



Alternative Kindergarten Program

Alternative Kindergarten is a **full-day program that gives your student the opportunity to grow another year before entering kindergarten**. Your student must be 5 years old on or before September 15 to be eligible. Interested students will be screened to determine eligibility for Alternative Kindergarten.

Alternative kindergarten is offered at Tilford Elementary. Alternative Kindergarten follows the Vinton-Shellsburg School District calendar, and Tilford Elementary school hours.

What to expect for your student

The alternative kindergarten curriculum focuses on literacy and math foundational skills that sets your student up for educational success.

- The program provides a balance of both teacher-directed and child-selected activities using both large and small group activities
- Positive guidance with firm, consistent procedures for behavior helps children develop self-control and teaches them to take responsibility for their actions
- Provides for varying rates of growth and development and respects children's internal time-table

How to enroll

The enrollment process for alternative kindergarten is the same as for kindergarten. Please indicate to your preschool teacher or building principal if you are interested in the program. Interested students will be screened in the spring to determine eligibility.

If your student does not qualify for alternative kindergarten, they will be enrolled in their resident school for kindergarten.

Screening information will include: Preschool performance data, recommendation of preschool teacher, parent interview, social/physical development (age, toileting, etc).