to register
- Acceptance into a Kindergarten program does not guarantee registration into Grade 1

Please ensure you fill out all sections of School Engage when registering, uploading all pertinent documents helps streamline the registration process.

Alternative Programs



Inform | Transportation

- K-5 yellow bus transportation is provided following CBE congregated stop guidelines for alternative programs
- Parents pay an annual fee for CBE yellow bus service or purchase monthly Calgary Transit passes

Alternative Programs



Inform | Transportation

- Congregated stops are reviewed annually and informed by pre-registration for transportation, online through **MyCBE/PowerSchool**
- Congregated stops may not be within walking distance and alternate arrangements may be required to access the congregated stop

Science Program



Q&A

Science Program



Class Sizes

Valley View School Science Classroom Profiles (2023-2024):

Grade	# of Classes + Students
Kindergarten	2 Classes of 22; we offer alternating full day programs
Grade 1	2 Classes of 24, 25
Grade 2	2 Classes of 23, 25
Grade 3	2 Classes of 24, 25
Grade 4	2 Classes of 21, 22
Grade 5	2 Classes of 24, 24

** Next school year (2024-2025), Valley View School will be a K-6 school

Science Program



If my child is neurodiverse or has a disability, what supports are available?

We believe in inclusive education and in supporting every child to be successful. Depending on the need, our teachers can access the support of administration and Inclusive Education strategist to plan appropriate support and next steps. If your child has a Special Education Code or an Individual Program Plan, we kindly request you to contact Valley View School in advance to discuss your child's learning profile. We will work together with parents and non-CBE community agencies to determine the required support or specialized equipment your child may need to ensure a seamless transition to Valley View School.



Science Program



What enhanced supports might my child receive?

The classroom teacher is at the centre of your child's learning team and is supported by a school learning team. Based on classroom needs, each kindergarten program will also be supported by a multidisciplinary team that works with large and small groups in the classroom. Some of these supports will extend to grades 1-5.

This team may consist of:

- Education Assistants or Early Childhood Practitioners*
 - Early Learning Strategists
- Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)
 - Psychologists
- Occupational Therapists (OTs)
 - Physiotherapists (PTs)
- School Family Liaison (SFL)
- Vision or Deaf and Hard of Hearing Strategists
- Inclusive Learning Strategist (Grades 1-5)
- Diversity and Learning Support Advisors (DLSAs)
 - Language Interpreters

Science Program



What kinds of field studies will my child experience?

There are various field studies your child will participate in over the year. These will include on-site and off-site experiences such as:

- The Calgary Zoo
- Fish Creek Park
- Minds in Motion
- Military Museum
- TELUS Spark
- Walking Field Trips to places like the Calgary Public Library



Science Program



How can I volunteer for Field Studies?

It is a requirement for parents/guardians to volunteer for at least 3 field studies per year. This is a commitment you make when you register your child for the Science Program. Every volunteer must have a CBE Volunteer Clearance which can be initiated at the school.

[Steps to Volunteer](#) are Posted on the CBE's website.

Science Program



How is the new Alberta Science curriculum being delivered?

[New LearnAlberta](#)

-offers resources for teachers, students and parents





How are Indigenous ways of knowing and being woven throughout learning?

Science Program



Are there any extra-curricular opportunities for my child?

- Intramurals
- School Patrols
- Bus Buddies
- Student Voice

Science Program



School Council

Being a part of the Valley View School Council is a GREAT way to be involved in your child's learning.

School Council Chair: Amy Bennett

More info about School Council on the Valley View School [website](#).





Thank
You

Please contact the school if you
have any further questions or
concerns