



VIEWBOOK



# SCHOOL Overview



## SCHOOL HOURS

**Preschool:** 8:45 am - 2:45 pm

**Pre-K-2nd Grade:** 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

**3rd & 4th Grade:** 8:30 am - 3:15 pm

**Middle School:** 8:30 am - 3:25 pm

**Before Care** starts at 7:30 am

**Aftercare** ends at 5:30 pm

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For our youngest learners, Stay & Play extends the school day in a familiar, nurturing environment where teachers support individual learning goals and keep children engaged beyond the end of the school day. As students grow, Westside offers after-school enrichment, athletics, and clubs for kindergarten through 8th grade. From cooking and theater to chess, soccer, and basketball, these programs help students explore passions, develop skills, and build confidence in a supportive, fun community.

## LOCATION

Nestled on a picturesque hillside in West Seattle's Arbor Heights neighborhood, Westside is surrounded by wildflowers, towering fir trees, and stunning views of Mt. Rainier. Our campus offers a warm and welcoming environment for students and families.

## TUITION

2025-2026 School Year

**Early Learning (PS & PK)** \$22,400

**Lower School (K-4th)** \$25,400

**Middle School (5th-8th)** \$28,100

**393**

Students  
Enrolled from  
Preschool to  
Eighth Grade

**2**

Language  
Classes  
(Spanish &  
Mandarin)

**7**

Person  
Student  
Support Team

**15+**

Afterschool  
Activities  
Offered

## TUITION ASSISTANCE

Tuition Assistance awards range from \$900 to \$28,100 and do not need to be repaid.

Approximately 24% of Westside students receive financial support, with an average award of \$14,500.

## Mission

Westside students learn to **think critically** and **act with compassion** in a **joyful, supportive community**.

## Vision

Westside School is committed to being a collaborative, inclusive school where learners discover their unique strengths, embrace challenges, and develop a passion for learning, in order to contribute positively to their world.

## Values

Joyful Learning | High Academic Standards  
Confident Learners | Caring Community  
Fostering Belonging

## Our Approach

At Westside School, we believe that learning is a dynamic, student-centered process where learners engage deeply with content, reflect on their experiences, and connect ideas across disciplines. Through inquiry-based exploration, students develop autonomy and a strong sense of self. Our curriculum emphasizes active, collaborative learning. Students consider diverse perspectives, construct meaning, and continually challenge and refine their thinking in the classroom and beyond.



**Westside School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or disability.**

# EARLY LEARNING

## The Foundations for Lifelong Learning

Westside School invites children to embark on their educational journey with our full-day Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten programs



### PLAY-BASED LEARNING

For early learners, **play is learning**. Our emergent, play-based curriculum focuses on experiential learning, fostering the social-emotional foundations essential for academic growth. What looks like play is actually students building social, cognitive, and problem-solving skills that will support them from early learning through 8th grade and beyond.

### RESPONSIVE & ENGAGING

Teachers observe children's spontaneous interests and guide them toward projects and activities that spark curiosity. Classroom learning stations, combined with whole and small group activities, promote each child's social and academic development.

### SPECIALISTS & ENRICHMENT

In addition to daily classroom experiences, students participate in **physical education, the arts, and world languages (Spanish and Mandarin)**, connecting with cultures, discovering their unique interests, and developing a love of learning.

### A DAY IN EARLY LEARNING

Early learners begin their day with open-ended exploration using rich materials in centers such as **Dramatic Play, Loose Parts, Blocks, Process Art, and the Makers Space**. They come together for whole group learning and connection during **Morning Meeting** and **specialist classes**. Multiple opportunities for **outdoor play** are woven throughout the day. Students share a family-style snack and engage in inquiry time through structured activities inspired by emerging themes and interests.

### LEARNING, COMMUNITY, AND INCLUSION

Our youngest learners explore the outdoors, play on the playground, visit local neighborhoods, and connect with older buddies through fun school activities. These experiences build confidence and help children develop **social skills, cooperation, and a sense of belonging**. From the start, children also learn empathy, respect for others, and age-appropriate lessons about identity and fairness, helping them grow into confident and caring community members.

### ACADEMIC & SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Children receive personalized academic support through small groups and guided activities, while social-emotional learning helps them understand themselves, build friendships, and practice kindness and responsibility. With **one counselor and one learning specialist**, Westside combines play, academic learning, and social-emotional growth to help each child thrive in a welcoming, inclusive community.

## EARLY LEARNING OVERVIEW

**Program:** Play-based, experiential learning that fosters curiosity, creativity, early academic skills, and social-emotional growth. Students engage in hands-on activities, outdoor exploration, enrichment specialists, and age-appropriate SEL that builds self-awareness, empathy, and strong relationships.

**Grades Served:** Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten

**Class Size:** ~15 Students

**Teachers:** Lead Teacher + 1-2 Instructional Assistants in each room.

SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN  
learning FEELS LIKE AN adventure





# LOWER SCHOOL

## Inspiring Joyful Learners

Lower School at Westside empowers children to think independently, collaborate deeply, and discover the joy in learning.



