

Transitional Kindergarten

FAQs

What is Transitional Kindergarten (TK)?

Transitional Kindergarten (TK) bridges the path between preschool and kindergarten and helps children build a strong foundation for future school success. It blends social and emotional experiences with academic learning, so that students not only learn essential pre-literacy, pre-math, and other 21st century learning skills, but also develop social and self-regulation skills needed to succeed in school and life.

Does Bright Horizons offer TK?

Yes, previously referred to as Kindergarten Prep, all Bright Horizons centers in California offer Transitional Kindergarten. In fact, we do so much more than prepare children for kindergarten, we prepare them for a lifetime of learning.

How old does my child need to be to enroll in TK?

All four-year old children are eligible for our TK program; because our curriculum is flexible and is responsive to children's interests, teachers will adapt to meet the developmental needs and strengths of each child.

Am I required to enroll my child in TK?

No, TK is an optional program.

What are the program hours?

At Bright Horizons, our TK program includes a full day of instruction. This means you do not need to find extended day or after-school care, as Bright Horizons offers that as part of your TK tuition. CA public TK programs are either 3 or 6-hour days, depending on the school district.

What are the ratios in TK?

Public TK classes will have a maximum size of 24 children with two adults, for a 1:12 adult to child ratio. Bright Horizons TK classes will meet these same ratios, and in some cases, may have lower teacher to student ratios.

Do Bright Horizons teachers need different qualifications to teach TK?

No; Bright Horizons' teachers already meet state licensing requirements in addition to being specially trained in our **Discovery Driven Learning**[®] framework.

How does Bright Horizons' TK differ from TK in CA public schools?

Our year-long program includes a full day of instruction so you do not need to add on extended care, as you will in the public schools. We utilize our proprietary **Discovery Driven Learning**® framework which includes a multi-disciplinary curriculum with Signature Practices that focus on preparing your child for success in school and life.

Other highlights include:

- Limited holiday closures
- Daily communication through our My Bright Day® app with photos, real-time updates on learning and milestones, and important notifications
- Portfolios that document the children's progress made available to families twice a year
- Family resources — webinars, podcasts, newsletters, learning activities for home, and more — that support parents as well as children

Information about CA's public TK program can be found at <https://tkcalifornia.org/>.

What is the curriculum for the Bright Horizons' TK program?

Our TK program has been carefully designed to meet children's unique needs, while preparing them for the elementary school years ahead. TK program highlights include:

- Creative, hands-on, and project-based learning
- Support for core pre-academic areas including literacy, mathematical reasoning, and scientific investigation
- Multiple and diverse learning activities that nurture the whole child (social, emotional, and physical development)
- Visual creative arts that encourage young children to develop an appreciation of the arts and supports children's natural artistic expression
- Focus on the understanding of teamwork and positive self-image
- Growing Readers: Ready to Read provides beginning reading knowledge that sets children up for a lifelong love of reading by building skills such as understanding familiar words in their world and retelling their favorite books
- Toward a Better World which supports the development of strong moral and ethical character and helps children become active members of their community