

Frequently Asked Questions

Do families have to pay to attend a Strong Start Centre?

There is no cost to parents or caregivers.

Can anyone attend a Strong Start Centre?

All parents/caregivers living in School District #22, (Vernon, Coldstream, Cherryville, Lumby and Lavington) and their children ages 3-5 years can attend. Younger siblings are also welcome.

Do families have to commit to a period of time?

Families can attend Strong Start Centres on a drop-in basis.

Do parents/caregivers stay with their children?

Strong Start Centres require the involvement of parents/adults.

What will parents/caregivers and their children do at Strong Start centres?

There will be organized activities such as story time, art activities, puzzles, free play, healthy snacks, outdoor play and mother goose circle times.

Why should our family attend the Strong Start program?

Early Childhood Educators provide learning activities, which will help children get ready for kindergarten. Parents/caregivers play with and help their children learn, meet other families, and receive information on services in the community.

Do all of the Strong Start Centres offer the same program?

The Early Learning Framework guides the program content of the four Strong Start Centres. However, the delivery of the program may change depending on the Early Childhood Educator and the needs of the families in attendance. Alexis Park, Harwood, and Okanagan Landing School offer in-school Strong Start programs. The Wonders on Wheels (WOW!) bus provides a "mobile" Strong Start Centre that visits different neighborhoods.

How do we know these programs are going to be high-quality, professional Centres?

Strong Start Centres are staffed by Licensed Early Childhood Educators and operate in accordance with Ministry of Education standards.