



Welcome to Kindergarten

NORGATE XWEMÉLCH'STN COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement



Xwemélch'stn

- Place of nourishment
- Traditional name of the whole territory surrounding the school
- Land near where the Capilano River meets the ocean



About the school



- Built in 1951
- About 180 students
- More than 10 different home languages
- Wonderfully diverse population
- International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IB PYP)
- Committed and caring staff



Code of Conduct: *Earning our D.R.U.M.*



We Earn our D.R.U.M. by being...

D	Devoted & Determined	I do my best to learn!
R	Respectful & Responsible	I am caring and I do my part!
U	Understanding & Uplifting	I make others feel good!
M	Mindful & Moral	I am safe and do what is right!

Kindergarten Program



- Learning and following routines
- Building independence
- Taking turns
- Keeping ourselves and others safe
- Social and emotional learning
- Sharing and communicating
- Learning and playing together



Resources for Families



Play Today A Guide for Families



Growth and development, preschoolers



When I Go to Kindergarten



Let's Play!



Let's Play! Activities for Families



SET
1

Engagement with
Others, Materials,
and the World

Let's Play! Activities for Families



SET
2

Communication and Literacies

Let's Play! Activities for Families



SET
3

Identities,
Social Responsibility,
and Diversity

Let's Play! Activities for Families



SET
4

Well-Being and Belonging

Gradual Entry



- Children grouped in smaller groups
- Children attend school for partial days over a two-week period
- Allows children become familiar with their new school
- Helps children learn school routines
- A schedule will be sent to you in late June/early July
- First full day on September 16th
(8:45 – 3:00 p.m. * Early dismissal on Wednesdays at 2:15 p.m.)

School Website and Online Calendar



- On the [school website](#), you will find information about the school, our programs, family handbook, community supports for families, and ways to contact staff members
- You will also find our online calendar of events, which we add to and amend throughout the school year. We recommend that you subscribe to this calendar to ensure you know what is happening at the school. Class-specific events/information will be communicated by your child's teacher(s).



FORMERLY NORTH SHORE
MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Impact North Shore

Immigrant Service Centre



- Address: Unit 207-123 East 15th Street, North Vancouver
- Phone: 604-988-2931
- Email: office@impactnorthshore.ca
- Website: <https://impactnorthshore.ca/>

Services

- Settlement
- Employment
- English Language Learning
- Community Connections
- SWIS (Settlement Workers In Schools)

Settlement Workers In Schools program (SWIS)



In Partnership with:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

Settlement Workers in Schools program (SWIS)



- The SWIS (Settlement Workers in Schools) program acts as a liaison between newcomer parents, students, and North & West Vancouver public schools regarding school related topics such as registration process, communication with school staff, understanding schools' guidelines or any other school related issues.
- SWIS workers also connect parents & students to various community resources.

Contact Us



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CHEQ – Childhood Experiences Questionnaire

UBC AND NVSD

UBC HELP and NVSD



- Our school district is partnering with The Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), a research institute at the University of British Columbia, to do the Childhood Experiences Questionnaire (CHEQ). The CHEQ is a questionnaire that focuses on experiences your child has had over the last few years.
- The school district has partnered with UBC HELP to conduct the CHEQ, the Early Development Questionnaire and Middle Years Development Questionnaire to better understand the needs of our learning community and provide appropriate supports.

Purpose



- Information collected with the CHEQ is used in a few different ways.
 - To strengthen school district and community programs and services for families.
 - Helps our staff better understand the different kinds of experiences children had before they started Kindergarten so that we can support them better.
- The CHEQ will be conducted by all NVSD elementary schools this Autumn
- The questionnaire does *not* assess your child's skills or abilities, or your parenting. Your participation is voluntary.
- The CHEQ is simple and easy to complete; it will take approximately 15 minutes of your time.

Types of Questions



The CHEQ asks parents and caregivers about:



Physical Health & Well-Being

Their child's experiences related to physical health and overall well-being including daily physical activities, routine health care check-ups, nutrition and sleep habits.



Language & Cognitive

A variety of experiences that influence their child's language development and cognition, including reading, storytelling, engaging in conversation and pretend play, rhyming, using pens and pencils, counting and sorting, painting and more.



