

Things You Can Do To Get Ready For Fall Admissions

Description



Inside the multi-age K-1 classroom at Sequoyah School, Pasadena

Hi Friends!

Happy Summer! Hope youâ€™re enjoying our hot summer here in L.A. We just returned from my sonâ€™s basketball tournament in Las Vegas where it hit 113 degrees. Thatâ€™s just too hot! I posted the teamâ€™s photo on [Beyond The Brochureâ€™s Facebook page](#).

If youâ€™re reading this post, you are probably anticipating the fall admissions season. Before then, there are a few important things you can do to get ready for the hectic time when youâ€™re touring schools, writing applications, attending parent interviews and all the other activities that surround the admissions process.

1. Do The Drive. If you know a few schools where you plan to apply, drive to and from the school during morning drop off and afternoon pickup. Can you do this drive every day? Can your child be in the car comfortably for the duration of the drive? Could you find a carpool? Is the school near your work or your home? Is there a bus? If you will have two kids at different schools, how would the logistics of that work? What about before and/or after school sports or activities? The schoolâ€™s distance from your home and/or office can be a huge factor when considering schools in Los Angeles, due to the enormous size of our city.

2. **Make A List of Schools.** If you aren't familiar with the schools your child will be eligible to apply for, compile a list now. If you're planning to apply for kindergarten, but you only know of two schools, find more options. There is a list of LA and Pasadena area schools in our book, [Beyond The Brochure: An Insider's Guide To Private Elementary Schools In Los Angeles](#). Also, [CAIS has a list of all the independent schools in the Los Angeles area](#). You can also talk to friends, acquaintances, colleagues and anybody who might be familiar with school options. The more people you talk to, the more you learn. People tend to be very open to talking about schools here in L.A. Sort of like real-estate and home prices. It's a constant topic of conversation. We've also [profiled selected schools here](#).

3. **Get organized.** Grab a big 3-ring binder notebook from Target and create tab sections for each school. Then, for each school, create sections for every step of the process: tours (your notes from tours), parent interviews, etc. If you're more comfortable with digital organization, find the best option i.e. Google documents, iPhone Notes, Evernote or whatever you like best. Another tip: create an email folder for school admissions and keep all correspondence from schools in that folder. The main thing here is to keep every piece of paper the school sends you, either a hard copy or a scan of it. The amount of paper and organization required for the admissions process can't be underestimated. Calling the school because you've lost a document can't and should be avoided.

4. **Cost of Private School.** Check out our post on [L.A. private school tuition](#) and the [extra expenses that aren't covered by tuition](#). This is an easy way to cross schools off the list if they don't fit your family's budget.

5. **Extra Help.** If you are considering hiring an educational consultant, here's a [list of experts](#) to guide you through the process.

If you can tackle these manageable tasks, you'll be ready to tour schools in September!

—Christina

Category

1. Beyond The Brochure
2. L.A. Private Elementary School Tours

Tags

1. Getting Organized for private school admissions
2. Los Angeles private school admissions

Date Created

July 26, 2016

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