

Support from Minato City

September to November

Visit elementary school open houses.

Mid-October

You will receive documents called "Health Examination for Children Starting School" and "Preferred School Choice Sheet."

Late October to mid-November

Have the health examination for children starting school.

Early November

Submit the "Preferred School Choice Sheet."
★Don't miss the deadline!

Mid-December

Documents for assistance in starting school are distributed.

Mid-January

You will receive notification of admission when your school is determined.

During February

Attend the information session for your child's school.

April

Your child enters elementary school.

◆Contact us if you have any worries or concerns about your child starting school.

☆Education Center: phone consultations
☎ 5422-1546

☆Education Center: Education and Subsection for Children with Difficulties
☎ 5422-1543

◆Children and family consultation

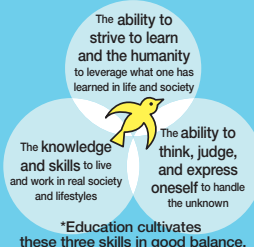
☆Children and Families Support Center
☎ 5962-7215

◆If you have concerns about your child's physical or mental development

☆Minato Development Support Center for Children
☎ 6277-3106

The ability to nurture children throughout their education, from preschool to high school graduation

Overall school education



The foundation is built in preschool

- **The foundation of knowledge and skills**
Children become able to feel, notice, and understand through a wealth of experiences.
 - **The foundation of the ability to think, judge, and express oneself**
Children use what they've noticed and can do to think, experiment, solve problems, and express themselves.
 - **The ability to strive to learn, humanity, and more**
Children try to lead a better life while developing their feelings, ambitions, and attitude.
- *The Three Abilities are cultivated seamlessly through play.

Through preschool life

Qualities that Should be Nurtured in Children by the End of Early Childhood

- **A healthy mind and body**... Learn to create a healthy, safe life for themselves.
- **A feeling of independence**... Learn to act with confidence through the experience of accomplishing things themselves.
- **Collaboration**... Learn to think and cooperate to achieve goals with their friends.
- **Budding morality/awareness of norms**...
Understand right and wrong and learn to put themselves in others' shoes. They become able to follow rules.
- **Connections to social life**...
Value their family, interact with people close to them, and grow familiar with their neighborhood. Learn to act on necessary information in life and play, use public facilities, and be aware of connections with society.
- **Budding thinking ability**...
Learn to perceive the nature of things from familiar phenomena, make predictions, and enjoy various connections.
- **A relationship with nature/respect for life**...
Develop feelings of love and respect for nature. Realize the wonders of life and treat living things with care.
- **Interest in/sense of quantities, figures, signs, and writing**...
Familiarize themselves with quantities, figures, signs, and writing through life and play, and develop an interest in and sense of those things.
- **Communication through words**...
Become able to enjoy communication by expressing their experiences in words and listening to what others say.
- **Abundant sensitivity and expressiveness**...
Learn to experience emotional events and express how they felt, feel the joy of expressing themselves, and have ambitions.

*These are not goals to be reached but qualities that are nurtured according to individual development. In addition, only some elements of each quality are listed here. Please see the link below for details.
https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/youchien/index.htm



Reference: "Bringing Individuals' Good Qualities Forward Into the Future: Preschool Education as the Beginning of School Education" Early Childhood Education Division, Elementary and Secondary Education Bureau, MEXT December 2019

When children enter elementary school, they start being aware of safety and going to school or to play by themselves.

In Minato City, there is a program in place where, if children encounter a suspicious person and seek safety in a business, shop, etc., marked with the sticker on the top right, someone cooperating in the Kodomo 110-Ban program will protect the child and notify a police station.

The city has also entered an agreement with locally connected businesses that feature the sticker on the right to have them watch over children to a reasonable extent while performing their ordinary business (the Nagara Mimamori program).

Inform children of the meaning and locations of these stickers before they start school.

Kodomo 110-Ban



Businesses cooperating in the Nagara Mimamori program



Dear Parents

Minato City has compiled a leaflet on things we would like you to do at home so your child can feel at ease starting school and have a fulfilling school life.

Relationships at home are vital in fostering a basis for your child's personality development over their lifetime.

It is important for preschools and families to cooperate and develop the following Three Abilities in good balance to link a child's growth and learning from early childhood.

The Three Abilities

The Ability to Live

Maintaining a healthy body and being able to do things independently leads to the strength to live confidently.

The Ability to Discover, Think, and Express Oneself

This is connected with interest, ambition, and attitude, which are the foundations for learning.

The Ability to Relate

This ability forms the lifelong basis of one's psychology. It fosters love, peace of mind, and trust as children relate to those around them, communicate their thoughts, and build rich interpersonal relationships.

*The Three Abilities develop comprehensively through life and play.

As is written on the top left, developing the Three Abilities through life and play with cooperation between the preschool and family will cultivate the abilities (the foundation for knowledge and skills; the foundation for the ability to think, judge, and express oneself; the ability to strive for learning; and humanity) to nurture children throughout their education, from preschool to high school graduation.

In the period just before children go to elementary school, when they are approaching six years old, you will begin to see the "Qualities that Should be Nurtured in Children by the End of Early Childhood" described on the left.

