

### **What is Bridge Kindergarten (also known as Bridge Kinder)?**

Bridge Kindergarten is a full school-year program in FBA Lower School between grades PreK4 and Kindergarten. At FBA, we consider Bridge Kindergarten a gift of time. Students who spend the year in Bridge Kinder leave very prepared for Kindergarten the following year, and often become leaders in their Kindergarten classroom. Our current PreK4 students have first preference for enrolling in Bridge Kindergarten.

The Bridge Kindergarten program follows its own curriculum; it is not a repeat of PreK4 content. Bridge Kinder curriculum focuses on foundational Kindergarten skills such as number fluency through ten as well as letter/sound correspondence, and then sound blending so that students are ready to begin reading. Bridge Kinder students interact with Kindergarten students by participating in some events together, however, each program is unique and students will not feel like they are repeating content once they promote into Kindergarten.

### **How do I know if I should choose Bridge Kindergarten is right path for my child?**

Bridge Kindergarten can benefit a five, turning six-year-old child for a variety of reasons. Some children just need a little extra time in a smaller classroom environment before entering Kindergarten, or they may need a little extra support in academic content, social and emotional skills, or self-confidence before entering Kindergarten. The smaller class size gives the teacher a chance to focus on these individualized needs for each student.

### **What is the size of a Bridge Kindergarten class?**

Our Bridge Kinder class is kept small at eight to ten students with one teacher. In PreK4, students have a lead teacher and an assistant with fourteen students. In Kindergarten, students have one teacher with sixteen students. The smaller Bridge Kindergarten class size helps some students adjust to moving from a classroom environment with two teachers to a classroom environment with one teacher.



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