

Navigating the Transition to Grade 7

Grade 5 and 6 Parent Evening

Monday, September 28, 2026

6:00-7:30 PM

Agenda

- ▶ What is important
- ▶ Info on the Grade 5 & 6 programs/expectations
- ▶ School choices
- ▶ How to select a Grade 7 school
- ▶ Application processes for public schools
- ▶ Application process for independent schools
- ▶ What JICS can do for you
- ▶ Q & A

What is important to keep in mind

- ▶ Your child has the skills/knowledge and attitude toward learning that every school wants
- ▶ Your child will be ready to leave JICS and thrive in a new school
- ▶ We live in a great city with great school choices
- ▶ JICS graduates are in high demand. Receiving schools love them!
- ▶ 4 Cs:
 - ▶ Connection
 - ▶ Capable
 - ▶ Count
 - ▶ Courage

What is important to keep in mind

- ▶ Schools that are in high demand (competitive admissions) are not necessarily the best schools for your child.
- ▶ Students should not be made to feel that they have failed in any way. Avoid ranking schools in front of your child.

Info on the Grade 5 & 6 program expectations

- ▶ Grade 5 & 6
 - ▶ Developmentally appropriate curriculum
 - ▶ Honouring what's special about being 10-12
 - ▶ Well-being and academic challenge
 - ▶ Building skills sequentially and developmentally

Skill Development

- ▶ Independence (school and home)
- ▶ Initiative and resourcefulness
- ▶ Accountability for effort
- ▶ Solving problems
- ▶ Attendance & Punctuality
- ▶ Test-taking (Grade 6)

What we want our students to be like as adults



What we want our students to be like as adults



What the receiving schools are saying about JICS students:

- ▶ Excellent at learning - share their ideas, risk-takers, learn from mistakes, collaborators, self-motivated, questioning
- ▶ Like all Gr 7 students, they need to adjust to test-taking but they quickly learn how to master these forms of assessment
- ▶ Easy to make friends
- ▶ Leaders
- ▶ Join clubs and sports teams (often on student council, team captains)

What the graduates say about Grade 7:

- ▶ Lots more homework
- ▶ Lots more moving from subject to subject with different teachers
- ▶ Lots more listening and recording information
- ▶ Teachers are very helpful
- ▶ Easy to make friends
- ▶ Lots of activities and opportunities for leadership (which many JICS grads take advantage of)
- ▶ It's a big transition, but they've handled it



PD Day Visits



Impromptu Visits

School Choices: Public & Independent

- ▶ Public - Toronto District School Board (TDSB) & Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB)
 - ▶ In district - “Your School”
 - ▶ Out of Area
 - ▶ Arts Program School
 - ▶ Alternative
- ▶ Independent
 - ▶ Academic/University Prep
 - ▶ Progressive/Alternative
 - ▶ Faith-Based
 - ▶ Single-Gender
 - ▶ International/IB
 - ▶ Special Interest (Arts, STEM, Athletics)
 - ▶ Alternative Curriculum (Montessori/Waldorf)
 - ▶ Special Needs & Learning Support

How to select a Grade 7 school

- ▶ Research schools
- ▶ Know your child's needs and wants
- ▶ Decide what's important to you? To your child?
- ▶ Tell your child that this is a parental decision with their input
- ▶ Attend open houses
- ▶ Talk to other parents
- ▶ Narrow down your list

Aspects to consider/Questions to ask

- ▶ School culture and values
- ▶ Size of school
- ▶ Religious or Secular
- ▶ Class size and Student/Teacher ratio
- ▶ Approach to Diversity and Inclusion
- ▶ Approach to Special Education Support
- ▶ Bursaries
- ▶ Climate that supports effort
- ▶ Degree of competition
- ▶ Assessment methods
- ▶ Extracurricular opportunities
- ▶ Focus (arts/social justice/inquiry/etc.)

School Choices: TDSB

- ▶ Public - Toronto District School Board (TDSB)
 - ▶ In district - “Your School” (guaranteed)
 - ▶ Out of Area - 1 application
 - ▶ Elementary Arts Program School - 2 applications
 - ▶ Alternative - 2 applications

Option 1: Your School Designated by your Address

[EARLY YEARS](#) [ELEMENTARY SCHOOL](#) [HIGH SCHOOL](#) [ADULT LEARNERS](#) [PARENTS & CAREGIVERS](#) [COMMUNITY](#)

banner_find-your-school-address

Find Your School



By Address

[← Back to Find Your School](#)

Schools in Your Area

Find Your School by Searching the Street Name

To find the Schools that serve your residential address for REGULAR PROGRAMS.

Enter Street number * Enter the name of your street including type and direction *

Option 2: Out-of-Area School (choose 1)



Toronto District School Board

New to Canada | Policies
About Us | Staff | Employment

ENHANCED BY Google



Translate

EARLY YEARS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL

ADULT LEARNERS

PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

COMMUNITY

Find your...

▼ School

By Home Address

► By School Name

▼ **Out-of-Area Admissions**

Elementary

Secondary

Accessing Remote Learning

Random Selection Process
Priorities

Resources

Supporting Students

Elementary Programs

Secondary Programs



Out-of-Area Admissions



Elementary Out-of-Area Admissions

Application, timelines and details related to accessing an elementary school other than your designated school by address



Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions

Application, timelines and details related to accessing a secondary school other than your designated school by address

Out-of-Area (subject to space availability)



The Elementary Out-of-Area Admissions application for September 2027 will open on January 4, 2027 and close at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22, 2027.

Students have the opportunity to access schools outside of the school that is designated to serve their home address by applying for [Out-of-Area Admissions](#). Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability. Find more information and details [here](#).

If you are interested in attending a school other than your designated school by address, applicants can submit one online application. When applying for Out-of-Area admissions, applicants may include one (1) school choice in their application.

Twins/multiples applying for the same grade at the same school can apply through a single application (NEW). The twins/multiples will be seated or placed on a waitlist together.

Transportation is the responsibility of the applicant when attending an Out-of-Area school.

Applicants may select Regular program, Remote Learning, Early French Immersion or a Middle Immersion Program. If selecting a French program in a non-entry grade (JK or Grade 4), the applicant must already be enrolled or registered for the selected French program.

Students applying for Out-of-Area Admissions in JK should also still [register](#) at their local/designated school by address in case they are not selected at their requested school. If selected, the parent/guardian/caregiver must notify the local school.

Out-of-Area Application/Offer Dates

Elementary Out of Area Admissions - Key Dates

The Elementary Out-of-Area Admissions application for September 2027 will open on January 4, 2027 and close at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22, 2027.

