What is developmental kindergarten?
Developmental kindergarten is designed for children who are of kindergarten enrollment age (5 years old by September 1 of the school year) or for children whose parents complete a waiver (5 years old by December 1 of the school year). The program allows students additional time to physically and emotionally develop in a safe and secure environment before attending kindergarten.

Students in developmental kindergarten experience similar opportunities as other kindergarten students, but are taught at a pace and intensity dependent on individual readiness.

Developmental kindergarten students will be taught by a certified teacher endorsed in early childhood, and they will participate in many activities around language & literacy, math, science, social studies, technology & computers, social experiences and dramatic play. Students also attend traditional specials classes, including physical education, Spanish, art and music.

How do I know if it is right for my child?
There is no single definition or assessment to determine placement. Most students will attend traditional kindergarten. Parents who are already considering another option before kindergarten are most likely to consider developmental kindergarten.

Any parent who indicates that they are interested in developmental kindergarten at the time of enrollment will be contacted by the principal of the school in their attendance area.

What is the typical class size in developmental kindergarten?
The exact class size and number of classes will be determined after enrollment, taking into consideration school space availability.

Where and when is this program?
Developmental kindergarten will follow a schedule consistent with all Royal Oak elementary buildings. Students will attend a full day, beginning at 8:25 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m.

The location of the program is still being determined based on space availability and need.
In what grade will my child be enrolled after he/she completes developmental kindergarten?
Students who complete developmental kindergarten are expected to attend kindergarten the following year.

Is childcare available for developmental kindergarten students?
Yes. Developmental kindergarten families have access to all school programs available to traditional kindergarten students, including childcare (latchkey). The processes for participation are the same.

Will students receive special education services in developmental kindergarten?
Yes, all special education services, in accordance with the student’s IEP, will be available.

How is developmental kindergarten different from the Great Start Readiness Program?
GSRP is a grant-funded preschool program with specific federal guidelines for eligible students who will turn 4 years old between September 1 and December 1 of the current year.

For school contact information and enrollment help, visit www.royaloakschools.org