Social & Emotional Experiences

Different social experiences their child may have had before Kindergarten, including playing with other children, sharing and helping others. In addition, parents/caregivers are asked about opportunities their child may have had to talk about their emotions and the emotional experiences of others.



Early Learning & Care

Their child's experiences in non-parental care arrangements and preschool, as well as challenges faced when looking for care. They are also asked about their child's experience with intervention programs and supports.



Community & Context

Their perceptions of neighbourhood safety, opportunities for children to play outside in their neighbourhood, social support networks and whether neighbours can be counted on to look after children.

[CHEQ](#)
[Parent/Caregiver](#)
[Video](#)

Next Steps



- Today, you will receive: Introductory Letter + FAQ Sheet
- In September 2026:
 - You will receive a login sheet during Gradual Entry
 - Upon logging in, there will be a Parent/Guardian Consent Form
 - Please review this form – it includes details on the questionnaire and how CHEQ data is used, stored, & protected
 - If you choose to participate, you will click “I Consent” and begin
 - You can withdraw at anytime

FAQ for Admin



- **How long does it take?**
 - On average, the CHEQ takes about 15 minutes to complete.
- **Can I complete it at home?**
 - If a parent/caregiver cannot complete a questionnaire at the school, they can use their parent/caregiver login sheet to complete the CHEQ online at home.
- **Can I finish the questionnaire later?**
 - Responses to the questionnaire are automatically saved as the parent/caregiver progresses through the questionnaire. Parents/caregivers are able to log out of the questionnaire knowing that their work has been saved and that they can log back in later to complete the questionnaire.
- **What is the deadline to complete the CHEQ?**
 - The questionnaire window closes at the end of October.
- **Can I skip questions if I am not able to answer or do not feel comfortable?**
 - All questions are optional. You can skip any questions you wish.
- **What happens to the information I provide?**
 - Answers provided in Part 1 about your child's experiences are included in individual, classroom and school reports and summaries. These reports may be shared with school personnel follows their professional practice guidelines for safeguarding your child's personal information in these reports. Answers provided in Part 2 about different socio-economic markers, (e.g. employment, education, income) is **confidential**. Responses to these questions are not provided to your child's school personnel. Identifying information is removed from these responses and these data are used for research purposes only to better understand the characteristics of your neighborhood and community.
- **I am having difficulty reading the questions. What can I do?**
 - There is a read-aloud audio button beside each question to hear the question read out loud that parents/caregivers may opt to use if they prefer to listen to, rather than read, the questions.
 - English language learners who may have difficulty understanding the questionnaire can complete the CHEQ at home with the support of a relative or friend. They can also bring someone to support them at the meeting. We also offer the CHEQ in Simplified Chinese and Punjabi with more translations planned for the future.
 - The CHEQ Leader (and in some schools, translation support) is also present during the CHEQ Parent/Caregiver Meeting to assist parents/caregivers as needed.
- **I did not receive any login information. What do I do?**
 - If a parent/caregiver did not receive their login sheet, the CHEQ Leader can log in to the e-System to print the individual login sheet. If the child is not in the system, the CHEQ Leader can add the child and the system will generate a parent/caregiver login sheet. If you are having trouble adding the child, please contact HELP as they may already be in the system. (P: 604-822-3361; E: cheq@help.ubc.ca)
- **Will my child's name be reported?**
 - Your child's name is only attached to individual and classroom reports for internal use at our school. There are no public reports with your child's name attached.
- **Can I have a copy of my child's report?**
 - Reports (including individual reports) are for internal use only and are not available to parents/caregivers.
- **Can I complete a paper copy of the CHEQ?**
 - No, parents/caregivers are not able to complete a paper copy of the CHEQ. It is more secure to have all of the reports online within HELP's systems which adheres to all requirements of provincial and federal privacy legislation.
- **If there are any questions you cannot answer, please contact the CHEQ Implementation Lead (P: 604-822-3361; E: cheq@help.ubc.ca) or direct parents/caregivers to the HELP website: earlylearning.ubc.ca/cheq/.**