



# KINCAID ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK

2022 - 2023

### SCHOOLDAY

**Starting Time:** 7:45 a.m.

**Dismissal Time:** 2:15 p.m.

**Office Hours:** 7:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**ASP Hours:** 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### ABSENCES

At Kincaid Elementary, we believe that a large part of your child(ren) being successful is attending school regularly and in a timely fashion. Cobb County Policy requires us to take the following actions:

- 3 unexcused days-** phone call from teacher
- 5 unexcused days-** letter from school
- 7 unexcused days-** referral to school social worker
- 10+ unexcused days-** truancy intervention panel

The day your child returns to school after an absence, he/she must have a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian. Excused absences are those for personal illness, death in the family and recognized religious holidays. The procedure is established by Georgia State law.

**Please be aware that any student who checks in after 11:10 a.m. or checks out before 11:10 a.m. is considered absent for that day.**

For detailed information on absences and tardies, visit the Cobb County website at [www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org) under Board Policies.

#### **Helpful suggestions:**

- Take vacations during schools breaks in September, November, December, February and April.
- Schedule doctor appointments after 11:10 a.m. so that the student is not counted absent.

### ACCIDENTS AND ILLNESSES

If a child becomes ill during the day, parents will be notified. If head lice are detected, you will be called to pick up your child. Your child will be re-admitted to school upon proof of treatment. If an accident should occur requiring medical attention, 911 will be called if parents cannot be contacted. Judgment in such cases is at the discretion of the school authorities and parents assume financial responsibility. Please make sure phone numbers are updated and on file in the office and the clinic. *It is essential that we know how to reach you at all times.*

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (ASP)

ASP is childcare provided for any Kincaid student from the time school ends until 6:00 p.m. It operates under the guidelines as established by the Cobb County Board of Education and is available every day that school is in session, including Conference Week and Early Release days. It is **not** available on student holidays. If school closes early because of inclement weather, there will be no ASP. Please monitor radio/TV weather reports for updates and have other contingency plans available.

All students enrolled at Kincaid are expected to register for ASP. This will allow a student to use the program in the event an emergency arises, and the child cannot go home unsupervised.

ASP is a **fee-based program** through Eleyo. Fees are \$50.00 per week or \$10.00 per day for each child. There is also a \$20.00 registration fee for each child/each year, payable the first day the child stays in the program. The enrolling parent must establish an ASP contract via ParentVUE. Without a contract, a student **may not** stay in ASP. Online payment or payment envelopes are provided for your use and should include the child's name to ensure correct posting of payment to the child's account. Failure to keep an account current may result in denial of services. Drop-ins are no longer allowed.



## *Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

The parent or an authorized person may sign your child out any time between 2:35 and 6:00. Picture identification (i.e. driver's license) may be required to ensure that only authorized people will be signing the child out. A late fee will be charged for pick up after the 6:00 p.m. bell rings. The fee is \$1.00 per minute per child.

All ASP students will be expected to maintain appropriate behavior. ASP is an extension of Kincaid's school day and all behavioral expectations and guidelines apply. Failure to maintain appropriate behavior will result in disciplinary action ranging from a discipline referral and parent conference up to expulsion from the program.

### **ATTENDANCE AWARDS**

Because we want students to stay home when they are not feeling well, Attendance Awards will not be given this year.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

**Birthday treats sent in by individual families are not permitted.** Birthday treats and drinks can be pre-ordered **through the café only** by using [this order link](#).. Do not send in treats, balloons, or party invitations for select students. Use Membership Toolkit to contact other families about birthday parties

Parents can also have their child's birthday displayed on the school marquee using [this order link](#).

Payments are accepted through Check, Cash or [MyPaymentsPlus](#)

With MMP, Select: "Activities & Events" and then "Fundraisers"

**IMPORTANT: Payments for birthday treats or marquee messages must be made separately.** Please allow a 1-week notice when requesting birthday treats and/or a 48-hour notice for a marquee message.

### **BREAKFAST**

Breakfast will be served each morning for the first month of school. After this time, we will reassess. Breakfast prices are as follows: \$1.75 (full pay), \$.30 (reduced)

### **BUS CONDUCT**

Bus rules may be found in the *Cobb County Parent Information form* distributed at the beginning of each school year by your child's driver. Please review all rules with your child, sign and return the form to the driver.

