

NEW TO OKINAWA FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR DoDDS SCHOOLS

1. Where will my child go to school?

Your housing location will determine your school zone. Once you accept housing on or off base, the housing office will tell you the school your child will attend.

2. How do I register my child?

Once you know your school zone, you should go to that school and ask for a registration packet. If you've already completed some of the paperwork, take it with you. You will also need a housing letter provided by the housing office indicating the house number and location that you have been assigned. You do not need to be physically living in the house at the time of registration.

3. When will my child begin school?

It normally takes 2 days to process registration forms and your child will begin. If the registration packet is complete with all required documents and turned into the appropriate school by 1000, the student can start school the following day. If it is turned in after 1000, the student can begin school in 2 days.

4. Can I register my child now?

Your child must be physically on Okinawa to register them. Although you cannot pre-register your child, you can visit the DoDDS Okinawa website at www.okinawa.pac.dodea.edu/parents for the necessary forms to register. Having much of that completed will speed your registration process when you arrive.

5. Can I enroll my child before I have accepted housing?

While in temporary quarters, you can register your child at BHPS, AEIS, KMS, or KDHS for those staying on Kadena or ECK, LMS, or KBHS for those staying on Foster. Once you accept housing, your child may have to change schools if the house is not in the zone for those schools.

6. What if I have a child on an IEP?

Please be sure to tell the registrar when you go to register your child that your child has an IEP. It is also imperative that you have a current copy of your child's at that time. For mild to moderate disabilities, all of our schools have special education programs. If your child has a moderate to severe disability, there are specialized programs at certain schools. He/she may attend a different school if services require.

7. What pre school programs are available?

DoDDS has a program called Sure Start which is a pre school program for students who turn 4 years of age by 1 September. It is not an automatic enrollment for all students. It requires an application that can be picked up at any school between April and August. Applications are scored against a comprehensive rubric and class lists are created in mid August. There is only one Sure Start class per elementary school. There are several off base pre schools available as well as the on base CDC programs.

8. When can my child begin kindergarten?

Students must turn 5 by 1 September to enroll in kindergarten. They must turn 6 by 1 September to begin First Grade.

9. Is there a gifted education program?

Yes. Teachers or parents can refer a child for evaluation.