

School Readiness

at Bright Horizons



School readiness is much more than memorizing facts and figures — it's knowledge application, innovation, creative thinking, and a positive disposition for learning. At **Bright Horizons®** we focus equally on all aspects of development — cognitive, physical, and social-emotional. Our integrated and emergent curriculum gives young children a distinct advantage — the ability to expand beyond strong foundations in reading, writing, and math to understand not just what to learn, but how to learn.

The result: well-rounded, confident children who possess the ability to solve problems, make decisions, and engage with others.

To ensure quality, we completed our fifth nationwide survey of parents and teachers to assess their views of the preparedness of Bright Horizons graduates. In our most recent survey, parents and teachers of more than 1,000 Bright Horizons graduates were contacted during the fall of their child's kindergarten or first grade year.

MORE THAN 98%
of Bright Horizons
parents and teachers
agree that graduates
entered elementary
school with a strong
enthusiasm for learning.

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My child's teachers did a wonderful job of helping him to develop the emotional intelligence and learning skills necessary to enter elementary school. They were consistent and creative on using words to express emotions, developing empathy and understanding, and teaching foundational math, reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

— BRIGHT HORIZONS PARENT

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97% of parents report that their child entered elementary school prepared to meet the demands of the new school.

Teachers' Perspective

Elementary school teachers who participated in the survey provided insight into both the most important factors required for a child to succeed in elementary school and the preparedness of Bright Horizons graduates specifically.

One kindergarten teacher reported, "Some parents overestimate the need for children to come in with the ability to read, write, and count. My job is to teach students how to do those things. I am more concerned that they come in knowing how to treat other children, how to treat teachers, how to work cooperatively, how to play with others, how to share, etc."

Another teacher commented on graduates' ability to expand on their education. "Filling out a worksheet or a workbook isn't always knowing a subject matter. I like to see how children apply what they are learning."

Parents' Perspective

Today's parents have high expectations for achievement and want to ensure that their children enter school ready to meet or exceed academic expectations. These parents overwhelmingly told us that their child's Bright Horizons experience met their high expectations.

According to the Partnership for 21st Century Learning, learning and innovation skills are increasingly being recognized as the skills that separate students who are prepared for the ever-evolving, complex life and work environments of the 21st century, from those who are not. A focus on creativity, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration is essential to prepare students for the future.

More than 97% of parents agreed that their Bright Horizons graduates entered elementary school prepared for the emerging 21st century world, with the ability to:

- Collaborate by making friends and demonstrating genuine respect for others
- Think critically by approaching a challenge in an innovative and creative manner
- Communicate by sharing information and feelings as well as speak in a group

"Now that my daughter is in kindergarten, I see just how effective Bright Horizons was in preparing her. The school taught her how to participate in a group setting, to interact with other children, and to think through problems." — BRIGHT HORIZONS PARENT



94% of teachers said that Bright Horizons graduates were ready to accept new responsibilities and greater independence.



93% agreed that graduates were well prepared with math and reading skills.



96% agreed that graduates were prepared to meet writing expectations.

Ready for School

This study shows that Bright Horizons graduates are well prepared for the academic, social, and behavioral expectations of the first year of elementary school. Parents and teachers agreed that Bright Horizons is successfully preparing children for their next step in schooling while fostering a strong enthusiasm for learning.