

Checklist:

Attend a Campus Tour - throughout the fall

Small-group tours of the Primary School will be held for prospective parents on select mornings starting at 9:00 am. The entire visit lasts roughly 1½ hours. Tours are conducted by a member of the Admissions Team. Because tours tend to be parent focused, we ask that parents arrange to come without their children. An Open House will be held on Friday, December 8, as an overflow event to accommodate parents who have not had an opportunity to attend a small-group tour.

Tours are by appointment only and can be scheduled online at https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry or by calling the Admissions Office at (202) 243-1815. The Primary School is located at 1690 36th Street, NW (between Reservoir and R Street). On the day of your tour, please park on the street, as all the spaces on campus are reserved for faculty. Two-hour parking is available on 36th and R Streets.

Submit an Application and Application Fee – due Friday, January 5

You will use the online Admissions Portal to manage your application process. You can complete the application and pay the application fee at <https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>. Each application should be accompanied by a \$75 application fee. Financial Aid is not available for Preschool applicants except for the children of faculty and staff.

Schedule Admissions Visit – January 13 or January 27

Applicants to Preschool visit in small groups of up to six children. Visits will occur on Saturday, January 13 and Saturday, January 27 and are led by WIS teachers and administrators. Applicant visits can be scheduled online via the WIS Admissions Portal. Applicants attend only one Saturday session.

Submit the Parent Questionnaire – due Thursday, February 1

The Parent Questionnaire helps us to get to know your child from your perspective. The form is available online on the WIS Admissions Portal.

Request a Recommendation – due Thursday, February 1

The Recommendation Form should be completed by your child's current preschool teacher or daycare provider. If your child has not attended a preschool or daycare, this requirement can be waived (contact the Admissions Office for approval). Parents will email a Recommendation Form request directly to the teacher/daycare provider via the WIS Parent Portal. You will be required to provide the email address of the applicant's current teacher/daycare provider in order to complete this item. To ensure confidentiality, the teacher recommendation will be sent directly back to WIS and will not be shared with the parents or students.

Optional – Attend Pre-Visit Day – Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 to 10:00 am

Parents who have submitted an application for Preschool may bring their child to see the school before the actual Applicant Visit day. There are no planned activities, as this is simply time for the child to see the classrooms where visits take place, so that they are familiar with the environment. Register to attend the Pre-Visit Day via the WIS Admissions Portal.

Optional – Submit WPPSI Report

The WPPSI-IV test (Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence) can be submitted to supplement the application. The test, which is administered by a psychologist or trained evaluator, requires that a child be at least 2.6 years of age. Because some applicants to Preschool will not be 2.6 years of age by February 1, the submission of a WPPSI report is optional for all Preschool applicants. Additional information about the WPPSI can be found on the Admissions page of the WIS website under Testing.

Optional – Submit Evaluations, Assessments or Standardized Tests

Parents may choose to supplement the application by uploading teacher evaluations, assessments, or other standardized test results directly to the WIS Admissions Portal.

Optional - Parent Appointments

Parents typically meet with the Director of Admissions and Financial Aid during their small-group tour. However, occasionally parents would like to speak with the Director on an individual basis to discuss a special situation or circumstances that require a one-on-one meeting. WIS does not require parent interviews. To schedule an individual appointment, please contact the Admissions Office at (202) 243-1815.

Decision Notification – emailed on Friday, March 2

Age Cutoff

To be considered for Preschool, children must be three years old by September 1. The program is specifically designed for three-year-olds and young four-year-olds (late summer birthdays).

Length of Day

Preschool is a full-day program from 8:45 am to 3:00pm – except on Wednesdays, when school ends at 2:30pm.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is not available for Preschool, except for the children of faculty and staff. WIS offers need-based financial aid in Kindergarten through Grade 12.

Choice of Language Programs in Preschool

As a tool for intercultural understanding, language is an important component of the WIS curriculum. In Preschool, WIS offers total language immersion in either French or Spanish. Many children enter WIS Preschool speaking only English while others are fluent in or have some knowledge of Spanish or French. Still others speak another language. Preschool is open to all levels of language learning.

Parents indicate a choice of or preference for Spanish Immersion or French Immersion on the Application Form. You may change your language choice or preference by notifying the Admissions Office by e-mail up until February 1. However, once a child is admitted and enrolled in a language program, the expectation is that the student will remain in that program throughout their time at WIS.

WIS graduates are proficient in at least one language in addition to English; many are functionally or fully bilingual. All students in Grades 1 through 12 study at least two languages, one of which is English. WIS does not offer an English-only program at any grade level.

Ratio of Applications to Spaces

Preschool is a major year of entry at WIS. WIS offers one class of French Immersion and one class of Spanish Immersion. Each class will have 10-12 students, led by a teacher and teacher's assistant.

Selection Process and Criteria

WIS's goal during the application process is to form a general sense of each applicant's overall development, including verbal expression, gross and fine motor skills, maturity, and to learn a little about each applicant's personality. We do this through the recommendation, the Applicant Visit, and the parent questionnaire. We expect children's development to be within or above expectations for their age-level. WIS strives for both balance and diversity in each class, in accordance with the School's mission and strategic objectives. Preschool students must be potty-trained prior to the start of the school year.

Late Applications – Local Families

Local families are expected to adhere to the admissions deadlines. Late applications from local families will not be considered in the first round of admissions decisions. Local families who have missed the standard admissions deadlines should contact the Admissions Office for further instructions.

Specific Information for International and Out-of-Town Applicants

International and out-of-town applicants who have missed the standard admissions deadlines should immediately contact the Admissions Office at (202) 243-1815 about space availability. The Admissions Office processes late applications from relocating families but cannot always admit qualified late applicants due to space limitations.

Applicant Visits are required for all Preschool applicants. If the applicant is currently living outside the Washington area and is unable to attend an Admission Visit on January 13 or 27, please contact the Admissions Office to schedule an individual appointment.

Contact Information

WIS Admissions Portal: <https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>

Schedule a Tour: https://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry

WIS Admissions Page: <https://www.wis.edu/admissions>

Admissions Office: (202) 243-1815

Admissions E-mail: admissions@wis.edu