Out-of-Area Schools Classification: closed or limited

More About Out-of-Area Admissions

Out-of-Area Admissions School Status	Secondary Schools without a Boundary (SSWAB)	Intensive French Language Programs	Outside of Out-of-Area Admissions
Each year, schools are classified with one of the following Out-of-Area Admissions statuses based on the space they MAY have available for students from outside the designated attendance area in the upcoming school year. Closed The school may not admit any students from Out-of-Area. Only students residing within the school's attendance area may attend the school. Limited (Siblings) (Elementary Schools only) Only students with siblings attending and returning to the requested school may apply for Out-of-Area Admissions. Limited (Siblings or Feeder School) Only students with siblings attending and returning to the requested school or students attending a feeder school in the same program may apply for Out-of-Area Admissions. At the Secondary School level, the status is Limited (Feeder School) and only applies to students attending a feeder school in the same program. Limited All students may apply for Out-of-Area Admissions. The school may admit students from all of the priorities, as space is available. ▪ Schools with any of the Limited statuses may or may not have seats available in any particular grade based on the projected enrollment for the school and the in-area population attending the school. ▪ Schools must stay within their projected enrollment limits and may not be able to accommodate students outside of those limits.			

Out-of-Area Schools - examples

Elementary School List

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [All](#)

Secondary School List

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#) [All](#)

31 results listed below

School	Regular Program	Early French Immersion / French Immersion	Middle Immersion / Extended French	Notes
D A Morrison Middle School	Closed	Closed	N/A	
da Vinci School	Limited	N/A	N/A	
Dallington Public School	Limited	Closed	N/A	
Danforth Gardens Public School	Closed	N/A	N/A	
David Hornell Junior School	Closed	N/A	N/A	
David Lewis Public School	Closed	N/A	N/A	
Davisville Junior Public School	Closed	Closed	N/A	
Daystrom Public School	Limited	N/A	N/A	
Deer Park Junior and Senior Public School	Closed	N/A	N/A	
Delta Alternative Senior School	Limited	N/A	N/A	
Denlow Public School	Closed	N/A	Limited	
Dennis Avenue Community School	Closed	N/A	N/A	

Out-of-Area 2027-2028 School Status Info

- ▶ Out-of-Area status for 2027-2028 will be updated in November 2026 on TDSB website

Elementary Special Art Programs

Elementary Specialized Arts Programs

Please note that transportation is not provided for any Specialized Program.

Learn more about:

- [Applications and Admissions](#)
- [Addressing Vacant Seats](#)
- [Academic Achievement and Demonstrations of Knowledge and Skills](#)
- [FAQ Secondary French and Specialized Programs](#)
- [Secondary Specialized Programs](#)

Open House Dates and Times



Through the arts, students learn to think imaginatively, identify and solve problems, empathize with others, think critically, communicate effectively and appreciate the skills and accomplishments of others.

Application and Admissions

The application and admissions processes for Specialized Programs have changed. Please review the information below.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants are eligible to apply for Specialized Programs if, at the time of application, they:

- meet the age, residency, and citizenship or eligible immigration status requirements to attend a TDSB school as set out in the Admission Eligibility Requirements (PR518); **or**
- are currently registered at a TDSB school.

The applicant's parent/guardian must be currently and actively residing in the province of Ontario during the application window.

You must apply based on the current address where the applicant's parent/guardian currently lives. Applicants cannot use the address of a family member.

If you own property in Toronto, but tenants reside at this property, you may not use this address as a claim of Toronto residency.

Mark Eligibility for September 2027

Grade 9 and 10	Grade 11	Elementary	Alternative Format Report Cards
There are no mark requirements for elementary applicants.			

Fee-paying students who are registered at a TDSB school at the time of application are eligible to apply for Specialized Programs. Please contact CentralPrograms@tdsb.on.ca if you have questions about eligibility.

Students are encouraged to attend [Open House](#) events and research the programs and schools before submitting their application. Applications are not considered on a first come, first served basis. Please take your time and carefully consider your choices before submitting.

Please note that transportation is the responsibility of the applicant.

Application Choices for September 2027

Students can select one type of Specialized Program in their application.

Applicants select one primary choice program and may also include an alternate choice of the SAME program type.

Alternate choices will only be considered after all primary applications from the city of Toronto have been considered.

If an applicant is accepted to their primary application, they will not be considered for their alternate choice.

If an applicant is offered a spot in their alternate choice, they will remain on the waitlist for their primary choice until the waitlists close.

Percentage of primary choice applicants offered entry grade seats for September 2026.

■ 20% - 40% ■ 40% - 60% ■ 60% - 80% ■ 80% - 100%

Application: Audition or Portfolio

Arts-Focus Schools

All students attending these schools are enrolled in the arts programming. Arts are the primary focus of the school community.

Claude Watson School for the Arts (Grades 4 - 8)

■ 20% - 40%

Each year, 60 students are admitted into the Grade 4 program at **Claude Watson School for the Arts**. Students spend approximately half their day on academic curriculum (language, French, math, science, social studies, health and physical education) and the other half is spent immersed in the Arts. All students participate in dance, drama, music and visual arts.

In November 2026, students may apply for admission to Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Students will be admitted in Grades 5 - 8 if space is available.

Karen Kain School for the Arts (Grades 6 - 8)

■ 80% - 100%

At **Karen Kain School for the Arts** the Ontario curriculum is taught through a differentiated program which integrates dance, drama, vocal music, visual arts and media. Students will continue to gain expertise in the Arts and will hopefully become life long supporters and enthusiasts of the Arts.

In November 2026, students may apply for admissions to Grades 6, 7 and 8. Students will be admitted in Grade 7 and 8 if space is available.

Arts Focus Schools

Arts-Focus Programs

Charles H Best Middle School - Grades 6, 7 & 8

■ 80% - 100%

In November 2026, students may apply for admissions to Grades 6, 7 and 8. Students will be admitted in Grades 7 and 8 if space is available.

Welcome to **Charles H. Best JMS** CyberARTS: Visual & Digital Arts! CyberARTS is an inclusive, interdisciplinary, project-based program for Grade 6, 7 and 8 students. It integrates the Ontario curriculum expectations with advanced study and exploration in visual and digital art. Our goal is to ensure students are well-equipped to enter the 21st Century with an understanding of equity and social justice through art.

Don Mills Middle School - Grades 6, 7 & 8

■ 80% - 100%

In November 2026, students may apply for admissions to Grades 6, 7 and 8. Students will be admitted in Grade 7 and 8 if space is available.

Welcome to **The Don Mills Arts Collective (DMAC)**. DMAC is an interdisciplinary, project-based program for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 that integrates the visual arts with enriched learning across all Ontario curriculum areas. DMAC students engage in the study of language, mathematics, science, social studies, and other mandated subjects through rigorous, structured, and inquiry-based learning experiences. By exploring complex ideas and real-world issues through critical thinking, research, and collaboration, students deepen their understanding of the curriculum while creatively communicating their learning through a variety of artistic media and forms of expression.

