



Bellevue Discovery Preschool

for highly capable children

10463 SE 14th Street, Bellevue, WA 98004
(425) 818-0849 www.BellevueDiscovery.com

ADMISSION INFORMATION

CRITERIA

Children applying to Bellevue Discovery Preschool are considered for admission based on their potential for success in our program. The admissions policy at Bellevue Discovery reflects our preschool's mission:

Challenging and nurturing preschoolers who are bright, curious, and original thinkers, using research-based methods for working with young gifted learners.

Consideration is given for:

- High intellectual ability
- Creativity, unique learning style, and independent thinking
- Creating gender balance, a healthy mix of personalities, and cultural diversity
- Social and emotional development, and
- A match between a family's educational goals and our program and teaching philosophy.

2010-2011 CLASS

Teacher-Child Ratio: With three teachers and a maximum class size of 12, we have a 1:4 teacher-child ratio. We have a 1:1 teacher-child ratio for reading and writer's workshop.

Our Teachers: Our lead teachers (Ren Cedar Fuller, Jan Ellichman, Sinclair Sawhney, and Gwen Van Loos) all have their Master's Degrees, and have training and experience in both early childhood development and gifted education.

Days and Times: Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with a September through June academic year

Tuition: \$9450 for the year, divided into 10 payments. There is no volunteer requirement at Bellevue Discovery, although parent volunteers are always welcome.

Ages: Our program is primarily a pre-kindergarten program. Most of our children will be four or five when preschool starts in September 2010, but we will consider mature 3 ½ year olds for our program.

Website: We recommend that prospective parents look at our website for an overview of our program: www.BellevueDiscovery.com.



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APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Attend a **PARENT TOUR**. Our tours are for adults only. Please email Director@BellevueDiscovery.com to reserve a place. Our Parent Tour dates are:

Morning Tours, 9 – 10 a.m.

Friday, December 4, 2009
Friday, January 22, 2010
Friday, February 5, 2010

Evening Tours, 7 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, December 10, 2009
Thursday, January 21, 2010
Thursday, February 4, 2010

2. See the preschool in action during a **PARENT VISIT**. After attending a Parent Tour, you may sign up to visit our classroom starting in December. Parent Visits last one hour and are for one or two adults (in most cases our visitors must have attended a Parent Tour). Our Parent Visit times are limited, of course, due to the number of school days between December and February.
3. Request that your child's current preschool teacher or child care provider complete a **TEACHER QUESTIONNAIRE**. Please give the teacher a stamped envelope, addressed to Bellevue Discovery Preschool. (A note of appreciation to the teacher is always nice.)
4. Submit an **APPLICATION PACKET** by February 22, 2010. A complete application packet includes an Application for Admission, a Parent Questionnaire, a \$125 non-refundable application fee, and the Teacher Questionnaire.
5. After all application materials have been received, we will notify the applicant's family by email regarding the date and time of their **CHILD VISIT**. Child Visits are for the preschool applicant and one or two parents (no siblings, please, except newborns). Child Visits will take place on Friday, February 26, 2010.

Several children will be scheduled for the same 45-minute Child Visit, which is structured as an "activity playtime." Your child's visit will include time for free play and exploration, an informal individual assessment by the teachers, and a brief group circle time. Parents stay at the preschool during the Child Visit. We don't expect your children to do everything we ask during their visits - we're looking for an eagerness to learn, not a performance. Our goal is for children to enjoy their visit to Bellevue Discovery Preschool.

6. **NOTIFICATION:** Families will be notified of their child's enrollment status by mail on March 1. A signed enrollment contract, along with a deposit, is due March 15, 2010. If we have more qualified applicants than openings in our class, some children will be offered a place on our wait list. If space becomes available, children on the wait list will be offered enrollment based on their unique strengths and learning styles, as well as the existing class composition.



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APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION: 2010-2011

Child's Name: _____
First Middle Last Nickname

Gender: F M Birthday: _____
Month - Day - Year

Parent Name Parent Name

Occupation/Employer Occupation/Employer

Home Address Home Address

Daytime Phone Daytime Phone

Email Email

Sibling's Name/Age/School Sibling's Name/Age/School

Applications, with a non-refundable \$125 fee, are due February 22, 2010.

Bellevue Discovery Preschool does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, or family structure in admissions or any preschool programs.

Parent Signature Parent Signature

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Parent Questionnaire

Child's Name: _____

1. What do you enjoy most about your child?
2. What do you find most challenging about your child?
3. What are your child's favorite interests and activities - when alone, with your family, and with friends?
4. What is your child's experience with peer groups (playgroups, classes, daycare, preschool, siblings)?
5. What has happened that made you wonder if your child might be gifted?
6. What are your goals for your child?
7. What other information about your child is important for us to know?