### **BUS LANES AND PARKING**

Bus lanes are clearly defined. Parents and visitors are asked to use the 'visitor parking area' and are not allowed to use the area marked 'buses only.' Parts of this area are used for physical education classes and instructional activities. Students also cross this area to use the playground. There is ample parking in our upper parking lot. Under no circumstances should students be dropped off in the morning or picked up in the afternoon in the bus area. Also remember that all handicap access ramps must be accessible at all times – they cannot be blocked for any reason. In accordance with Fire Marshall regulations, there is no parking against a red curb except during afternoon dismissal. Vehicles parked against a red curb at any other time, including pick up from afterschool enrichment programs can be ticketed. Please make sure you are parked in a space or against a yellow curb.

### **CAR RIDERS**

The school opens for students at 7:15 a.m. each morning. **Students who arrive by car cannot be dropped off before 7:15.** Parents who choose to pick up students by car **must do so by 2:30 p.m.** Any student not picked up at this time will be put in the after-school program at a cost of \$10.00 per student per day plus a \$20.00 registration fee if this has not already been paid. All cars picking up in the afternoon will need a Kincaid car tag. Each family may obtain up to two car tags during Meet and Greet or from the front office.

### **CLINIC**

The clinic is staffed by a registered nurse from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Children who become ill or injured at school are given medical treatment if injuries are minor. Parents are contacted when the injury or illness is of a more serious nature or if the child makes frequent visits to the clinic. A sick child does not belong in school. Please do not send your child to school if they have a fever, if they are vomiting or if they have a contagious condition. Students will not be allowed to stay at school if they have conjunctivitis (pink eye) or head lice. We do not have the facility or personnel to allow children to sleep in the clinic. Parents **MUST** have an emergency number on file so that the school can reach you if your child needs to be picked up. Everyone's cooperation is appreciated.



*Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

## CONFERENCES

One parent-teacher conference is scheduled in October. Students are dismissed two hours early and the After-School Program for registered students will be available beginning at 12:30 during this one-week period. Conferences are scheduled to discuss each child's academic progress and social growth. Conferences may also be scheduled at any other time during the year that the teacher or parent deems necessary to ensure student success.

## CONTINUATION OF ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS

Families who move out of the Kincaid School District during the school year may apply for a Continuation of Enrollment Transfer through the Cobb County website. Eligible students will be approved to complete the semester or the school year and must comply with the general provisions of the transfer. Only students who have attended Kincaid from Kindergarten thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be approved to continue enrollment through the completion of 5th grade.

## COUNSELING PROGRAM

The elementary guidance program is developmental and preventative in nature. A school counselor works with all students during core curriculum lessons, small group counseling sessions as needed, and individually with students as needed. A school counselor also consults with parents and coordinates with teachers to meet students' needs. You may contact the counselors by calling the school office at 770-578-7238.

## DISCIPLINE

Kincaid strives to build an atmosphere of respect and promotes school-wide positive behavior supports. The classroom teacher, with the cooperation of the parents, is expected to assume primary responsibility for correcting repeated behavior problems. If a student is suspended from school, he or she shall not participate in or attend school activities on or off any Cobb County campus.

## DISMISSAL CHANGES

A written notice is required any time a student changes his/her normal routine for getting home from school. This should be given to the classroom teacher. This note is crucial for your child's protection. ***Changes in dismissal procedures during the day are on an emergency basis only.***

## DRESS CODE

All students shall maintain an acceptable standard of dress. The following guidelines will be enforced.

- Shoes shall be worn at all times.
- Caps, hats, bandannas or scarves are not to be worn in the school building during the school day unless there is a special activity during which they are deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Clothing or ornamentation displaying or advertising activities or substances illegal for minors is prohibited.
- Shorts must be fingertip length and no bike shorts will be worn.
- No spaghetti straps, halter tops, or clothing exposing midriffs shall be worn.
- No intentionally torn or sagging (low-riding) pants are to be worn.
- Students shall not wear any clothing or ornamentation or alter their appearance in any way that is determined by the administration to disrupt instruction.

