

Republika ng Pilipinas
(Republic of the Philippines)
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)
Maynila

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MECS O R D E R
No. 8, s. 1986

STANDARDS FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. This Office has been persistently receiving inquiries on the organization and operation of kindergarten schools from interested parties.
2. Section III of the Manual of Regulations for Private Schools, 7th Edition (1970), and the Education Act of 1982 provide general and specific requirements for private schools in all levels. However, it is deemed necessary that standards, particularly for kindergarten schools, be set in order to respond to the growing need and interest of the public.
3. Inclosed is a set of standards for the organization and operation of kindergarten schools.
4. Immediate dissemination and implementation of the contents of this Order is desired.

(SGD.) JAIME C. LAYA
Minister

Incl.:
As stated

Reference:
MECS Order No. 41, s. 1985

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:
CURRICULUM
LEGISLATION
RULES & REGULATIONS
SCHOOLS

STANDARDS FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS

1. Definition: Kindergarten refers to that level of education after Nursery and before Grade I.

2. Philosophy and goal:

Preschool education for Filipino children, which includes kindergarten level, intends to prepare children for formal schooling and at the same time narrow down adjustment and learning gaps, thereby minimizing dropouts and eventually improving elementary pupil's achievement.

Kindergarten education focuses on the physical, social, moral and intellectual development of children through socialization and communication processes.

3. Admission Age: Children admitted to kindergarten schools must be 5-6 years of age.

4. Class Size: A maximum of thirty children must compose a kindergarten class.

5. Teacher Qualification:

A kindergarten class must be managed by a teacher who possesses the following basic qualifications:

- a. Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Kindergarten Education or Early Childhood Education, or
- b. Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEEd)/Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (BSEEd) graduate or its equivalent with at least 12 units of pre-elementary education.

Requirement of 12 units of pre-elementary education may be gradually implemented as follows:

School year 1985-1987 - six units
School year 1987-1989 - nine units
School year 1989-1990 - 12 units

6. Kindergarten Curriculum:

- a. The utilization of the kindergarten curriculum in the Elementary Learning Continuum (ELC) of the Bureau of Elementary Education is suggested.
- b. Instructional materials such as coloring books, readiness workbooks, realias, games and puzzles must be available for each of the learning areas.
- c. The formation of desirable attitudes and values, including a sense of nationhood and health habits, must be emphasized.
- d. Opportunities for the development of a sense of nationhood, like proper behavior during flag raising and flag retreat, singing of Pambansang Awit and reciting the Panatang Makabayan, should be provided.

7. Class Hours: A. Kindergarten classes are expected to follow the school calendar of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports.

B. Kindergarten classes should meet at least from two and a half to three hours daily, either in the morning or in the afternoon, five days a week. A typical kindergarten schedule is as follows:

8. Class Program:

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

TIME AM/PM	:	NO. OF MINUTES	:	ACTIVITIES
8:00-8:20	:	15 - 20	:	Sharing Experiences (songs, poems, news, informal social conversation)
2:00-2:20	:		:	
8:20-8:40	:	20	:	Socialization Experiences (supervised play, both indoor and outdoor)
2:20-2:40	:		:	
8:40-9:20	:	30 - 40	:	Communication Experiences (readiness in the 4 communication areas)
2:40-3:20	:		:	
9:20-9:30	:	10	:	Supervised Recess Lunch (table manners, simple but nutritious meals, health habits)
3:20-3:30	:		:	
9:30-9:45	:	25 - 30	:	Rest Period
3:30-3:45	:		:	
9:45-10:00	:	15 - 20	:	Number Experiences (Readiness in Mathematics)
3:45- 4:00	:		:	
10:00-10:25	:	25 - 30	:	Aesthetics and Work Experiences (art, music, native & patriotic songs, and simple work activities)
4:00- 4:30	:		:	
10:25-10:35	:	10 - 10	:	Winding Up/Closing Session (Putting classroom in order)
4:30- 4:40	:		:	
<hr/> T O T A L - 120 - 180 minutes <hr/>				

9. Structure of the Environment:

- a. Kindergarten classrooms must have an area of at least 6 x 8 meters situated in a 500-1,000 square meter lot.
- b. Health facilities such as toilet, drinking and washing facilities must be adequate and suitable to children's height, size and other special needs.
- c. Playground apparatuses must be installed in the school grounds such as jungle gym, swing, slides.
- d. Hazards to safety of small children must be looked into, e.g. wells, diggings, stairways, pools, electric installations, etc.

- e. The classroom should have activity centers or areas which may contain the following or their equivalents:
- (1) Reading Corner - picture books, coloring books, storybooks
 - (2) Aesthetic Corner - bulletin board, painting materials, crayons, colored papers, scissors, paste/glue
 - (3) Housekeeping Area - cups, saucers, spoon and forks, plates, wash clothes, place mats, toy flat iron, ironing board, garment rack, towel rack, cooking utensils, mats.
 - (4) Health and Cleanliness Area - sink, faucet, soap, towels, mirror, comb, dipper
 - (5) Play Corner - sand table, toys, blocks, day house
- f. Furniture like tables, chairs, cabinets and locker must conform to the standards based on anthropometric measurements of children of kindergarten age, both in standing and sitting positions.
- g. Classroom should be adequately lighted and well ventilated.

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