



Welcome to Clayton Elementary School!

Kindergarten is exciting, new and fun, and with that are a lot of questions too! Take a look at our list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and let us know if you can't find the answer you need.

Kinder Roundup

Q: When is Kinder Round Up?

A: Kinder Roundup is usually in April. For the 2016-17 school year, the date is April 5, 2016 at 8:30-10am. The Clayton website will post information about dates, schedules, etc.

Q: How and when do I sign up?

A: It is not necessary to sign-up for Roundup. However, you may register your child for the incoming kindergarten year at my.austinisd.org prior to Roundup and bring that confirmation with you along with any of the registration documents you may have (originals and 1 copy each of child's birth certificate, immunization records, current proof of residence and parent's driver's license).

Q: Am I supposed to bring my soon-to-be Kindergartner with me?

A: This is a great opportunity for your child to see the school, make new friends, and get to know some of the administrators and staff so the first day of school isn't quite so overwhelming.

Q: Do I need to bring my checkbook to pay for anything?

A: No.

Q: If my child will be an incoming Kindergartner and I have an older child at Clayton is it necessary to go to Round Up?

A: Kinder Roundup is not required. As a parent it is up to you whether or not your child may want or need this "extra" time to see Clayton. Roundup also gives the parents the opportunity to turn in all required kinder registration paperwork before the summer begins.

Q: Can I bring other sibling children?

A: Siblings are welcome but we do want to focus on our incoming kindergartners.

Q: Is it helpful for my spouse to attend as well?

A: All parents and/or guardians are welcome to attend.

Q: What is the format and timeline of the day?

A: Kinder Roundup for 2016 incoming kindergartners will begin at 8:30am and last

until 10am. It is a staggered event for your convenience. Upon arrival to the cafeteria, there will be volunteers to assist you. The events of the morning will include: welcome and kinder presentation by Dr. Robinett, turning in registration paperwork, and tour of some of the school, kinder hallway and classrooms.

Q: What do I need to communicate to my child so they know what to expect in terms of waiting and activities?

A: We recognize our little ones like to be “on the move”. We will have activities in the cafeteria to help keep them busy and the actual presentation time will be short. Most of their time will be walking around the school and checking out their cool, new school! Their parent/guardian will be with them at all times.

Q: Is it helpful to arrive early, staggered?

A: The timeframe is 8:30-10am. The welcome and kinder presentation by Dr. Robinett will only be once, closer to the start of Roundup. The tours and volunteers taking paperwork will be there the entire time so staggered arrival is fine.

Q: What paperwork do I need to fill out BEFORE Kinder Roundup?

A: Register your incoming kindergarten student at my.austinisd.org and bring your confirmation page with you to Roundup.

Q: What is the Parent Cloud?

A: You may register for the Parent Cloud at my.austinisd.org. AISD utilizes the Parent Cloud for student registration and to make your student’s grades, attendance and other information available to you by means of the Internet. It is secure and accessible only by a login username and password that you select.

Q: How do I get a student ID?

A: Once you register your child at my.austinisd.org your child will be assigned an AISD Student ID that will stay with your child as long as he/she is registered with the school district.

Q: What if I forget one of the forms on the day of Kinder Roundup?

A: You may bring any of the forms to the office at a later date.

Q: How do I ensure I can communicate considerations for classroom placement for my Kindergartner?

A: You will be given the opportunity to fill out additional paperwork at Roundup regarding specific information about your child. In particular, you can let the administration know what information may be helpful when considering kindergarten teacher placement.

Q: Will we find out who my child's teacher is at Kinder Roundup?

A: No. Dr. Robinett is responsible for matching incoming kindergarten students to our amazing team of kindergarten teachers. She spends the summer reviewing all

relevant student information as well as considering classroom size, student ratios, etc. before making final determinations. Placements are not finalized until August prior to the start of school.

Q: When are class lists posted? Is this the "Block-Party?" Are they posted elsewhere?

A: Class lists are posted on the front doors of the school. This is the evening of the block party event (usually the Thursday before school starts). The lists are not available anywhere else.

Q: Go Cardinals! Where can I purchase Clayton Spirit wear?

A: Spirit Wear will be available at many school events and may always be purchased [online](#) on the Clayton website.

Q: Are there summer play dates for incoming kindergartners and families?

A: Yes, a list will be published on the Clayton [website](#).

Q: We just moved here and missed Kinder Roundup. How do we get school information and registration set up?

A: The Clayton website is a good place to start! The site is maintained year round and all updates about the upcoming school year will be online. You may also register online or call the office at any time for help.

General Kindergarten / New to Clayton

Many of these questions and more are answered in more detail in our Student and Parent Handbook found [here](#) on our Clayton website.

Q: Where is the school supply list and what are my options for purchasing?

A: The school supply list will be posted on the Clayton website. You may purchase items individually yourself or utilize the online school supply purchasing vendor, [SchoolToolBox](#).

Q: What school supplies does my child keep and what goes into the community classroom supply pool?

A: This will be determined by your child's teacher.

Q: When is Meet the Teacher? What are we supposed to bring?

A: Meet The Teacher is the Friday afternoon before school starts. This is an informal, "come and go" event where you and your child can meet your teacher, see your classroom and drop off school supplies before the first day of school.

Q: When is Back to School Night? What can I expect?

