



Square Footage Requirements for Nonpublic Schools

There are no mandated square footage requirements for public or nonpublic schools. There are recommended guidelines that the state has for public schools, which are used by MDE when reviewing public school construction projects.

MDE's **Guide for Planning School Construction Projects in Minnesota:**

"Square footage: Kindergarten Essential elements to consider for kindergarten spaces include: "Square footage: 1200-1500 square feet for 15-25 students. Determine appropriate classroom size by analyzing current and anticipated class sizes, staffing, needed technology equipment and spaces, and whether clothing storage, bathroom(s), and other support resource and spaces will be located within or outside the classroom."

"Location: first floor, convenient to outdoors exit and play areas, bus/parent drop-off and pick-up zones. Classrooms should contain or be readily accessible to space for clothing storage, age-appropriate bathroom(s), a hand washing area, and a drinking fountain. Consider clustering kindergarten classrooms with common areas for student activities, teacher planning, and parent volunteers. If only a single kindergarten classroom, consider clustering with other early childhood or primary classrooms."

See Section III of the Guide for more. The quotes above are from page 73. [Guide for Planning School Construction Projects in Minnesota](#). MDE: "The purpose of this guide is to encourage and guide school district planning of school construction projects that will enhance student achievement and school-community partnerships."

Also, this may be of general interest. A Minnesota statute relating to public school building requirements: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=123B.51>