

**WASHINGTON
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

PRIMARY SCHOOL
1690 36th STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20007
PHONE 202.243.1815
<http://wis.schooladminonline.com/portal>

CHECKLIST AND INFORMATION

APPLICANTS TO KINDERGARTEN
2020 – 2021

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 visit lasts approximately 1½ hours. Tours are conducted by a member of the Admissions Team. Because tours are parent-focused, we ask that parents arrange to come without their children. An Open House will be held on Friday, December 6 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 Road 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 Sunday, 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. Families who are re-applying within one calendar year pay a reduced application fee of \$50. Families applying for financial aid pay a reduced application fee of \$25.

Schedule Admissions Visit – January 18 or February 1

Applicants to Kindergarten visit in small groups of up to six children. Visits are scheduled for Saturday, January 18 and Saturday, February 1. Applicants attend only one Saturday session. The groups are led by WIS Kindergarten teachers and assistants and include free play, an organized movement activity, and a story time. You will schedule your child's appointment on the WIS Admissions Portal.

Submit the Parent Questionnaire – due Saturday, 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 Saturday, 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. To ensure confidentiality, the teacher recommendation will be sent directly back to WIS and will not be shared with the parents or students.

Submit WPPSI Report via the Admissions Portal – due Saturday, February 1

The WPPSI-IV test (Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence) is required for Kindergarten applicants. See the WIS website for a list of possible local psychologists/testing sites offering the WPPSI. It is not required that you use one of the psychologists/testing sites from this list. Parents should try to secure the WPPSI test in their child's strongest language. Parents should upload the report directly to the WIS Admissions Portal. Early scheduling is strongly encouraged to ensure that your child's test results will be available no later than February 1, 2020. This is an age-specific test and there is no benefit to waiting. These tests may be given once in a calendar year. Test prep will invalidate the results.

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 – Attend Pre-Visit Day – Saturday, January 11 from 8:30-10:00 AM

Parents who have submitted an application for Kindergarten 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 on 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 6

Age Cutoff

To be considered for Kindergarten, children must be five years old by September 1.

Length of Day

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

Financial Aid

WIS offers need-based financial aid for children in Kindergarten through Grade 12. Please consult the WIS website for additional information.

Choice of Language Programs in Kindergarten

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

Kindergarten is considered a major year of entry at WIS. WIS offers two classes of French Immersion and two classes of Spanish Immersion. Each class will have approximately 17 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, the WPPSI-III or WPPSI-IV test results, 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.

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 encouraged but can be waived if it is not possible for the applicant to travel to Washington during the application process. However, it should be noted that preference will be given to applicants who have completed an Applicant Visit.

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 Email: admissions@wis.edu