Arts Focus Schools

Open Houses and Information Nights

Elementary Summer School

Home Schooling

Transportation

► The Classroom

► Beyond the Classroom

► Get Engaged

► Caring & Safe Schools

Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use

Special Education and Inclusion

► Supporting You

ESL/ELD Learning English

Indigenous Education

International Students

Model Schools for Inner Cities

Student Discipline Committee

Virtual Learning

Today < > Sep 2025 – Sep 2026

22 SEP, MON

5	NOV, WED	6 – 7pm	Claude Watson School for the Arts Open House 120 Doris Ave, North York, ...
6	NOV, THU	6 – 7pm	Karen Kain School of the Arts Open House 60 Berl Ave, Etobicoke, ON, M8...
10	NOV, MON	9am	CSIP Application Opens
13	NOV, THU	6 – 8pm	Charles H. Best MS Open House (Arts) 285 Wilmington Ave, North York, ON...
20	NOV, THU	6 – 8pm	Don Mills MS Open House (Arts)
28	NOV, FRI	4pm	CSIP Application Closes

Showing events until Sep 21, 2026. [Look for more](#)

Elementary Central Student Interest Programs and Schools: Timelines & Open Houses
Events shown in time zone: (GMT-04:00) Eastern Time - Toronto
[Add to Google Calendar](#)

Google Calendar

Student Interest Program Webinar

The link to the recorded session and resources from the webinar are posted on the [Secondary Central Student Interest Program Website](#).

Central Program Admissions Office

▼ Specialized Programs

Elementary Specialized Arts
Programs

Application and Admissions

Academic Achievement and
Demonstration of Knowledge and
Skills

Addressing Vacant Seats

Arts

International Baccalaureate

Leadership

Math, Science and Technology

Application and Admissions

The application and admissions processes for Specialized Programs have changed. Please review the information below.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants are eligible to apply for Specialized Programs if, at the time of application, they:

- meet the age, residency, and citizenship or eligible immigration status requirements to attend a TDSB school as set out in the Admission Eligibility Requirements (PR518); **or**
- are currently registered at a TDSB school.

The applicant's parent/guardian must be currently and actively residing in the province of Ontario during the application window.

You must apply based on the current address where the applicant's parent/guardian currently lives. Applicants cannot use the address of a family member.

If you own property in Toronto, but tenants reside at this property, you may not use this address as a claim of Toronto residency.

Arts Focus Schools APPLICATION PROCESS

Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use

Special Education and Inclusion

► Supporting You

ESL/ELD Learning English

Indigenous Education

International Students

Model Schools for Inner Cities

Student Discipline Committee

Virtual Learning

- All applicants must submit an "Expression of Interest". Student applicants may choose the format of their submission and the submission should briefly outline or explain their interest in their selected program.
- Accepted file formats include: DOC, DOCX, PDF, TXT, RTF, XLS, XLSX, BMP, GIF, JPEG, PNG or a link to an accessible, shared audio/video file.
- [Click here to learn more about the Expression of Interest for Elementary Central Student Interest Programs](#)

Application Choices

Students can apply to one primary Central Student Interest Program.

Applicants may also include an alternate choice.

Alternate choices will only be considered after all primary applications from the city of Toronto have been considered.

If an applicant is accepted to their primary application, they will not be considered for their alternate choice.

If an applicant is offered a spot in their alternate choice, they will remain on the waitlist for their primary choice until the waitlists close.

Selection Process for Central Student Interest Programs

When the number of applicants for a program exceeds the number of spaces available in the program, students will be selected through a process that supports the TDSB's commitment to improving representation among students in central student interest programs that reflect the diversity of the Board and the City.

Admission priorities for central student interest programs include the following:

- First Nations, Métis and Inuit applicants will be placed in their primary choice application when applying for an entry grade (i.e. most commonly Grade 9). Applicants will be given first priority for primary and alternate choice applications in other grades and will be placed if/when space is available;
- 20% of seats, reflecting the TDSB demographic in the 2023 Student Census will be allocated to primary choice applications from historically and currently underserved communities (students identifying as Black, Latin American and Middle Eastern). In circumstances where alternate choice applications are being considered, self-identifying applicants will be prioritized in programs that have not filled their 20% of seats;
- 50% of spaces for students identifying as female in Math, Science and Technology programs
- Admission priority to students who reside in the City of Toronto before those who reside outside of the City of Toronto.

Arts Focus Schools SELECTION PROCESS

Random Selection Process Results

The random selection process for Central Student Interest Programs will occur centrally and all communication will come from noreplyregistration@powerschool.com.

Please do not contact schools directly for selection results.

1. January 7, 2026: Acceptances and waitlist status will be sent via email, to all applicants. Offers expire January 13, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. If you do not accept your placement by the deadline, the placement will be automatically declined.
2. January 14, 2026: Second round of Acceptances and waitlist status will be sent via email, to all applicants. Offers expire January 20, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. If you do not accept your placement by the deadline, the placement will be automatically declined.

Elementary offers will continue to be made each Wednesday in 2026 until February 25, 2026.

No offers will be made after this dates and all [Central Waitlists](#) will expire on this date.

FAQ

What happens if I accept the offer for my alternate application program? Will I remain on the waitlist for my primary application program?

Yes, you will remain on the waitlist. If a space becomes available for you in your primary application program, you will be automatically placed in that program and removed from the alternate program. You will be notified by email of the change.

If you are happy with your alternate program, you can contact your current school by email and request in writing to be removed from the waitlist for your primary application program. Once removed from the waitlist, you cannot be returned to the waitlist.

If you are a non-TDSB student, please email CSIP@tdsb.on.ca to be removed from the waitlist.

I am on the waitlist for one (or both) of my programs. What happens now?

As spaces become available in programs, applicants will be moved from the waitlist to the vacant seats. If you are offered a seat, you will receive an email notification, along with an acceptance deadline.

Option 4: Alternative Schools

TDSB has a wide range of Elementary Alternative Schools available to students.

Families are encouraged to research schools and programs to learn about the educational philosophy and distinct pedagogy before completing the online application.

Alternative Schools

Elementary Alternative Schools will hold information sessions and/or open houses for students, parents/guardians/caregivers from November to January.

Visit the Elementary School Open Houses and Information Nights web page for dates and times.

If the school is not hosting an open house or information session, contact the school directly.

TDSB Alternative Schools

- ▶ Applicants can apply up to two (2) schools: a PRIMARY school choice and an ALTERNATE school choice. The Alternate choice is optional. A complete list of Elementary Alternative Schools is available on the TDSB's Elementary Alternative Schools webpage.
- ▶ The Alternate school choice will only be considered after all primary school choice applications have been considered in accordance with TDSB priorities (see section Elementary Alternative Schools Admission Priorities).
- ▶ Applicants from outside the TDSB (like JICS students) will only be considered after all TDSB applicants have been considered for their Primary and Alternate school choices.

Examples of Alternative Schools



Africentric Alternative School

- The Africentric Alternative School opened in September 2009 and has enjoyed a number of successes since its inception.
- Our community motto is: together we build, succeed and lead.
- The school serves students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 with a focus on high academic achievement and motivation to succeed.

[LEARN MORE about Africentric Alternative School](#)

Contact

1430 Sheppard Ave W,
North York, ON
(416) 395-5251



ALPHA Alternative Junior School

- ALPHA was founded in 1972 as part of the free school movement. Students have considerable freedom to choose what, how and when they learn. We give individual feedback instead of grades or tests.
- Social/emotional learning, democratic decision-making, and social justice are foundations of our program. We have practised equity admissions since 2007.
- Parents are welcome to volunteer throughout the school. It's a messy and joyful place - ALPHA kids love to come to school!