A: Back to School Night typically occurs during the second week of school. You

will receive information on specific dates/times in your child's folder. During this event, you will first meet in the cafeteria for a presentation by Dr. Robinett. Then you will go to your child's classroom for a presentation by the teacher about their classroom, expectations for the year, communications tools, paperwork, etc. This is a parent only event.

Q: What is the process on the first day of school? What are we supposed to bring?

A: On the first day of school, you may bring your child directly to the classroom between 7:30am and 7:45am. If school supplies were not dropped off at Meet the Teacher, you may bring those as well as your child's (labeled) backpack, lunch box or lunch money and water bottle.

Q: What is the drop off process?

A: Students may be dropped off in the morning car line or you may walk them in to the cafeteria. Either way they will wait together as a class in the cafeteria until their teacher comes to pick them up just before the morning bell. The car line is in the front of the school and traffic is direct by adults as well as the student safety team.

Q: What is the pick up process?

A: Students may be picked up in their grade specific car line (see map and procedure [here](#)) or they can be picked up by parents. Doors will be open at 2:45pm for parent pickup without required check-in at the office.

Q: Where do I get a carline window card?

A: You will receive one at Back to School night and they are available in the front office as well.

Q: What is release to sibling/trail?

A: Younger students can be released to older siblings so that they may walk together for pick up. Students who walk home on the trail exit the building through the side doors where an adult monitored safety walk is provided.

Q: Where do I find the bell schedule?

A: Page 2 of the Student & Parent Handbook.

7:40am – warning bell

7:45am – tardy bell sounds and classes begin

2:40pm – first bell (kinder, 1st, 2nd, bus riders dismissed)

2:45pm – second bell (3rd, 4th, 5th dismissed)

Q: I know there are fees associated with classrooms, gifts activities, etc. Is there any estimate for budget purposes?

A: All additional classroom expenses are at your own discretion and not required. Once your room parent(s) have been determined, they should provide a projected list of expenses to all parents to help with budgeting/planning.

Q: Am I allowed to attend the assemblies on Monday?

A: Yes. Every Monday morning, students stay in the cafeteria with their teachers for an assembly. This a great opportunity to hear from Dr. Robinett, find out about Clayton events, see special performances or awards, sing happy birthday to that week's birthday students, and learn the winners of the coveted Clayto!

Q: When is Picture Day?

A: There is a picture day during both the fall and spring, usually September and March. You will be notified of specific dates.

Q: Can we have lunch with our kids and when?

A: Yes. You are encouraged to have lunch with your student during their designated lunch time. Please check in at the front office and wait for their class by the cafeteria double doors. Teachers request that you wait at least 2 weeks after the start of school so that your child learns their lunch routine before you visit for lunch.

Q: What is the process for absences if my child is sick or has a doctor appointment?

A: See pages 2-3 of the Student & Parent Handbook. If your child needs to leave during the school day for a doctor appointment, please sign him/her out in the front office and provide a written doctor note upon their return.

Q: What is the school "Directory?" and where can I find it and enter my information?

A: The school directory is an online directory available to all students/families and faculty at Clayton. You may register for the directory through the [link](#) on the Clayton website homepage.

Q: Should I pack any extra clothes just in case in my child's backpack?

A: If you are concerned about an accident you may choose to pack extra clothes in a ziplock bag in your child's backpack.

Q: It's a long day going from preschool to Kinder and they eat lunch very early. Are they allowed to bring a snack?

A: Snack time is at the discretion of the teacher. Your child's teacher will let you know if they have snack time during the day and if so, what snacks are allowed.

Q: How does funding my child's school lunch account work?

A: Lunch menus are sent home monthly from AISD and student lunch is available daily for purchase. Each child has a PIN for a cafeteria account. Please send cash only in an envelope with your child's name, grade, teacher and amount enclosed. You may also prepay and track your child's lunch account using credit or debit card through www.myschoolbucks.com. You will need your child's student ID number to initiate the account (check with his/her teacher).

Q: What is the school's policy on lice? Any tips on avoidance and treatment?

A: See page 9 of the Student & Parent Handbook.

Q: What is the school's policy on food allergies?

A: See page 5 of the Student & Parent Handbook.

Q: I would like to get involved with my child's classroom and/or the school, where do I sign up?

A: Clayton encourages parent volunteers at school! There are many opportunities to be involved both at school and in the classroom. Your child's teacher and class parent(s) will notify you of specific classroom needs and there are many volunteer opportunities throughout the year organized by the PTA. See pages 11-12 of the Student & Parent Handbook or [here](#) on our Clayton website.

Q: What are the options for after school care? Where do I get more information sign up/parent resources?

A: Information on after-school programs are listed on our [website](#).

Q: What is the dress code? More specifically in terms of shoes (open toe, etc.?)

A: See page 6 of the Student & Parent Handbook.

Q: What are the best resources for ongoing information from the classroom, school and parent community?

A: It is our goal at Clayton to keep our parents included and informed. There are several ways to stay informed:

- The Google Group (email group utilized for school communications)
- The Clayton Weekly (electronic newsletter sent weekly to all members of the google group)
- Clayton Website (www.claytoncardinals.org)
- Clayton PTA Facebook page
- Clayton Twitter
- Weekly/Daily Folders (sent home by teachers with your child)
- Teacher emails
- Class or grade specific Facebook pages