



Village Little Preschool **Transitional Kindergarten**

Village Little Preschool (VLP) is excited to announce that we will have a Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. Our VLP-TK program is designed to lay a solid foundation for your child's academic, social, emotional, and spiritual development. We understand the importance of the early years in shaping a child's future, and our dedicated team of educators is committed to creating a positive and stimulating learning environment.

Selecting the right program is a crucial decision that significantly influences a child's foundational years of learning and development. As parents, the choice between private preschools like VLP and California public schools can be challenging.

What is Transitional Kindergarten?

TK is a kindergarten readiness program created by the State of California. It enables children who turn five years old between September 2, 2025 and April 2, 2026 access to free early learning in public schools. (VLP-TK accepts children who turn five years old between September 2, 2025 and September 1, 2025 for the 2025-26 school year).

Although "free" is a preferred and affordable source of child care, there are drawbacks that need to be considered. We will explore the unique advantages of VLP-TK's program, offering compelling reasons and comparisons why parents should consider it as the preferred choice for their child's early education journey over CA-TK programming.

California TK vs Village Little Preschool TK

Ratios & Teacher Qualifications

CA-TK Ratios & Teacher Qualifications

In public schools, a California credentialed teacher can have 1-12 students. If the class enrolls 13-24 students, then the teacher will be provided with an instructional aid.

VLP-TK Ratios & Teacher Qualifications

At VLP-TK, a California licensed teacher can have 1-12 students. If the class enrolls 13-24 students, then another California licensed teacher will be provided. Our teachers have taken Early Childhood Education classes in (1) child development, (2) child, family and community, and (3) age-appropriate curriculum. Our teachers meet all the requirements the State of California Community Care Licensing Division enforces. We also have three out-of-ratio leadership staff, that are teacher qualified, and possibly another floater teacher and/or aide to assist the VLP-TK teachers at any given time.

Learning Environment

CA-TK Learning Environment

Most CA-TK classes are held in classrooms with traditional desks and chairs on an elementary school campus. When teachers are unavailable, supervision of the children may be delegated to a less qualified staff members, including instructional aids and yard duty volunteers, during specific periods throughout the day.

Because CA-TK is on an elementary school campus, TK students may be exposed to and interact with older students up to 5th/6th Grade.

VLP-TK Learning Environment

VLP-TK instruction takes place both indoors and outdoors. Learning through play experiences helps children grow and develop. By spending time in both indoor and outdoor settings, they are able to explore the world around them at their own pace, without being rushed or expected to sit still for long periods of time.

Our VLP-TK class will operate in our large classroom (K-Hall) which provides more room for activities and learning.

VLP-TK students are the oldest students on the VLP campus, and therefore will not be exposed to or interact with older students. Teachers supervise the students 100% of the time.

Operating Hours & Fees

CA-TK Operating Hours & Fees

CA-TK is free. We understand that this is a huge consideration and very attractive to parents.

It is likely that CA-TK programs will last as long as the average school day. This means you might need to find and pay for before and after school care for your child. If this is the case, then your child might be in a before and after school care program that includes children up to 5th/6th Grade. If you believe a mixed-aged group is too much and would prefer a family-like environment, then it might be worth considering VLP-TK.

VLP-TK Operating Hours & Fees

VLP-TK operates Monday thru Friday, 8am-6pm. However, we have 2, 3, 4 and 5 days/week options, and we have half-day (8am-12:30pm), ¾-day (8am-3:30pm) and full-day (8am-6pm) options. We also operate year-round that includes the summer months, so you would not have to transfer your child to another school/program the summer before they enter Kindergarten.

VLP-TK provides morning and afternoon snacks, and we have a full kitchen where our cook provides fresh hot lunches on a daily basis. These lunches are included in the monthly tuition.

Curriculum

CA-TK Curriculum

Our local school district, Cupertino Union School District, uses several independent resources to form their curriculum, but there might not be a familiar theme and nice flow from subject to subject.