[LEARN MORE about ALPHA Alternative Junior School](#)

Contact

20 Brant St,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-1880



Avondale Elementary Alternative School

- Avondale is a small, safe, family-like school with an intimate and personal feel.
- Our vision is to create a safe and nurturing learning and teaching environment that supports optimal development and excellence across all domains.
- Students learn in a rigorous academic setting where close working relationships with staff and students are valued and celebrated.

Contact

25 Bunty Lane,
North York, ON
(416) 395-2050

Examples of Alternative Schools



City View Alternative Senior School

- If you are interested in education for peace and social justice, this is the place for you.
- Many of the subject areas are taught through the lens of race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability.
- Academic expectations are very high. We expect a high level of commitment to the program.

Contact

38 Shirley St Floor 3,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-8708

[LEARN MORE](#) about City View Alternative Senior School



da Vinci School

- da Vinci's goal is to combine best practices from the Waldorf tradition with the effective learning and teaching practices from the Ontario Ministry of Education and TDSB expectations.
- Our program is based on three pillars for learning: Oral Narrative, Outdoor Learning and Arts-infused learning.
- da Vinci's mandate is a school inspired by "the ideas and ethical principles of the Waldorf approach to learning."

Contact

33 Robert St,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-8204

[LEARN MORE](#) about da Vinci School



Delta Alternative Senior School

- At Delta our emphasis is on helping students develop empathy for others, creatively problem solve and think critically.
- Students, staff and parents work together to help students become academically successful by using our contract system which promotes good time management skills.
- At Delta, we teach to the whole child with a student-centric curriculum while

Contact

301 Montrose Ave,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-9730

Examples of Alternative Schools



Horizon Alternative Senior School

- Horizon provides a strong, enriched academic curriculum in an adolescent-focused caring community.
- Our program is based on experiential learning and aims to develop independent, self-motivated learners, effective communicators, creative problem-solvers, and responsible citizens.

Contact

570 Shaw St,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-1298

[LEARN MORE about Horizon Alternative Senior School](#)



Mountview Alternative School

- Mountview Alternative is a JK-Grade 8 school with a tight-knit community of five classrooms fostering deep, meaningful relationships.
- The aim is to develop compassionate, creative and critical thinkers and leaders who contribute to their school and wider community.
- Committed to fostering a true joy of learning through innovative, responsive and ongoing collaboration with students, staff, parents and community members.

Contact

569 Jane St,
York, ON
(416) 393-9037

[LEARN MORE about Mountview Alternative School](#)



Quest Alternative Senior School

- Quest Alternative is an intensive, participatory program, striving to provide Grade 7 and 8 students with rich academic, artistic, physical and social challenges both in and out of the classroom
- With a focus on student voice and choice, students are held to high expectations, building a sense of personal ownership and developing pride over their own educational achievement, and school community.
- Experiential learning in simulations and real-world scenarios is fundamental to the Quest program

Contact

25 Bain Ave,
Toronto, ON
(416) 393-9430

Alternative School - Open House Info

Elementary School Open Houses and Information Nights

To locate your designated home school by address, please [Find Your School - By Address](#). Schools that offer Central Student Interest Programs and local programs will host open houses and information sessions for parents/guardians and students between November and February.

Learn everything you need to know about our incredible variety of schools and programs.

If you have questions about a specific school, please visit the school's website or [contact the school](#) directly for more information.

Note: Please check this page regularly, as schools will continue to post information about open house dates/times.

To learn about the Secondary School Open Houses and Information Nights, please visit

→ [Secondary School Open Houses and Information Nights page](#)

School Open House

School	Date	Time	Centralized or Alternative Programs(All) ▾	Local Programs(All) ▾	Additional Information
Africentric Alternative School			Alternative (ALT)		
ALPHA Alternative Junior School			Alternative (ALT)		
Avondale Elementary Alternative School			Alternative (ALT)		
Beaches Alternative Junior School			Alternative (ALT)		
Charles H Best Junior Middle School	Nov 13, 2025	6:00PM-8:00PM	Arts Focus (AF)		Elementary CSIP Arts
City View Alternative Senior School			Alternative (ALT)		

Alternative School - Application/Offer Dates



The Elementary Alternative Schools application process for September 2027 admission opens on Monday, January 4, 2027, and closes promptly at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22, 2027.

The application link will be posted here on Monday, January 4, 2027.

Learn About the Elementary Alternative Schools

Before applying, take time to learn about each [Elementary Alternative School](#). Explore what makes them different from regular schools. This will help you choose the best school for your child.

Open Houses & Information Sessions

- Schools will have **open houses** or **information sessions** from **November to mid-January**.
- Visit the [Elementary School Open Houses and Information Nights](#) page to find dates and times for these sessions.

If the school does not have an open house or information session, contact the school directly for more information.