### LEARNING BY DOING

In Lower School, students **learn by doing**. From hands-on projects and classroom activities to outdoor explorations and field trips, they explore real-world applications of what they learn. Teachers encourage **curiosity, creativity, and collaboration**, helping students become confident, independent thinkers who see learning as an exciting journey. Lessons mix collaboration, independent work, and presentations, helping students develop the skills and confidence to share their ideas with peers, teachers, and the wider community.



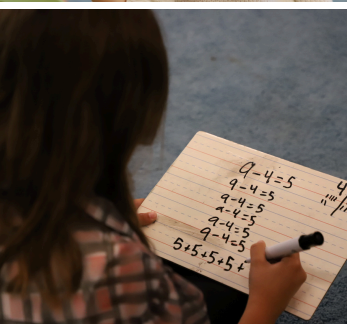
### SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Social-emotional learning is woven into every part of the school day. Through guided activities and meaningful conversations, students build **empathy, self-regulation, and respect for others**. They develop strong friendships, practice cooperation, and gain confidence, all of which support their academic growth and overall well-being.



### A DYNAMIC, EVOLVING CURRICULUM

Westside's curriculum is flexible, dynamic, and evolving. Teachers collaborate and reflect regularly to create meaningful, engaging lessons that stay current with best practices and respond to students' needs. As an independent school, Westside can innovate and adapt, offering a program designed to support each child's growth and provide **authentic, student-centered learning** experiences.



### LEARNING THROUGH LEADERSHIP

As part of a PS-8th-grade school community, Lower School students have unique opportunities to develop **leadership and mentorship skills**. Students learn from older buddies through guided activities, shared projects, and school-wide events, while also practicing empathy, responsibility, and collaboration as they serve as role models for their younger classmates.

### A DAY IN LOWER SCHOOL

A typical day in Lower School balances learning, exploration, and community. Students begin with **Morning Meeting** to connect and set intentions for the day. They move through **core lessons** in reading, math, science, and social studies, along with **specialist classes** like music, art, P.E., and world languages. Recess and snack time provide time to recharge and enjoy friendships. The day ends with **Closing Circle**, where students reflect, celebrate accomplishments, and prepare for tomorrow.

## LOWER SCHOOL OVERVIEW

**Program:** In Lower School, students grow as curious, independent learners in a hands-on, project-based environment. Teachers guide learning, foster social-emotional growth, and build confidence. Students develop leadership and mentorship skills through buddy programs and collaborative activities, while local explorations provide meaningful, real-world learning every day.

**Grades Served:** Kindergarten - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Class Size:** ~20 Students

**Teachers:** 2 Lead Teachers + 1-2 Instructional Assistants in each grade.

**Student Support:** 1 Counselor and 2 Learning Support Specialists.

DISCOVER WHAT Joyful Learning  
LOOKS LIKE AT WESTSIDE





# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Empowered Leaders, Confident Learners

Middle School at Westside empowers students to think critically and lead confidently, preparing them for high school and beyond.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL AT WESTSIDE

Westside's Middle School empowers students to explore their passions, develop critical thinking, and grow as confident, compassionate learners. Our program combines hands-on rigorous academics, arts, social-emotional learning, and real-world experiences, giving students ownership of their learning. Older students also have opportunities to serve as mentors to younger buddies, building leadership skills while supporting the school community.



### EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING & TRIPS

Experiential education is at the heart of Middle School. Students engage in hands-on projects, field trips, service learning, and outdoor experiences that connect classroom learning to the world around them. Middle School students participate in two multi-day outdoor adventures each year, building bonds with their peers, learning teamwork, problem-solving, and how to navigate new challenges.



### ADVISORY & SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

The Middle School Advisory Program pairs each student with a dedicated advisor in a close-knit, grade-level group for the full year. Meeting daily, advisors guide students' social, emotional, and academic growth. SEL and Social Justice instruction help students develop self-awareness, relationship skills, social responsibility, and confidence in their learning.



### EXPLORATION & ENRICHMENT

Middle School students at Westside have many opportunities to explore their interests and develop new skills. Students take exploratory and specialist classes in world language, technology, visual arts, music, and more, while the Theater Club produces two annual shows. Our athletics program—including soccer, cross country, volleyball, basketball, and track & field—is “no cut” and emphasizes teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun. Together, these experiences help build creativity, confidence, collaboration, and leadership.

### ACADEMIC & LEARNING SUPPORT

Westside's academic support team provides small-group instruction, differentiated learning, and targeted interventions to meet each student's unique needs. Support includes helping students in areas of challenge, stretching them in areas of strength, and addressing attention or executive functioning skills.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL OVERVIEW

**Program:** Our Middle School curriculum combines hands-on academics, arts, exploratory classes, athletics, and real-world experiences. With advisory support, social-emotional learning, and academic guidance, students thrive socially, emotionally, and academically, developing confidence, leadership skills, and readiness for high school and beyond.

**Grades Served:** 5th-8th Grade

**Class Size:** ~20 Students

**Student Leadership:** Service learning, buddy program, and student leadership club opportunities.

**Student Support:** 1 counselor and 2 learning support specialists.

DISCOVER *Confident Learning*  
AT WESTSIDE SCHOOL







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