VLP-TK Curriculum

VLP-TK will be using Frog Street which is a comprehensive program designed to meet the needs of diverse learners while supporting developmental learning domains. Frog Street is a curriculum that is currently being used by some California school districts in the Bay Area. This engaging, interactive pre-kindergarten curriculum celebrates the joy of learning as children travel down the road to success, and there is a familiar theme and nice flow from subject to subject. Frog Street's pre-kindergarten curriculum includes all the components needed to ensure kindergarten readiness.

VLP is a vibrant Christian school dedicated to nurturing the holistic development of its students. At VLP, we emphasize spiritual growth alongside academic excellence. Our commitment to fostering a strong Christian community is evident through our regular chapel sessions held from Monday through Thursday. During these meaningful gatherings, students have the opportunity to engage in worship through uplifting songs and delve into the rich teachings of the Bible. Learning worship songs and exploring Bible stories and lessons not only deepens the students' understanding of their faith but also instills values of compassion, integrity, and community service. Through this intentional integration of spiritual education, VLP strives to provide a well-rounded educational experience that prepares students not only for academic success but also for a purposeful and spiritually enriched life.

VLP-TK students will still have the opportunity to sign up and participate in Amazing Athletes (Tuesdays) and Tuff Tumblers (Wednesdays).

Communication

VLP takes pride in fostering open and transparent communication between the school, parents, and students. Utilizing the Procure app, we have streamlined communication channels to ensure that parents are actively engaged in their child's educational journey. Through this user-friendly platform,

parents gain access to a comprehensive overview of their child's day-to-day activities, enriched with pictures and/or videos that provide a firsthand glimpse into the learning experience. Moreover, the app facilitates direct communication between parents, teachers, and leadership staff, fostering a collaborative environment where questions, concerns, and achievements can be easily shared and addressed. At VLP, we believe that strong communication is essential for building a supportive community, and the Procure app serves as a valuable tool in enhancing the connection between home and school.

We want to emphasize the established relationship that we have built with your family over the past year or two at VLP. Your child's time here has been filled with growth, learning, and precious moments, and we appreciate the trust you have placed in us. Please be aware that the CA-TK school will not have the advantage of prior experiences with your child.

[The Case for More Play](#)

CA-TK Free Play

Because of the shorter school day in CA-TK, free play may be limited, and it is a concerning aspect that warrants careful consideration. Restricting free play in TK may hinder children from fully exploring their environment, developing their imaginations, and honing essential cognitive and motor skills. It is important to recognize the long-term implications of limiting play, as it may impact a child's enthusiasm for learning and hinder their ability to adapt to more structured academic settings in the future.

VLP-TK Free Play

Play is not just a frivolous activity; it is a crucial component of early childhood education that contributes significantly to a child's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. Research consistently demonstrates that play-based learning fosters creativity, problem-solving skills, and critical thinking abilities. It provides a natural and enjoyable way for children to explore their world, make sense of complex concepts, and develop a lifelong love for learning. Furthermore, play promotes social skills, helping children learn to navigate relationships, share, and collaborate with peers. Physically, it aids in the development of fine and gross motor skills. By advocating for more play in preschool, we are advocating for a holistic approach to education that recognizes and honors the unique needs of young learners. It lays the foundation for academic success by nurturing a positive attitude towards learning, creating a solid base for future educational endeavors. In essence, more play in preschool is not just a luxury but an essential investment in the overall well-being and future success of our children.

[Conclusion](#)

Choosing VLP-TK over CA-TK offers a unique and tailored early learning experience that goes beyond conventional education. By prioritizing individualized attention, holistic development, experienced educators, enrichment programs, and community engagement, we are committed to providing your child with a solid foundation for future academic success and lifelong learning.

My hope is that you will take all the above information into consideration, but if you do have any comments, questions, and/or concerns, then please contact our leadership team.



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