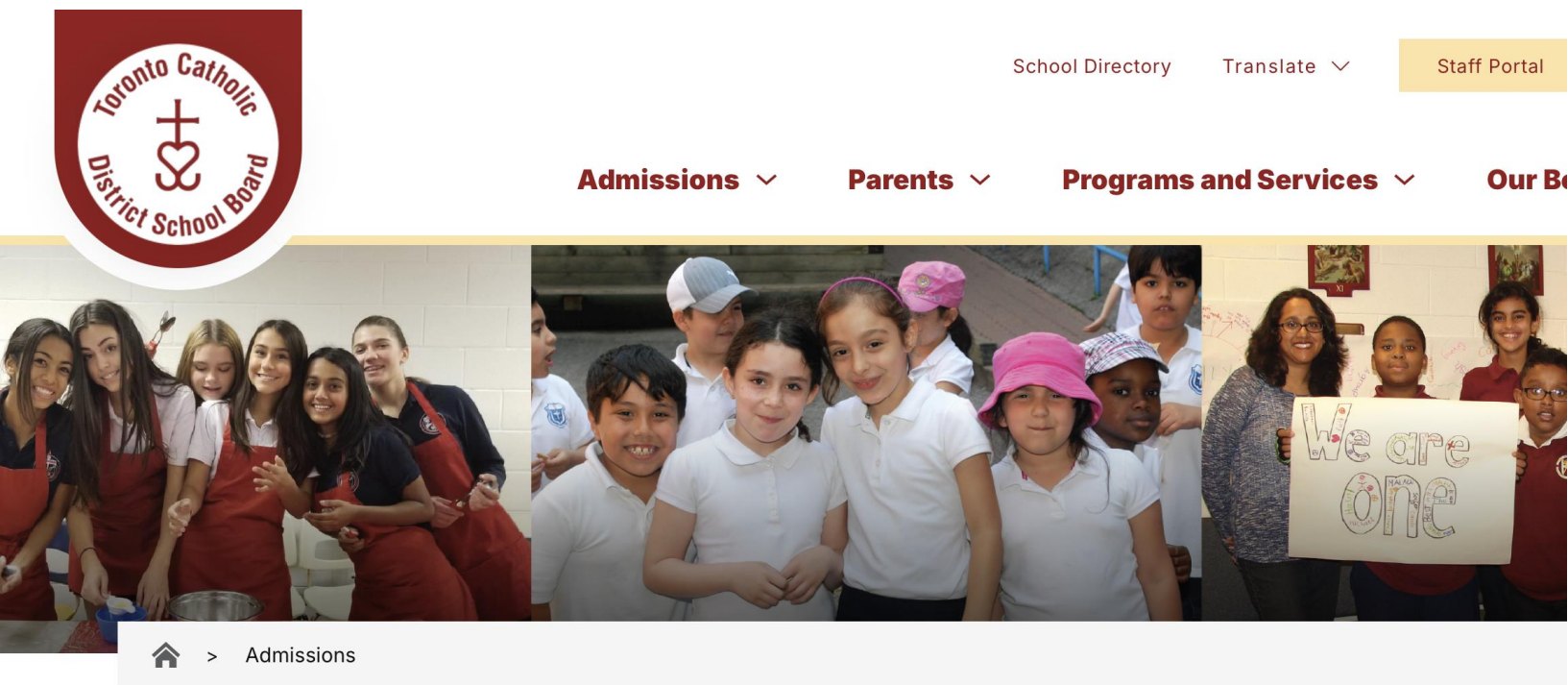
Summary of TDSB - 4 Options

- ▶ In district - “Your School” (guaranteed)
- ▶ Out-of-Area - 1 application
- ▶ Elementary Arts Focus School - 2 applications
- ▶ Alternative School - 2 applications

TDSB Schools our Graduates have Attended

- ▶ Alexander Muir
- ▶ City View Alternative
- ▶ Deer Park
- ▶ Delta Alternative
- ▶ Horizon Alternative
- ▶ King Edward
- ▶ Quest Alternative
- ▶ Ryerson Community
- ▶ Spectrum Alternative
- ▶ Swansea
- ▶ Winona
- ▶ Humbercrest
- ▶ Highland Creek
- ▶ Humewood

School Choice: TCDSB



Admissions
Kindergarten Registration
Elementary School Registration
Secondary School Registration
Night / Summer School Registration

Admissions

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) offers a broad spectrum of academic courses and special programs that cater to the diverse learning needs of our students.

With more than 195 schools throughout Toronto, our educators and staff work together to provide students with unique, innovative and engaging learning opportunities in faith-based environments.

Join us and become a part of the TCDSB community today.

TCDSB: Options

- ▶ Public - Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB)
 - ▶ In district - “Your School” (guaranteed)
 - ▶ Out of Area - 1 application

Option 1: Your School Designated by your Address

Important Information +

X School Year: **2025/26** + Advanced Search

Schools offering programs for the searched address
Click on school below to view boundary on map

Regular Program

JK-8

ST BRUNO/ST RAYMOND
402 Melita Crescent, Toronto, M6G 3X6
☎ 416-393-5376

French Immersion

JK-7

ST ALPHONSUS
60 Atlas Avenue, Toronto, M6C 3N9
☎ 416-393-5326

8

HOLY ROSARY
308 Tweedsmuir Avenue, Toronto, M5P 2Y1
☎ 416-393-5225

Extended French

5-8

ST CLARE
124 Northcliffe Boulevard, Toronto, M6E 3K4
☎ 416-393-5214

Option 2: Out-of-Area School (choose 1)

Need help finding a TCDSB school near you? Use our Elementary School Locator.

Elementary School Locator

Frequently Asked Questions

Have questions about our admission process? Find answers to questions about the following topics:

When can I register my child for elementary school?	+
I submitted an application. What's next?	+
Do I have a choice as to what elementary school I send my child to?	–

We encourage parents to register their children at their identified community Catholic school, which is based on the applicant's residential address found within the school boundary. If parents wish to send their children to another school, they are able to make an out-of-boundary request and be placed on a waiting list for another school.

Please note that an application to any school, whether inside or outside the boundary, does not guarantee acceptance at the school selected. TCDSB will make every attempt to identify a school where there is space and where the child may attend.

Please note that in line with our [Transportation Policy](#), transportation/bussing is not guaranteed.

Can I send photocopies of the documents required for registration?	+
How long does my application stay on the waitlist?	+

TCDSB Schools our Graduates have Attended

- ▶ Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts (Arts Focus)
- ▶ St. Mary's
- ▶ Our Lady of Lourdes

TDSB & TCDSB Gifted Placements - Requirements

- ▶ TDSB & TCDSB Special Education Class placement requires an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) decision, which cannot take place until the child has been attending for sufficient time to permit school staff to collect the required information and documentation.
- ▶ How to speed up the process:
 - ▶ Have psycho-educational assessment in place
 - ▶ Ask for an IPRC meeting as soon as possible in Gr 7
 - ▶ Earliest entry to Gift Program from JICS is in Gr 8

School Choices: Independent/Private

- ▶ Academic/University Prep
- ▶ Progressive/Alternative
- ▶ Faith-Based
- ▶ Single-Gender
- ▶ International/IB
- ▶ Special Interest (Arts, STEM, Athletics)
- ▶ Alternative Curriculum (Montessori/Waldorf)
- ▶ Special Needs & Learning Support

Independent School Choices

All Gender:

- ▶ Greenwood College School
- ▶ The York School
- ▶ Toronto Prep School
- ▶ De La Salle
- ▶ Rosedale Day School (7/8)
- ▶ Montcrest School (7/8)
- ▶ University of Toronto Schools
- ▶ Toronto French School
- ▶ Hudson College
- ▶ Waldorf Academy (7/8)
- ▶ Leo Baeck (7/8)
- ▶ Howlett Academy (7/8)
- ▶ Abelard
- ▶ Study Academy
- ▶ Kingsway College
- ▶ YMCA School
- ▶ Keystone School

Females:

- ▶ Branksome Hall
- ▶ Bishop Strachan School
- ▶ Havergal College
- ▶ St Clement's School

Males:

- ▶ Upper Canada College
- ▶ Royal St George's College
- ▶ Crescent School
- ▶ Sterling Hall School (7/8)
- ▶ St. Michael's College

Application Process for Independent Schools

- ▶ Choices
- ▶ School visits and open houses (they are watching you)
- ▶ Each school must feel that you will accept an offer
- ▶ Interviews
- ▶ In-house assessments
- ▶ Work samples/Portfolios/Essays
- ▶ Report cards
- ▶ Teacher Referral Forms
- ▶ Advice to parents/children: Each school should feel that it is your top choice!

Example of an Admissions Website



BRANKSOME
HALL

 [REQUEST INFO](#) [APPLY NOW](#)  [MENU](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

[APPLY NOW](#) 

Applications Available

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Junior School Open House

Wednesday, October 28, 2026, from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Middle School Open House

Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Senior School Open House

Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Example of an Admissions Website

TAKE THE NEXT STEPS

Applying to RSGC

We are thrilled that you have decided to seek admission for your child to Royal St. George's College.

In the information that follows, you will find all that you need to complete the required steps of the application process successfully.

