



Admissions Policy

2024-2025

Discovery School PYP Admissions Policy

Discovery School Mission Statement

To provide each child the educational opportunity to discover, with perseverance and imagination, the joy of learning and the interconnectedness of our world.

Introduction

At Discovery School, we believe that education is a pathway to discovery, fostering not only academic success but also personal growth. Our mission is to provide each child the educational opportunity to discover, with perseverance and imagination, the joy of learning and the interconnectedness of our world. As an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, we align our educational approach with the IB mission statement, which aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who are motivated to succeed. This admissions policy outlines our commitment to inclusivity and diversity, ensuring that every child and family seeking an alternative approach to education is welcomed into our community.

Discovery School enrolls students who demonstrate the ability to benefit from a flexible but challenging program. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national or ethnic origin. Discovery School is proud of its culturally diverse student body. In addition, financial assistance assures a broad socio-economic school community.

Admissions Philosophy

Discovery School is committed to an admissions process that is fair, transparent, and inclusive. We celebrate diversity in our student body, embracing differences in race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, and family background. We believe that a diverse community enriches the learning experience and fosters understanding and respect among students.

Our admissions policy is designed to ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive in an environment that nurtures their individual talents and interests. We aim to attract families who share our values of inquiry, perseverance, and imagination, and who are committed to fostering a love of learning in their children.

Eligibility Criteria

Discovery School accepts students from the local area who seek an alternative approach to education through the IB Primary Years Program (PYP). We do not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, or socioeconomic status. Our commitment to inclusion means that all students, regardless of their background, are welcome to apply.

Application Process

1. **Inquiry:** Interested families are encouraged to reach out to our front office to learn more about Discovery School, the IB PYP curriculum, and our community values. From here, families will fill out an inquiry form on our website, and our administrative assistant will set up a tour.
2. **Interview:** An informal interview will be conducted with the child and their family to better understand their educational needs and aspirations. This is primarily done during a tour of the school and its facilities.
3. **Records request:** Any parent of a student in 1st Grade and above wishing to enroll their child in Discovery School must submit school records or work samples.
4. **Visit Day:** Families in Kindergarten and above who would like to enroll their child during the school year need to arrange a visit day in the respective classroom.
5. **Decision Notification:** Families will be notified of admission decisions within a specified timeframe. We strive to maintain a timely process to allow families to make informed decisions.
6. **Application Submission:** All applications are processed through our online system, FACTS. Families will complete the enrollment application, provide payment, and necessary documentation before they are placed on the class list.

Enrollment Timeline

Applications are accepted year-round as long as teacher to student ratio is not exceeded. Specific enrollment periods are communicated via our website and school newsletters. We encourage early application submissions to ensure a spot in the upcoming school year.

Admission Committee

At Discovery School, the admissions process includes different people with various roles. These people make up the *Admissions Committee*, which includes the following:

- Head of School/PYP Coordinator - sclark@discovery-school.net
- Assistant Head of School - anugent@discovery-school.net
- Business Manager - scarmack@discovery-school.net
- Administrative Assistant - lgribble@discovery-school.net

Commitment to Diversity

At Discovery School, diversity is a core value that enriches our educational environment. We actively seek to build a community that reflects the varied backgrounds of our local area. Our commitment to diversity includes:

- **Cultural Competence:** We provide training for staff and students on cultural awareness and sensitivity to ensure an inclusive atmosphere.

- **Celebrating Differences:** We encourage students to share their backgrounds and experiences, fostering an environment of mutual respect and understanding.
- **Support Services:** We offer resources to support diverse learning needs, ensuring that all students have equal access to the curriculum and extracurricular activities.

Alignment with the IB Learner Profile

Discovery School embraces the IB Learner Profile, which outlines the attributes we aim to develop in our students. These attributes—Inquirers, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective—guide our curriculum and teaching practices.

By cultivating these attributes, we prepare our students to engage with the world around them in a thoughtful and impactful manner. We believe that fostering these characteristics is essential for developing well-rounded individuals who can contribute positively to society.

Conclusion

Discovery School is dedicated to creating an inclusive, diverse, and supportive learning environment for all students. Our admissions policy reflects our mission to provide each child with the opportunity to discover the joy of learning and the interconnectedness of our world. We welcome families who seek an alternative approach to education and are committed to the values of the International Baccalaureate. Together, we can nurture the next generation of inquisitive, compassionate, and knowledgeable leaders.

For any inquiries regarding the admissions process or to schedule a visit to our school, please contact our front office staff at 419-756-8880.

This admissions policy serves as a guiding document to ensure that Discovery School remains a welcoming and inclusive community for all families. We look forward to welcoming new students who share our commitment to inquiry, creativity, and diversity.

Admissions Policy Review

As a staff, we will review our policy annually.

Date of Approval:
December, 2024

Date of Review: