



How do I know if my child is a good candidate for Early Entrance?

Children who will benefit from early entrance may not exhibit all of the characteristics listed below; however, strong candidates will exhibit more of these characteristics than other children.

What to look for in the areas of ability/achievement/aptitude/behavior?

- Understands the meanings and use of words better than other children his/her age
- Is curious about many things and asks questions often
- Is very good at working puzzles or solving problems
- Has a great sense of humor and understands jokes more than other children his/her age
- Has a good memory and remembers details of conversations or stories
- Is interested in difficult concepts such as time and space
- Concentrates on certain activities much longer than other children his/her age
- Reads (and understands text) in picture books or chapter books
- Figures out math-related problems better than other children his/her age

What are some important school and academic factors?

- Enjoys learning new information or skills
- Participates in community activities such as sports, dance, gymnastics, library and museum programs
- Believes he/she is capable of succeeding at new tasks

What are some important developmental factors?

- Demonstrates average fine- and large-motor coordination (i.e., holding a pencil, skipping)
- Uses the computer to play games or find information

What are some important interpersonal skills for entering school?

- Thoughtfully considers feedback and criticism and modifies behavior appropriately
- Often behaves in a way that is positive and effective
- Has good interpersonal skills with age-mates, as well as with both older and younger children and with adults
- Has excellent interpersonal relationships with adults in a teaching role

What are some important attitudes and supports necessary for success in school?

- Child - is enthusiastic about going to kindergarten.
- Parent - understands that a child's success in school depends on support provided at home and is able to give my child additional support to help in his/her transition to a new setting with much higher academic demands than he/she encountered in preschool.

Some considerations that would NOT benefit a child from being accelerated:

- Child has one or more siblings in the grade in which he/she will be placed if admitted by early entrance
- Often did not want to attend preschool or missed preschool often because of illness or family issues