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP

The driveway from Kincaid Road to the flag pole entrance will be for drop-off and pick-up only. There will be NO CURB PARKING on either side of the driveway. Parents dropping off or picking up children should never leave their car unattended in the drive-through area. Please use the VISITOR spaces in the adjacent parking lot or the upper parking lot. Dropping off students by private cars in the bus area or in the rear of the building, including the E wing and the K building, is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.



*Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

## EARLY STUDENT CHECK OUT

Children may not leave the school grounds during regular school hours unless called for from the office. Unless the school has been notified otherwise in writing, children will be released only to their parents or legal guardians, or those individuals authorized on ParentVUE. The adult picking up a child must sign him/her out on the sign-out sheet in the front office. (Photo ID may be required.) **DO NOT go directly to your child's classroom as the teacher cannot release him/her.** Early check outs are missed instruction time, so please be mindful. **No check-outs between 1:45 and 2:30 p.m. each afternoon.**

## ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Entrance requirements for admission to Cobb County Schools are established in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia and policies of the Cobb County School System.

1. Age: Children who are five (5) years of age on or before September 1st are eligible for kindergarten. Children who are six (6) on or before September 1st are eligible for first grade.
2. Residence: Children must reside in the Cobb County school district with parents or legal guardians to be eligible to attend public schools. This policy will be strictly enforced. Two (2) proofs of residency must be provided for registration.
3. Birth Certificate: A birth certificate with a legal raised seal or other acceptable legal evidence of birth must be presented at registration. A copy of the certificate will be made and the original will be returned.
4. Georgia Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231): It is required by law that your child has a **current** immunization on file. Immunization may be obtained through your private physician or the Cobb County Health Dept.
5. Eye, Ear and Dental Certificate (Form 3300): It is also required by Georgia law that parents furnish this certificate. Vision and hearing examinations for students in 1st and 4th grades and for those students new to Cobb County will be conducted at each school. It is the responsibility of the parents of all students to provide the dental portion. Kindergarteners will be required to present a completed form 3300 at the time of registration. This certificate may be obtained through your private dentist or at the Cobb County Health Department.
6. Social Security Number: A social security card or a signed waiver must be presented when a student enters school.

## FIELD TRIPS

Teachers are encouraged to schedule field trips to enrich a particular unit of study or class project. To attend, a student must have written permission from his/her parent or legal guardian. This permission slip is sent home along with all information regarding the field trip. The cost of transportation and admissions should be shared by the students participating. Therefore, a donation is requested. If insufficient funds are collected it may be necessary to cancel the trip.

## FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

Fund-raising activities refers to Cobb County Policy JQE. Fund-raising activities involving students must receive the prior approval of the local school principal. In no case are students permitted to be involved in fund-raising activities during school hours. Students are also prohibited from door-to-door fund-raising.

## HOMEWORK

Age appropriate homework can support the learning process. General guidelines are: Primary students – 10 to 30 minutes, Intermediate students – up to 50 minutes. Homework cannot be graded in elementary school. Research shows a direct correlation between reading and student success, and daily routines of reading at home are always encouraged.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

See School Closing

## INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

We ask for your cooperation in guarding valuable instructional time. *All visitors must sign in at the office and wear a visitor's sticker.* Please do not stop by the classroom unannounced to bring something to your child or to talk to the teacher. If you need something delivered to your child, please bring it by the office. Also, do not go to your child's classroom at the end of the day. This is a very important time for the teacher to bring closure to the day and to give any last-minute instructions. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Remember, your child's safety is our main priority.



## ***Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...***

### **LOST AND FOUND**

Please label all clothing and possessions with your child's name. A lost and found closet is maintained at the school. Please check through this collection frequently as clothing left over is donated to a charitable organization.

