



Start Dates for Children Beginning School for the Very First Time in 2023

With Cohort entry we use set dates for all children who are starting school for the first time. As a parent, you can choose which date suits your child best to start. It is important that they are equipped to start school so that they are happy and content with the transition.

To give you some help in supporting your child with a successful start to school, we have some guidelines that would be beneficial for them to be able to do before starting school.

Please look carefully at the dates and make your decision based on these guidelines and if any of your child's friends might be starting school in the same cohort. Your current Early Childhood Centre teachers may also have some helpful input into your decision.

Term	Date	Group
T1 Week 2	Tuesday 7th Feb 2023	Cohort 1-23
T1 Week 6	Monday 6th March 2023	Cohort 2-23
T2 Week 1	Monday 24th April 2023	Cohort 3-23
T2 Week 6	Monday 29th May 2023	Cohort 4-23
T3 Week 1	Monday 17th July 2023	Cohort 5-23
T3 Week 6	Monday 21st Aug 2023	Cohort 6-23
T4 Week 1	Monday 9th Oct 2023	Cohort 7-23

Children in New Zealand can start school anytime until they are 6 years old. They are at school for 12-13 years so it is important they get off to a positive start. There is some useful background information available from Dr. Nathan Wallis who talks about cognitive development in our young children and starting school.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/ninetoon/audio/201844291/does-nz-education-policy-align-with-recognised-research>

Please consider the information attached to ensure that your child will have a successful transition to school.

Best wishes,

Lorraine Taylor
Principal



Silverstream School - Te Kura o Māwaihākona
'Together We Inspire a Passion for Learning'

A Successful Transition to Silverstream School

Starting school is a big transition and an exciting time in a child's and your family's life. To have the best possible start to school, it would be beneficial if you could support your child to be able to do these things independently.

Oral Language and Communication:

Communicate needs, interests and wants using full sentences and follows 2 - 3 simple instructions

Social Skills

Share, take turns, wait patiently and use manners such as Please and Thank you

Can Manage Self-Care

Independently dress themselves and look after their belongings

Manage all food in their lunchbox eg opening food packages like yoghurt, and open and close their lunchbox and school bag

Go to the toilet, wash their hands and blow their nose

Can walk into school carrying their own bag

Persevere at Tasks

Sit and listen to a story or finish an activity

Fine Motor Skills

Correctly hold a pencil, use scissors and read and write their own name

Basic Maths Skills

Know a variety of basic colours and shapes and can count forwards to 10

Please return this form to the Silverstream School Office at least one term before your child is due to start school.

I have considered all the options and believe that cohort entry group _____

is the best date for my child _____ to start school for the first time.

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian

Phone: _____

Date: _____