- **Deadlines:** We accept applications for admission the following year, beginning in mid-September. The application for September 2027 entry will be available in mid-September 2026, and completed applications must be received by December 1.
- **Online Application:** The online applications process will take you through the steps (and identify the information we require from you) in order to complete the application smoothly. Of course if you have questions along the way we are here to assist. Please contact [Toni Nosworthy](#). See below for a helpful checklist to guide you along the application journey.

We look forward to receiving your application and getting to know your son.



Example of Admission Entrance Test

Entrance Test Information

Entrance tests are age-appropriate and designed to evaluate literacy and numeracy skills.

Grades 3–6: Applicants will be evaluated during their interview.

Grades 7 and 9: Applicants will write an in-person assessment at Royal St. George's College, Crescent School, or The York School. We collaborate with Crescent School and The York School, so applicants need to write only one assessment regardless of the school(s) they are applying to.

Test Fee: \$125

Assessment Dates and Locations

Grade 7:

- Saturday, November 7, 9:00 a.m. – The York School
- Saturday, December 5, 9:00 a.m. – RSGC / The York School
- Saturday, December 12, 9:00 a.m. – Crescent School

Example of Admissions Portfolio Interview



Entry Overview

Grade 7

Grade 8

[REQUEST INFO](#)[APPLY NOW](#)[MENU](#)

Assessment and Interview Details

Interviews can be scheduled directly by parents/guardians through the **Portal** once the application checklist is assigned.

Students applying for Grade 7 are asked to prepare a portfolio to present during the interview. This portfolio can be created using any medium that best represents the student and allows the interviewer to learn more about them.

During the interview, students will first present their portfolio (approximately 10 minutes) and answer questions, followed by a discussion with the parents/guardians.

The Grade 7 "All About Me" Portfolio

Components include:

- A teacher-marked writing sample from Grade 6 – copy to be kept on file.
- A teacher-marked Mathematics test from Grade 6 – copy to be kept on file.
- A discussion of a school project from the current



Example of Admissions Portfolio Interview “Success Criteria”

Admissions Portfolio Success Criteria 25-26

Updat

Portfolio Components and Success Criteria for Middle School Applicants

Thank you for applying to Branksome Hall. As part of the Admissions process for Middle School, all applicants are asked to present an "All About Me" Portfolio during their admissions interview. The following information will support applicants as they select the components and prepare their presentation.

Format:

The “All About Me” Portfolio is the applicant’s opportunity to present their school work, interests and accomplishments in whatever way feels appropriate and comfortable for them. Some examples include a powerpoint, folder or scrapbook, however, Portfolios are very individual and any format is welcome. The Portfolio presentation should take approximately **10 minutes**.

Required Components:

- One writing sample in English from the current school year
 - Written work of 1 page or more, handwritten or typed, demonstrating English language proficiency from any subject area.
 - Assessed by a teacher and including the marking scheme or rubric.
 - Please provide a copy to be kept on file.
- One mathematics sample from the current school year
 - Math test or assignment, avoiding the first review test of the year if possible.
 - Assessed by a teacher and including the marking scheme or rubric.
 - Please provide a copy to be kept on file.
- A student-led discussion of a school project from the current or previous school year
 - A brief overview of a school project from any subject area.
 - A sample or photo of the project is optional.
 - No copy is required for the file.

Example of Admissions Portfolio Interview “Success Criteria”

- Please provide a copy to be kept on file.
- A student-led discussion of a school project from the current or previous school year
 - A brief overview of a school project from any subject area.
 - A sample or photo of the project is optional.
 - No copy is required for the file.
- Interests and Accomplishments
 - A few samples, photos or awards that demonstrate the applicant's interests and recent accomplishments.
 - No copy is required for the file.

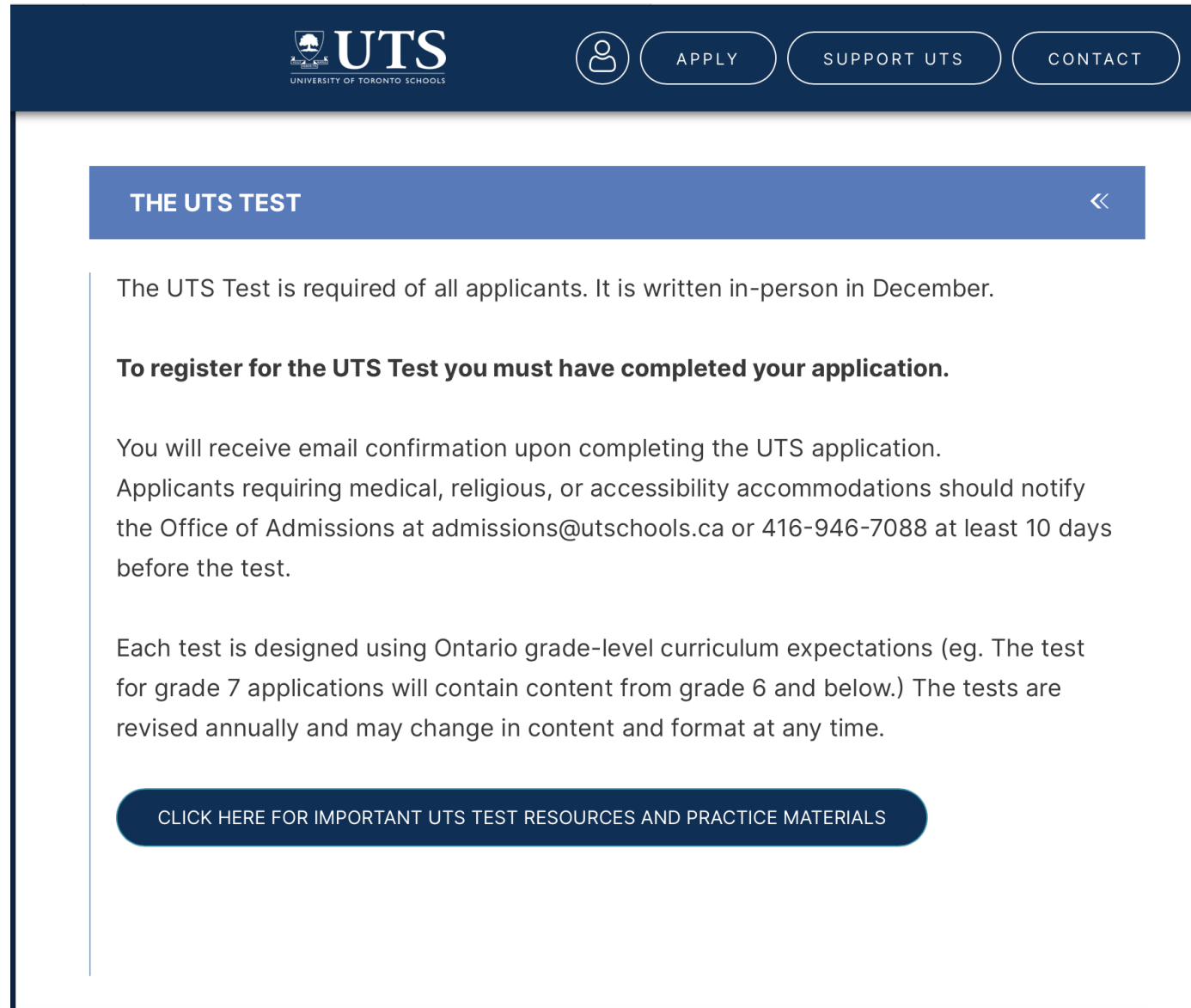
Applicants are expected to speak briefly about each of the components of their Portfolio. The interviewer will ask some questions to gain a better sense of each applicant's learning style, interests and readiness for Branksome Hall.

