



## Kindergarten Screening

As a part of Kindergarten registration and orientation, the district conducts Kindergarten screening as a process to help teachers and school staff get to know your child and to create balanced and diverse classrooms. This screening gives your child's teacher information about various aspects of your child's development such as language, cognition, perception, and motor development. It is important to note that this screening does not determine eligibility for kindergarten, nor is it a test of IQ or school readiness. The Athol-Royalston Regional School District uses the DIAL-4 for Kindergarten Screening. **Screening Dates will be May 26 and May 27, 2022 between 8am and 2:30pm, please call to schedule an appointment after registering your child.**

### What is the DIAL-4?

The DIAL-4 is a screening instrument designed to determine whether a child is developing within the average range for their age.

DIAL-4 examines five areas of development. The areas of motor, concepts and language will be measured through fun activities with your child. The areas of self help and social-emotional development are measured through a questionnaire completed by a parent while the child is participating in the screening activities.

In the Motor area, we want to see how your child is learning to use their body for throwing an object with accuracy, jumping, hopping, building blocks, cutting, copying and writing.

In the Concepts area, we are looking for your child's understanding of ideas like colors, accounting, and body parts and opposite concepts.

In the Language area, we will be checking to see if your child makes appropriate speech sounds for their age and is able to use words for communicating with others effectively period

Remember your child is not expected to display every skill or perform it perfectly. Tasks are arranged developmentally so that we can determine if your child is performing at an average range according to their age.

Upon completion of the screening, the screener reviews the Parent Information Questionnaire and your child's screening performance. This information will be used to get to know your child, to create balanced and diverse classrooms, and to determine the need for more formal diagnostic assessments.

Keep in mind that this is only a screening tool and not a diagnostic assessment. If you have questions or concerns about your child's development, please feel free to discuss them with your child's Kindergarten teacher and/or the Vice Principal/Early Childhood Director, Kimberly Leesha.

**If you have any questions or need to change your screening appointment, please contact the ACES Main Office at 978-249-2406 or the RCS Main Office at 978-249-2900.**