These are guidelines for upbringing, rather than treating all children the same, as individual children grow and develop differently.

Refer to these guidelines when interacting with your child, consulting with childcare workers or teachers, and talking about your child's qualities.



Publication number: 2023233-7370

Minato City/Minato City Board of Education

Published April 2020
Revised March 2024

Things we would like you to value or work on with your child at home to prepare for elementary school life (check periodically)

The Ability to Live

- Doing things independently
- Living a healthy and safe life
- Being sufficiently physically active and voluntarily getting exercise

Make a habit of having a regular daily routine.

- ☉ Going to bed early, getting up early, and eating breakfast are the foundation for a healthy mind and body.
(Example: Go to sleep at 9 p.m., wake up at 7 a.m. and have breakfast)
- ☆ Stick to the same routine every day.



Play outdoors a lot

- ☉ Playing outdoors with friends builds a healthy body and teaches children about safety.
- ☆ Confirm which spots are dangerous with your child and have them play while being careful of traffic rules and safety.
- ☆ Walk the route to school with your child.
- ☆ Teach your child the meaning of Kodomo 110-Ban.



Playing jump rope outdoors

Let your child do things independently

- ☉ Doing things independently fosters self-reliance.
- ☆ Have your child change their own clothes and fold clothes properly after taking them off every day.
- ☆ Have your child carry and organize their own bags and belongings.
- ☆ Have your child hold and use a pencil and chopsticks correctly.



Have your child take proper care of things

- ☉ Cultivate an attitude to take proper care of personal belongings and public property.
- ☆ Put your child's name on their belongings together.
- ☆ As a parent, show your child how to treat things with care, use them until they are finished, and look for them when they are lost.



The Ability to Discover, Think, and Express Oneself

- Interact with the world with curiosity and inquisitiveness
- Communicate feelings and thoughts in words
- Enrich a sense of writing and quantities

Let your child engage in a variety of play and experiences

- ☉ A variety of play and experiences such as physical activity, creating, drawing, singing, dancing, interacting with nature, and helping out lead to a foundation for learning.
- ☆ Take time to engage together in activities your child is interested in.



Encourage your child to dream

- ☉ Having aspirations and dreams, such as things children want to do or people they want to become, leads to ambition in many areas.
- ☆ Talk about your childhood dreams and listen to your child talk about theirs.
- ☆ Say at least 10 positive things about your child.



Familiarize your child with writing, numbers, amounts, and figures in daily life.

- ☉ When adults read picture books or stories, children develop imagination, vocabulary, and comprehension ability.
- ☆ Have your child say information like their name and age clearly in front of others.
- ☆ Read plenty of books to your child.
- ☆ Give your child real-life experiences such as going shopping.
- ☆ Have your child be aware of time in daily life.



Playing a boardgame you made yourselves

The Ability to Relate

- Exchange greetings
- Associate with people
- Follow rules and keep promises

Value time spent together as a family

- ☉ Love, a sense of security, and trust are nurtured by physical and mental connections as a family.
- ☆ Discuss thoughts and feelings a lot as a family and listen closely.
- ☆ Give your child duties such as helping out around the house.



Take opportunities to experience local events and foreign cultures

- ☉ Experiences with different people, such as local festivals and events or cultural exchange, expand your child's horizons.
- ☆ Give your child opportunities to associate with local people.
- ☆ Participate with your children in local events and experience foreign cultures.



Have your child answer others and exchange greetings

- ☉ Answering and greeting others is important in order to be comfortable spending time with people. Be a role model for your child.
- ☆ Have your child say "yes" with enthusiasm.
- ☆ Make it second nature for your child to give greetings like "Good morning" and say words of appreciation like "Thank you for the meal."
- ☆ Make sure your child can ask people around them for help when they are in trouble.



Sharing thoughts and opinions in front of friends

Follow rules and keep promises

- ☉ Living by the rules of society, the family, and preschool is the foundation for life in society.
- ☆ As an adult, be a role model and show how to judge the difference between right and wrong. Teach through repetition.
- ☉ Electronics like TV and video games are extremely stimulating for a child.
- ☆ Set a time frame and stick to it as an important family rule.
- ☆ Watch over your child with kindness, praising them when they do something good and talking to them so they can understand when you scold them.



Qualities that Should be Nurtured in Children by the End of Early Childhood

- A healthy mind and body
- Self-reliance
- Collaboration
- Budding morality and awareness of norms
- Connections to social life
- Budding thinking ability
- A relationship with nature/respect for life
- Interest in/sense of quantities, figures, signs, and writing
- Communication in words
- Abundant sensitivity and expressiveness

These qualities lead to the following things in elementary school!

- Understanding the course of a day and having foresight in daily life.
- Preparing items like textbooks, notebooks, and gym clothes and bringing them to school on one's own.
- Playing enthusiastically with friends on the playground during recess.
- Enjoying learning with classmates and being motivated to study.
- Concentrating on study or play to acquire a better attitude toward learning. (for example, listening and speaking appropriately)
- Using what one learned in everyday life.

- Greeting people and friends at school as well as local people in a friendly way.
- Engaging and cooperating with friends to learn.
- Following the rules of school life and study to act with independent thought.