

Revisiting Our Oakwood School Kindergarten Visiting Day

Description



Oakwood School

Iâ€™ve written about my daughterâ€™s kindergarten [visiting day](#) at Oakwood School previously. Hereâ€™s my recollection about that morning again. Did I make the right school choice? Iâ€™ll never know, but Iâ€™m looking forward now that our family is THRILLED to be at Viewpoint School. We truly fit in there in a way we [never did](#) at The Willows. But, if we hadnâ€™t gone to The Willows, would we be at Viewpoint now?

It was early and I was nervous. With my daughter in the car, we drove to the 8 a.m. â€œvisiting day,â€• one of the requirements of the private school kindergarten admissions process. The school was more than 30 minutes from our house, traffic was bad and I mistakenly went to the high school rather than the elementary school. Frazzled and arriving with a minute to spare, I arrived at the correct location, a progressive school on a rustic campus.

After a brief time in the school library with our kids, parents were asked to go into a conference room for a meet and greet with the head of school. At the same time, our kids were taken into classrooms with teachers for various for visiting day.

This was the aspect of the admissions process that filled me with anxiety, since a lot depends on how your 4-5 year-old is feeling the day of the visit and how he/she acts when you arrive at the school. As soon as we got there, my usually shy daughter turned on her biggest, most charming personality (one I

had only seen at home). Feeling very comfortable in the library, she pulled some books off the shelf and began reading in a loud voice. The admissions director turned to look at her, clearly impressed. Now that she had an audience (the best possible audience, I might add), my daughter continued reading other parents and kids turned to watch.

Relieved, I went with other parents into the conference room for what turned out to be a chance to ask questions of the head of school. This, you should note, is a time to ask smart, well-formulated questions that demonstrate your knowledge of the school. It's also a good time to find something nice to say about the place you want to accept your kid. The room was filled with parents who already had older kids at the school, so they were confident about the process and even joked about their chances of getting in. The competition for spots at this popular school was no joke.

After about an hour, my daughter emerged from the classroom bursting with enthusiasm. We thanked the staff and left.

I didn't have to ask my kid if it has gone well. I knew. She'd nailed it. The look on her face told me everything. In March, we received our acceptance letter from the school.

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