

General Information
Kindergarten Magnet Testing
Testing for Placement in School Year 2021-2022

General Test Information

All children applying to kindergarten in Caddo Parish Magnet Schools (all campuses) are tested. Nationally normed standardized tests which measure skills most children have learned or are learning by ages four through six years will be administered. Caddo Parish will select a different standardized assessment instrument each testing year. All elementary magnet schools will use the same standardized testing instrument(s) selected by the district. A child will test only once during the application year. Assessments will be administered only by the Caddo Parish School Board testing teams. All test scores will be reviewed and checked by more than one team member, as well as the District Magnet Schools Testing Coordinator.

Since children competing for kindergarten admission each year may be as much as 14 months apart in age, the test is scored according to the child's age on the date he/she is tested. Thus, older children are expected to know more than younger children.

Tests are administered one-on-one with the children rotating to several different stations and test administrators. The assessment process should take about a half hour to complete. ALL test administrators will be experienced educators who are experienced in working with young children and trained in test security and test administration.

Concepts Covered on the Tests

The concepts tested are encountered in daily life, in preschool and in kindergarten. A child's understanding of these concepts sets the foundation for learning, and is necessary to succeed in a classroom setting. The concepts covered include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying colors
- Identifying alphabet and their sounds
- Identifying numbers and counting
- Identifying shapes
- Listening to and retelling stories
- Making comparisons
- Matching patterns
- Pretend writing letters, lists, or descriptions of their art
- Speaking
- Time and sequence
- Understanding terms describing size and quantity
- Understanding directional and positional words
- Writing and copying words of interest

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Test Preparation

Educational research shows that the child best prepared for testing has usually attended a preschool which offers a balance of age-appropriate academic learning and social skills development.

At home, a child who has been read to daily since infancy, allowed to participate in family discussions, taken on excursions and provided with hands-on experiences and opportunities for exploration and discovery will also have a significant advantage. Examples include: trips to museums, the zoo and the aquarium, or working on arts and crafts projects at home.

Children develop at their own rates. Parents can provide children with the opportunities and tools to develop the skills and concepts assessed on the test. Eventually all children will master the skills. However, while some will have mastered most of these skills by test-time, others will not.

To help children prepare for testing, they should get plenty of sleep the night before the test and have a good breakfast that morning. Avoid rushing on the day of testing. Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. Children should be dressed neatly, but comfortably. Athletic shoes are recommended, and children may need to bring a jacket because the testing room is air conditioned. Testing takes about a half hour. Please do not put pressure on your child. The visit to the school should be a pleasant experience.

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Test Scheduling

Kindergarten testing begins on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 and should be completed by Wednesday, February 13, 2021. Applicants are assigned a test date, time, and location following application submission. Assigned testing locations are assigned by availability and do not necessarily reflect an applicant's school choices as listed on the application. To accomplish this we have established the following guidelines for scheduling testing:

K5 Testing Cycle:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>School</i>
January 20	Wednesday	Judson
January 21	Thursday	Judson
January 22	Friday	Judson
January 25	Monday	Judson
January 26	Tuesday	Judson
January 27	Wednesday	Judson
January 28	Thursday	Judson
January 29	Friday	Judson
February 1	Monday	Judson
February 2	Tuesday	Judson

Selection Process

Admission to kindergarten is competitive and due to the large number of applicants, not all students will be admitted.

Applicants who meet the January 8, 2021 deadline are scheduled for individual standardized testing. In the first phase of the kindergarten admission process, all applicants are administered a standardized test which covers basic concepts. Once all tests have been administered and scored, the test scores are evaluated and verified for accuracy.

Notification Dates

Notification letters will be mailed by March 12, 2021, and at that time students will be informed of their acceptance and offered a contract. Parents have around two (2) weeks to either accept or reject the contract offer. A student's contract is for one school year. After a contract is signed, a student may not transfer to another magnet school for that school year. Parents rejecting contracts may opt to be placed on a waiting list for a preferred school. After the first five (5) full school days, an elementary magnet school opening will not be filled from any Caddo neighborhood school.

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Late Applications

Late applications are accepted; however, there is no guarantee that late applicants will be tested. To meet notification deadlines, all testing must be completed by February 13, 2021.

Elementary and Middle School Magnet Programs

Elementary Schools	Location
Claiborne Elementary Magnet Principal: Sheila Holden-Lester	2345 Claiborne, Shreveport, LA 71103 318-222-2580
Eden Gardens Elementary Magnet Principal: Sydney Allen	626 Eden Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71106 318-861-7654
Fairfield Elementary Magnet Principal: Dr. Ronald Morris	6215 Fairfield, Shreveport, LA 71106 318-868-9826
Herndon Magnet School Principal: Tom Thomas	11845 Gamm Rd, Belcher, LA 71004 318-221-7676
Judson Elementary Magnet Principal: Dr. Karon Rankin-Manning	3809 Judson, Shreveport, LA 71129 318-635-1132
South Highlands Elementary Magnet Principal: Mary Harris	831 Erie, Shreveport, LA 71106 318-865-5119

Middle Schools	Location
Caddo Middle Magnet Principal: Robin DeBusk	7635 Cornelius, Shreveport, LA 71106 318-868-6588
Herndon Magnet School Principal: Tom Thomas	11845 Gamm Rd, Belcher, LA 71004 318-221-7676
Youree Drive Middle School Principal: Maria Edwards	6008 Youree Dr, Shreveport, LA 71105 318-868-5324