



Chaplin Elementary School

Take Care of Yourself; Take Care of Each Other; Take Care of Our School

Mr. Kevin J. Chavez
<http://chaplinschool.org>

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Dear Chaplin Families,

Connecticut lawmakers approved a kindergarten age change during the 2023 legislative session. As of 2020, Connecticut was one of two states to still have a January 1 kindergarten cutoff birthdate for a child to turn 5 years old. Beginning with the 2024-25 school year, Connecticut will require that all children enrolling in kindergarten turn 5 years old on or before September 1. Children turning 5 on September 2, 2024 will enter kindergarten in the 2025-26 school year.

During the first year of the change in enrollment age, parents/guardians of children whose fifth birthday falls between September 2 and December 31, 2024, may apply for a waiver to enroll their child in kindergarten early. **A meeting for families wishing to apply for the waiver is scheduled for Thursday, February 8 at 6:00 PM in the Chaplin Elementary School library.** A written application for the waiver will be available on the school website (chaplinschool.org) by mid February. The request must be sent to the Chaplin Elementary School Principal (kchavez@chaplinschool.org).

The waiver process will include an assessment of the child to ensure that admitting him/her early will be developmentally appropriate for the individual child. A part of this process will include having the child attend the PK class one morning for teachers and administration to observe the child during an instructional period as well as a play period. This will give us the opportunity to see how your child interacts with peers, responds to directions and completes self-help skills independently.

Sincerely,

Kevin J Chavez
CES Principal