Portfolio Share Success Criteria:

The Portfolio portion of the interview will be assessed on evidence of learning and communication skills.

- Evidence of Learning
 - Prepared and organized
 - Interesting samples
 - Detailed information
- Communication Skills
 - Eye contact, voice volume, speaking pace
 - Descriptive vocabulary
 - Expressive and engaging
 - Thoughtful responses

Example of Admissions Website



THE UTS TEST



The UTS Test is required of all applicants. It is written in-person in December.

To register for the UTS Test you must have completed your application.

You will receive email confirmation upon completing the UTS application. Applicants requiring medical, religious, or accessibility accommodations should notify the Office of Admissions at admissions@utschools.ca or 416-946-7088 at least 10 days before the test.

Each test is designed using Ontario grade-level curriculum expectations (eg. The test for grade 7 applications will contain content from grade 6 and below.) The tests are revised annually and may change in content and format at any time.

[CLICK HERE FOR IMPORTANT UTS TEST RESOURCES AND PRACTICE MATERIALS](#)

Example of In-House Test

What's the UTS test like?

The UTS test has been used to assess applicants for candidacy for decades. Each year, the test is revised: sometimes small changes, sometimes entire overhauls. Over the years, there are 2 things that remain constant:

- 1) The UTS test is used to evaluate a candidate's demonstrated academic ability.
- 2) The UTS test is not designed with the intention that students prepare for the test.

In general, each of the English Test and the Math Test are approximately 1 hour in length each.

The English component typically consists of a reading and response portion and a writing task. The Math component typically contains short answer questions and multi-step problems requiring full solutions.

For Grade 7 and 9 applicants, the tests will assess Ontario curriculum material up to Grades 6 and 8 respectively. For grade 10 and 11 applicants, the tests will assess achievement in line with the expectations for high school courses completed and in progress at the time of application.

The UTS test is written using paper and pencil. Extra pages are provided for scratch work. Calculators, smart devices, dictionaries, and other aids are not permitted.

For students requiring test accommodations, whether religious, medical, or accessibility, please contact the Office of Admissions at admissions@utschools.ca

Example of In-House Test

What topics might be on the test?

From the Ontario Curriculum, 2026

For Grade 7 and 9 applicants, the Math assessment may include any or all of:

- Numbers (including number sense and operations)
- Algebra (including patterns, relationships, equations, inequalities, coding, and mathematical modeling)
- Data (including data literacy and probability)
- Spatial sense (including geometric and spatial reasoning and measurement)
- Financial literacy

The Ontario curriculum is linked below and provides additional information about the specific learning expectations for each grade level as well as sample activities.

[→ Ontario Grade 6 math curriculum](#)

[→ Ontario Grade 8 math curriculum](#)

From the Ontario Curriculum, 2026

For Grade 7 and 9 applicants, the English Language Arts assessment may include any or all of:

- Literacy connections and applications (including transferable skills)
- Foundations of language (including language foundations and conventions for reading and writing)
- Comprehension
- Composition

The Ontario curriculum is linked below and provides additional information about the specific learning expectations for each grade level.

[→ Ontario Grade 6 English curriculum](#)

[→ Ontario Grade 8 English curriculum](#)

Example of In-House Test

Practice Materials

Although the UTS Entrance Test was not designed to be one that students should prepare for (and certainly not to take classes for), we know that practice makes progress. With this in mind, we share the following resources to practice for the UTS tests, keeping in mind:

- pasts tests may provide samples of the types and format of questions (but are not guaranteed to align with current evaluation criteria)
- external links may offer samples of grade-level material (but UTS cannot guarantee the reliability of external resources or their alignment with current evaluation criteria)
- we remind all applicants that the UTS test continues to be revised annually and is subject to change in format and content at any time

Previously shared:

[→ 2021 Grade 7 UTS Entrance Test \(Math\)](#)

[→ 2021 Grade 7 UTS Entrance Test \(English\)](#)

New!

[Sample Questions: UTS Math Test](#) (from past Grade 7 tests)

[Sample Questions: UTS English Test](#) (from past Grade 7 tests)

[Sample Questions: UTS Interviews](#) (from past interviews for all grades)

Solutions are not provided.

Questions from past Grade 9 tests are not available at this time.

Example of In-House Test

General Recommendations for Students

- Make the most of the resources available at your current school and through your teacher. You may wish to ask the teacher for enrichment materials related to grade-level curriculum.
- Read! Any genre, any topic. It can be about the invention of the wheel or a 3-part saga on heroic unicorns or even a dishwasher repair manual.
- Practice writing daily, and for a variety of purposes. (eg. journaling, creative writing, book reports, letter writing, etc.)
- With family, discuss current events and topics that matter to you. Practice forming an opinion, hearing others' perspectives, and expressing your own.

Suggested Resources

The following resources may be helpful in preparation for the UTS Entrance Tests as indicators of grade-level material. While the UTS Entrance Tests will assess according to the Ontario curriculum, the following resources may align with other provincial or state curricula.

UTS cannot guarantee the availability or reliability of third-party resources nor does UTS endorse any tutoring or test preparation companies. UTS does not guarantee that the topics, questions, or solutions in the below materials will align with specific content on the UTS entrance tests.

List updated September 2024

Online Resources (listed in no particular order)

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>
<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/writing-prompts-for-kids/>
<https://tvolearn.com/>
<https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/resources/courseware/courseware.html>

Example of In-House Test

List updated September 2024

Online Resources (listed in no particular order)

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/writing-prompts-for-kids/>

<https://tvolearn.com/>

<https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/resources/courseware/courseware.html>

<https://mathleague.com/>

Print Resources (listed in no particular order)

MathSmart, EnglishSmart, and Complete Canadian Curriculum
Publisher: Popular Book Company (Canada)

Spectrum Math, Reading, Writing
Publisher: Spectrum

Reading Comprehension, Reading Tests
Publisher: Scholastic Editors

Brain Quest Workbook
Publisher: Brain Quest

Interviews

- ▶ One-on-one or circuit-style (UTS)
- ▶ Can be accompanied by a portfolio
- ▶ Every Grade 6 student will have a mock interview practice with Richard or Chriss
- ▶ Good opportunity to practice social skills

Report Cards

- ▶ Grade 4: December and June Report Card
- ▶ Grade 5: December and June Report Card
- ▶ Grade 6: End of Fall Term
- ▶ Honest assessment of your child's progress
- ▶ Clear statement of Grade level

