



SD33 EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE



- ✓ Transitions
- ✓ Collective Responsibility



Just B4 Preschool & Before/After School Care

As the Ministry of Education expanded to include Child Care, we have been able to expand and enhance our early learning programming to include 8 StrongStart locations, 3 Just B4 Preschools, 3 Before/After School Care programs with more locations set to open September 2024.

Just B4 Preschool, led by a certified Early Childhood Educator, is dedicated to the social and emotional well-being of children, following the BC Early Learning Framework. The program emphasizes play-based activities and collaborates closely with Elementary School Teams to ensure a seamless transition to kindergarten. In its 1.5 years of operation, Just B4 Preschool has witnessed remarkable growth in 4-5 year-olds preparing for kindergarten, effectively addressing the growing concern of childhood anxiety. For instance, one child who initially struggled to separate from their caregiver benefited from a structured plan developed by our Just B4 Preschool Teacher. Through patience and consistency, the child transitioned to attending independently, actively participating in class activities, and forming strong bonds with peers. This success story exemplifies the program's commitment to supporting children in becoming confident and resilient students.

Our Before and After School Care programs, located at multiple Elementary School sites, are staffed by certified Education Assistants and Early Childhood Educators. This inclusive care model provides convenience and continuity for students and parents, with school and care co-located. Currently available at 3 locations for the 2023/2024 School Year—Central, Robertson, and Vedder Elementary—we are expanding to 3 more locations by September 2024, with the goal of offering School Age care at all our Elementary schools by 2026. Through partnerships with third-party, non-profit organizations, we are nearing this goal, promoting collaboration and safety while ensuring a seamless transition for children and their families before and after school.

"I'm a single mother with two school-age children. We came to Canada from war-torn Ukraine in April 2023. Since I'm the only breadwinner, finding care for my youngest before and after school was crucial. I'm grateful for Seamless Day, where I can drop off my child at 7:20 am, knowing he'll have a healthy breakfast and care before classes. After school, he's with wonderful staff who engage him in various activities, ensuring his safety and emotional well-being. This program allows me to start work at 8 am, confident that my child is in good hands. Many thanks to all the teachers!" - Mariia, Central Seamless Day Parent

"This program has allowed me to establish relationships with children, families and staff within our community. I have been able to increase my work hours, providing me with peace of mind when it comes to supporting my own family. It has been a pleasure to be able to contribute to the growth and success of Before & After School Care Programs".

-Jennifer Martin-Saranchuk, SD33 EA.