Please give an example of how your child has shown CURIOSITY:

Asking lots of questions • being unusually observant • getting into everything • preferring new and challenging experiences • interacting energetically with the environment • being highly attentive and alert • noticing everything

Please give an example of how your child has shown CREATIVITY:

Having a vivid imagination • responding with unexpected answers • having many original ideas • being very busy and productive • solving problems in unique ways • enjoying building things • thinking divergently • adapting objects for new purposes • combining information from different sources into original ideas

Please give an example of how your child has shown INDEPENDENCE:

Preferring to do things her/his own way • marching to a different drummer • being goal-oriented with self-chosen projects • enjoying challenging conventions • being self-aware and reflective • wanting to figure things out on his/her own • enjoying independent play • expressing strong preferences and ideas

Please give an example of how your child has shown ADVANCED LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Having a large vocabulary • holding adult-like conversations • having a strong interest in books and reading • having strong negotiation skills • telling long involved stories with clear narrative flow • having excellent receptive language • having a mature sense of humor • communicating ideas effectively • speaking more than one language

Please give an example of how your child has shown **ABSTRACT THINKING**:

Being interested in abstract ideas, such as time, life and death, religion/spirituality • understanding complex ideas • having strong spatial/visual skills (ex., enjoying mazes, Legos, blocks) • perceiving patterns, connections, and relationships • enjoying numbers, puzzles, clocks, and/or calendars • making logical arguments • enjoying planning and problem solving • asking deep questions • being concerned with justice

Please give an example of how your child has shown **PERSISTENCE**:

Focusing intently on one topic • persisting at mastering new skills • having a long attention span for self-directed activities • pursuing own interests over a long period of time • changing topics frequently, but concentrating on each one in turn • having a hard time with transitions when absorbed in an activity • mastering new skills through observation (with no outward practice)

Please give an example of your child's **MEMORY**:

Learning things quickly • remembering things you didn't realize s/he knew • independently relating highly diverse ideas • absorbing general knowledge like a sponge • remembering things for much longer than would be expected

Please give examples if your child has developed any **PRE-ACADEMIC SKILLS**:

Knowing most preschool basics (colors, numbers, letters, and shapes) • learning many basic skills without practice or direct instruction • displaying emergent academic skills such as reading or computation

Has your child been evaluated for:

- | | | | |
|---|----|----------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vision? | No | Yes, findings: | <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional or behavioral concerns? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speech? | No | Yes, findings: | No Yes, findings: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing? | No | Yes, findings: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies? | No | Yes, findings: | <input type="checkbox"/> Other medical concerns? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensory integration? | No | Yes, findings: | No Yes, findings: |

After reviewing your child's application, we will schedule a parent-child visit to meet your child and assess her or his fit with our program.

To help us prepare for your child's visit, please let us know if s/he has any of these characteristics:

My child:

- Is cautious in new situations/slow to warm up to new people
- Is vocally exuberant (enjoys being loud)
- Is active and energetic
- Displays emotional intensity
- Is sensitive to noises/smells/lights/textures
- Enjoys music
- Enjoys art/drawing
- Enjoys drama/pretend play
- Enjoys building sculptures/Legos/blocks
- Is skilled at large motor activities (ex., sports)
- Is skilled at small motor activities (ex., drawing, writing)

Is there any other information you think would be helpful for us to know as we assess your child's fit with our preschool program?

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Thank you for applying to Bellevue Discovery Preschool.



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Teacher Questionnaire

Child's Name: _____

Dear Teacher: We would appreciate your perspective on this child, who has applied to our program. Your responses will be kept confidential. Please return this form to us as soon as it is convenient, before our Application Deadline of February 22, 2010.

Person completing this questionnaire

Your position

How long have you known the child?

Name of school, class, or child care center

Phone number

Number of hours per week child is with you

Address of school, class, or child care center

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----------|----|
| 1. Is this child excited about learning? | Yes | Sometimes | No |
| 2. Does this child follow adults' directions well? | Yes | Sometimes | No |
| 3. Does this child have age-appropriate social skills? | Yes | Sometimes | No |
| 4. Do the child's parents have realistic expectations for their child? | Yes | Sometimes | No |

Do you have any further comments that might help us evaluate this child's readiness for our preschool program?

Teacher's Signature

Date

Thank you so much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Ren Cedar Fuller, Director