

the Berkeley Carroll School

What Your Child can Expect on a Virtual Kindergarten Playgroup

A Kindergarten Playgroup is our chance to get to know your child in a classroom-like situation. Playgroups usually have six children and are staffed by six faculty. They will take place virtually over Zoom and last for approximately 45 minutes - 1 hour.

Children will be expected to separate from the parent or caregiver who accompanies them to the virtual playgroup and engage independently. We understand that separation can be difficult for some children and suggest you prepare your child. If separation from one parent is particularly difficult, you might arrange for someone else to bring the child to the virtual visit. We ask that only **one adult** bring the child on the virtual visit. The adult should wear headphones or earbuds and engage in a quiet activity once the assessment begins (*e.g. reading a book or magazine; we ask that adults refrain from writing and using laptops, mobile phones, tablets, etc.*). By wearing earbuds and staying busy, the adult is **modeling** what the child should be doing. The adult in the room should sit behind and to the side of the child so that the faculty may see that person during the entirety of the assessment.

Please note that since parents have a one-on-one conversation with the Admissions Director, they are not required to accompany a child to the virtual playgroup.

The playgroup will consist of some structured work time with a teacher, where we will ask the adults, beforehand, to provide a variety of toys and/or art materials, followed by a group closing circle. The activities will help us get to know your child better as a student and community member--and we expect that they'll be fun for everyone.

If your child is sick and cannot come to their virtual playgroup, please call us to let us know at 718-534-6608 and log into your [Ravenna](#) account to reschedule.

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