



[www.countdowntokindergarten.org](http://www.countdowntokindergarten.org)

**COUNTDOWNTOKINDERGARTEN**

At a Glance Transition Overview

## OCTOBER-JANUARY: Visit & Choose Schools

Families who are enrolling children in kindergarten for the following school year should use the "Discover BPS tool on the [www.countdowntokindergarten.org](http://www.countdowntokindergarten.org) website to get a list of Home base schools available to you. You can look up these schools in the School Preview Time brochure to find times when you and your family can visit schools, and make sure you bring along Countdown's "Visiting Schools" checklist!

### Important dates:

- The BPS "Showcase in Our Schools" Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 9:00AM – 1:00 PM
- School Preview Time will take place from December 2016 – January 2016-visits our website for dates.

## JANUARY: Register for Schools

Register in the first round of BPS registration to guarantee your best chance of getting into a school of your choice! Read Countdown's Registration Guide for everything you need to know about registration process, gather the necessary documentation (birth certificate or passport, picture ID, 2 proofs of Boston residency and child's immunization records) and visit a Welcome Center ANY time during first round to register.

- First Round registration begins on **January 3, 2017 to February 3, 2017**.
- Pre-register online using BPS express. Visit the [www.countdowntokindergarten.org](http://www.countdowntokindergarten.org) website for a direct link.

## APRIL-JUNE: Meet Your School

After you receive your school assignment from BPS, be sure to check the mail for an invitation to your kindergartener's new school's **Welcome Session**, or check the Welcome Session schedule posted on the Countdown site. Visit your school's Welcome Session with your child as an important part of the kindergarten transition process, and to learn about your new school!

## JUNE-AUGUST: Get Ready for School

Countdown to Kindergarten will send out a postcard in late May/early June inviting you and your kindergarten to go into your local library to pick up a Kindergarten Readiness Kit, including an "I'm going to kindergarten!" t-shirt, and activity guide. Be sure to check out the free events for kindergarten families around the city, including Kindergarten Day celebrations and Citywide Celebration at the Boston Children's Museum. Also, be sure to check out our Talk, Read, Play website [www.talkreadplay.org](http://www.talkreadplay.org), which has readiness ideas and free and low cost activities for families with young children in Boston.

## SEPTEMBER: Start School!

Kindergarten in the Boston Public Schools typically begins the Monday following Labor Day. Check out our "Helpful Handbook for Kindergarten Families" to learn what to expect in kindergarten and find out a little more about the curriculum. Be sure to fill out your parent questionnaire! Welcome to the Boston Public Schools!