

## **ATTENDANCE AGE – STUDENTS**

### **Background**

The Education Act provides direction with regard to school attendance ages for students in grades 1 to 12. In addition, Alberta Education regulations provide for the attendance of Early Childhood Services (ECS) students, where Divisions provide these programs.

The Division supports the application of a uniform school entrance age for Early Childhood Services and regular grade students.

Principals are responsible for the administration of this administrative procedure.

### **Procedures**

1. In accordance with the Education Act, a child who turns five (5) years old on or before the December 31 may be enrolled in a Division kindergarten program in the fall of the same calendar year.
2. A child who turns six (6) years old on or before the December 31 is eligible to begin grade 1 in that same calendar year.
3. While a child's participation in a kindergarten program is optional for all Alberta parents, attendance in school is mandatory for all children who are six (6) years of age as of September 1 of the school year.

Reference: Relevant Legislation & Guidelines