Teacher Referrals

- ▶ Individual Teacher Referral for each school
 - ▶ Completed by Walker
 - ▶ Raadiyah/Audrey will also complete referrals if required.
 - ▶ Typically focusing on
 - Grade level achievement
 - Responsibility
 - Accountability
 - Punctuality
 - Commitment to school community
 - Extracurricular involvement

What JICS can do for you

- ▶ This meeting
- ▶ “Where did they go” - bulletin board
 - ▶ Newsletter grad profiles
- ▶ Meeting with Richard
- ▶ Meeting with Chriss
- ▶ Parent Teacher interview
- ▶ Report cards
- ▶ Completing application package forms
- ▶ Opportunities to connect with other JICS families



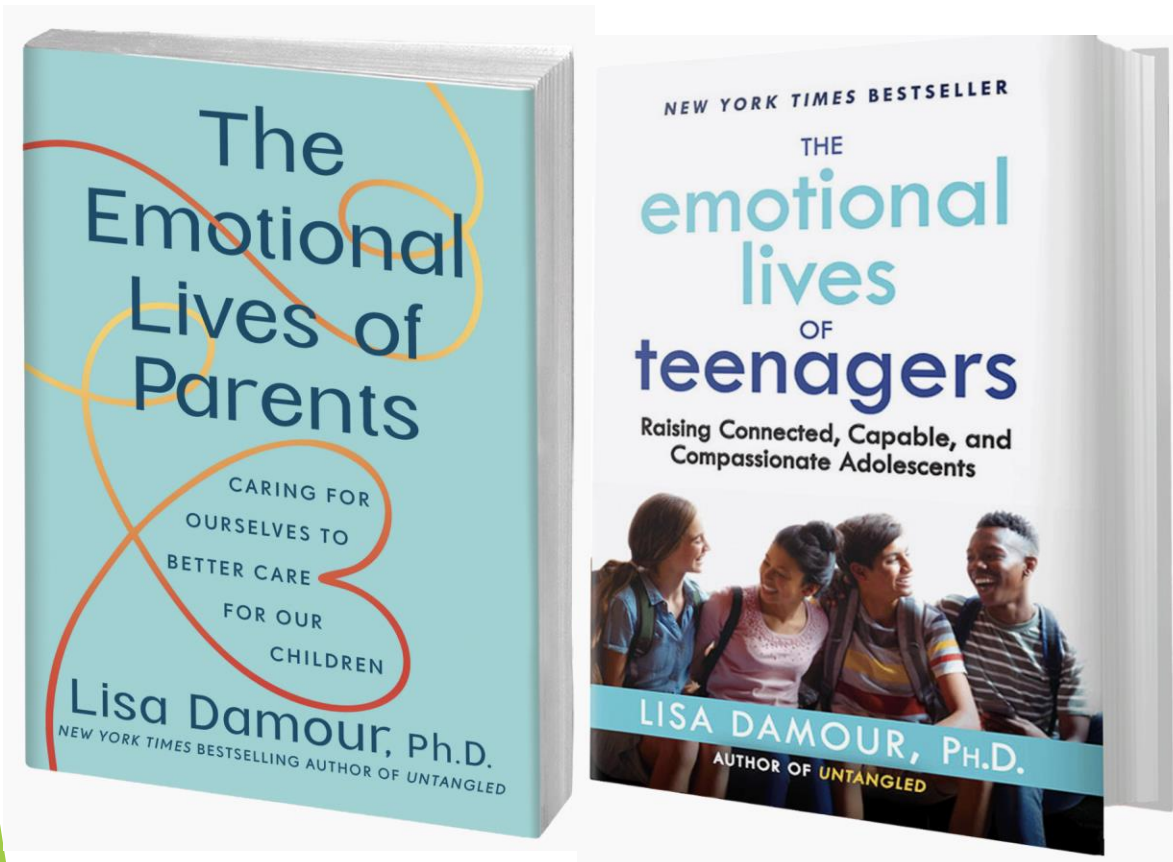
What JICS will do for the children

- ▶ Sessions with Trina and the whole class
- ▶ Access to one-on-one support
- ▶ Mock interview experience
- ▶ Parameters around school conversations
- ▶ Opportunity to realize they're not alone
- ▶ Real chances for success, leadership and development of confidence
- ▶ Looking for strengths in a process that can emphasize weaknesses, building children's confidence and self-efficacy

How Parents can Support their child:

- ▶ Keep in mind that this is on their mind
- ▶ They are perceptive - if you are stressed, they will be stressed
- ▶ Every child will handle the process differently
- ▶ Emotional well-being is a prerequisite for academic success
- ▶ What experiences does your child need right now? Consider the stresses.
- ▶ ALL children need to feel successful throughout the process
 - ▶ Every school is your first choice
 - ▶ This doesn't determine their future
 - ▶ Change is possible
- ▶ The burden of decision making is yours, not theirs
- ▶ We want children to enjoy and fully experience their Grade 6 and Grade 5 year at JICS
- ▶ We ask parents to help with that by not having child miss too many days for open houses/new school visits
- ▶ Best way to be successful in Grade 7 is to participate fully in the Grade 5 and 6 experience

Supporting a Grade 6 Child: Discussing not dismissing worries about change/transition



Your Short List

All are first
choices to your
child

2-4 schools plus
a non-selective
option

A list that
represents your
priorities

Think about
distance,
transportation,
logistics, costs

Each school
must feel you
will accept an
offer

WHAT THE NEW SCIENCE OF CHILD
DEVELOPMENT TELLS US ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

THE GARDENER AND THE CARPENTER

PICADOR



ALISON GOPNI

The Gardener Parenting Style

The gardener parent takes open-ended, flexible approach. Much like a gardener who creates a nurturing environment for plants to grow in their own way, this style focuses on providing a supportive space where children can explore, develop their own interests, and flourish naturally.

Gardener parents recognize that children's development is unpredictable and complex, and they emphasize fostering curiosity, creativity, and resilience rather than tightly controlling outcomes.

WHAT THE NEW SCIENCE OF CHILD
DEVELOPMENT TELLS US ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

THE GARDENER AND THE CARPENTER

PICADOR



ALISON GOPNI

The Carpenter Parenting Style

Views child-rearing as a project that can be shaped and controlled. Much like a carpenter follows a blueprint to build something specific, these parents believe that with the right techniques, structure, and effort, they can "mold" their children into a particular kind of adult—one that fits societal expectations of success.

This style is more goal-oriented, focusing on producing a child who has the skills, traits, and outcomes the parents deem important, such as academic achievement or certain career paths.

WHAT THE NEW SCIENCE OF CHILD
DEVELOPMENT TELLS US ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP
BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

THE GARDENER AND THE CARPENTER

PICADOR



ALISON GOPNIK

The Carpenter Parenting Style

Gopnik advocates for the gardener style of parenting. She argues that the complexity of human development means that rigid attempts to control or direct it (the carpenter approach) can be counterproductive.

Instead, allowing children the freedom to explore, learn, and grow in their own ways will foster more resilient, adaptable, and creative individuals, able to face unpredictability.

Questions and Answers

