

Santa Cruz County Preschool Planning Key Terms and Meanings

When You Hear Us Say...	We Mean...	Others May Call It...
1. Articulation	Aligning curriculum and learning standards between preschool and kindergarten. Includes processes for helping children and families transition from preschool to kindergarten and ensuring schools are ready for children.	Kindergarten transition
2. Data-driven planning	Using data from a variety of sources to shape the planning process	
3. Indicator	A measurement that helps quantify the achievement of a result (outcome). Several indicators can be related to an outcome.	Benchmark, Milestone
4. Instrument	A general term for surveys, focus group protocols, etc.	Data collection tool, survey, validated instrument
5. Kindergarten readiness	The combination of social-emotional and academic characteristics that children need in order to be ready to learn in school	
6. Outcome	A condition of well-being for children, adults, families or communities.	Results, Impact
7. Outcome gap	Differences in outcomes between subgroups of the population	Achievement gap
8. Providers	Individuals or organizations that provide early care and education for children	Teachers, child care providers, informal caregivers, family child care homes, centers, State or Federal programs, license exempt, etc. (there could be many more!)