### **LUNCH PROGRAM**

A nutritious and well-balanced lunch as prescribed by state and federal standards is served each day in the Kincaid Café. There is a charge for lunch for the 2022-2023 school year. Each school lunch costs \$3.25 (full) or \$.40 (reduced) for Kincaid students and \$5.00 for adults and other visitors, including younger siblings. Milk may be purchased a la carte for \$.75. Student accounts may be established by cash or check on Monday-Friday mornings from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. A student may also pay daily. Cobb County School District offers a system called MyPaymentsPlus which allows you to make prepayments to your child's meal account via the telephone at 1-866-535-1707, or at [www.mealpay.com](http://www.mealpay.com). Lunches may also be brought from home. Please DO NOT USE GLASS containers or send carbonated drinks of any kind. If your child arrives at school without money for lunch, charges up to \$7.05 will be allowed. All charges should be paid back immediately. If your child exceeds the charge limit, he/she will be provided an alternate meal of either a peanut butter sandwich and milk or a cheese sandwich and milk. A copy of the daily menu as well as other important information may be found on the Cobb County Food and Nutrition website at:

<https://www.cobbk12.org/foodservices>.

### **MAKE-UP WORK**

Students who miss school (excused absences) have the opportunity to make up class work and/or homework within a specified period of time following the student's return to school. If your child is ill and absent for one or two days, the work can be made up upon his/her return to school. If the absence is for three or more days and you would like work sent home, please call the office before 9:00 a.m. Work can be picked up after 3:00 p.m. The teacher is under no obligation to provide lesson plans and/or work for students who have unexcused absences. (This includes extended vacations or trips.)

### **MEDICATION**

If it is necessary for a child to take medication during school hours, the following guidelines MUST be followed: All medication is to be brought to the clinic BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OR OTHER DESIGNATED ADULT. (Exceptions include asthma medication; epinephrine auto injector and diabetic medications) Prescription or over-the-counter medication must be maintained in the original container. A medical form, which is available from the school nurse, must be filled out for each medication.

**ALL MEDICATION MUST BE HANDLED IN THIS MANNER BEFORE IT CAN BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS.**

### **MESSAGES**

Messages for students and staff will be handled through the office. Preservation of instructional time is of the utmost importance and we therefore ask you not to interrupt classes to talk to staff or students. *It is also important that your child knows how he/she is to get home each day and limit changes in transportation to emergency situations only.*



*Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

### **PE DRESS CODE**

Students should wear proper shoes and clothing in order to participate in Physical Education classes. During the first week of school your student should bring home a schedule of their PE days. The following guidelines will be enforced:

- Girls wearing a dress or skirt should bring a pair of shorts to wear underneath.
- Tennis shoes are required. (No boots, sandals, flip flops, platforms, clogs, backless tennis shoes or any kind of dress shoe will be permitted as these are not safe for physical activity.)

### **PERSONAL ITEMS**

To preserve instructional time and avoid distractions, students are not to bring any personal playthings, novelties, equipment, etc. to school unless given permission by a member of the staff for a specific purpose.

### **PICTURES**

Individual pictures will be taken during the fall of each school year. Individual and class pictures will be taken each spring. All profits are used to purchase additional materials, supplies, and educational equipment.

### **RECORDS**

In cases of transfer, records will be forwarded when requested by the child's new school. Please notify Kincaid at least two days in advance of a move so that paperwork can be completed. Student records are available for inspection by parents or guardians upon request.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration for NEW STUDENTS is online. Each year parents will be reminded to update student information in ParentVue. Please contact Lori Edwards for any registration questions. *See also* Entrance Requirements.

### **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards describing a student's progress are available to parents and/or guardians at the end of each grading period for grades K- 5 in ParentVUE.

### **RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)**

The function of the Response to Intervention Team is to review information about individual students who are experiencing academic and/or behavioral difficulties in school and to provide suggestions, recommendations, and alternative instructional strategies. Parental input is an important component of this process.

### **RETURNING TO CLASSROOMS AFTER SCHOOL HOURS**

*No student or parent will be allowed back in the classroom after 2:30 p.m.*

### **SCHOOL CLOSING**

When the Cobb County School System is going to be closed because of inclement weather, the decision to close schools is usually made and given to WSB and other radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. Most metro area radio stations will announce school closings right after the headlines on the hour and at frequent intervals. If a decision to close is made during the working hours of the school day, the statement will be given to the media. Please make sure you discuss procedures with your child should this happen. You will be asked to complete an "Inclement Weather" form early in the school year with instructions as to what your child should do in case of an early school closing. It is imperative that we have this information as it would be logistically impossible for teachers or students to make phone calls. You can also check the Cobb County website [www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org) for updates to school closings.



*Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT

See Sexual Harassment in the Policy section of the Cobb County Parent Information packet distributed at the beginning of each school year. Information is also available on the Cobb County web site at [www.CobbK12.org](http://www.CobbK12.org).

## SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Social Security cards or a signed waiver must be presented at registration. See entrance requirements.

## STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS/ ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students shall not use, display, or turn on communication beepers, cellular phones, video phones, or electronic devices during instructional time, class change time, breakfast or lunch. The Principal shall determine specified times on campus when electronic devices may be used for instructional purposes. **(Level 1)**

Students shall not use personal technology resources to distribute or display inappropriate material. Inappropriate material does not serve an instructional or educational purpose and includes but is not limited to the following:

- Is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive, indecent, sexually explicit, pornographic or threatening;
- Advocates illegal or dangerous acts;
- Causes disruption to the District, its employees or students;
- Advocates violence;
- Contains knowingly false, recklessly false, or defamatory information; or is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.
- **Consequence: (Level 2-3 and contact Public Safety)**

Students shall not use personal technology devices to access chat rooms/social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Snapchat during the regular school day for non-instructional purposes and without the express permission of the teacher. **(Level 1-2)**

Students shall not use audio or visual recording devices without the permission or a school administrator or as permitted by Administrative Rule JG (1)-R (Monitoring-Recording Staff and Students). This includes, but is not limited to, using recording devices to video, photograph or record misbehaviors or to violate the privacy of others. **(Level 1-3)**

## STUDENT USE OF TELEPHONE

Students will be allowed to use the telephone in the front office only in cases of emergency. Students must have a permission slip from his/her teacher.

## SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Suspension decisions are made by school administration. This action will never be taken lightly. In every case involving suspension, parents will be notified. It is the belief of the administration that children cannot learn in an environment that lacks order and respect. Every effort will be made to address concerns in a positive manner with the goal of replacing negative behaviors with appropriate behaviors. Good manners and respectful behavior are expected at all times.

## TARDIES

School begins **PROMPTLY** at 7:45 a.m. A child who is tardy loses valuable instructional time and disrupts the classroom routine. If your child is tardy, a parent **MUST** accompany their child to the entrance of the building and sign he/she in. The student will then be let into the building and receive a tardy pass prior to going to the classroom. (Please remember that cars are not permitted to drop off or pick up in the bus area.) We encourage you to take advantage of the free bus service provided by the Cobb County School System. This will ensure that your student is not marked tardy.



*Kincaid Policies and Procedures, continued...*

## **TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS**

Cobb County School Board policy prohibits the use of tobacco products by employees or visitors in school system buildings, offices, vehicles, or on school property. Employees and visitors are prohibited from using tobacco products in the presence or view of students or while supervising student activities or school sponsored events.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Bus transportation shall be provided for elementary students who live more than one-half (1/2) mile from the school in their attendance area.

## **TRANSPORTATION CHANGES**

A written notice is required any time a student changes his/her normal routine for getting home from school. This should be given to the classroom teacher. The note is critical and is for your child's protection. *Changes in dismissal procedures during the day are on an emergency basis only.*

## **VANDALISM**

Respect for property is expected at all times. Deliberate and willful destruction of school property will not be tolerated. Parents are responsible for property maliciously destroyed by a student.

## **VISITORS**

For the safety of the students, all visitors are required to sign in in the front office upon arrival and wear a visitor's sticker at all times while in the building.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are used in many ways to supplement and enrich our school programs. Volunteers are very important to the school and your time and efforts are greatly appreciated!

## **WEAPONS**

*See Weapons in the Policy section of the Cobb County Parent Information packet distributed at the beginning of each school year.*

## **WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES**

When a student is going to withdraw from school, the enrolling parent should notify our attendance clerk, Lori Edwards. Then enrolling adult should provide the last day the student will be in attendance, the area to which the family is moving, and the name of the school the student will be attending (if known). The clerk can then provide a withdrawal form that the student can take to his/her new school.

**ALL STUDENT POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ON THE COBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE.**

[www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org)



