



## Westland School

Dear Prospective Parents:

We are very pleased that you are interested in Westland School. Enclosed is information to guide you through the process of learning about Westland and applying for your child.

The admission process is one of mutual discovery – you will be gaining essential information about our school and community, and we will be getting to know you and your child. Throughout this process we want to make sure that you have all the resources you need to make a thoughtful decision when the time comes.

As a start, the material in this packet covers the rich breadth of our program. Our website, [www.westlandschool.org](http://www.westlandschool.org), has a wealth of information about our curriculum, parent involvement, and history. Helpful details about the admission process are included in the enclosed checklist.

An important step is to visit our beautiful, wooded campus to see our program in action. Three open houses with a parent-led tour will be held in the fall. Please check our website after July 1 for open house dates and call the office to RSVP. *Note that both parents must attend an open house before applying to Westland.*

Feel free to call us any time – we're happy to help you. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,

The Westland Admission Committee



## Westland School

Dear Prospective Parents,

Welcome to Westland! Westland is unique among schools in Los Angeles and, indeed, the world. Our emphasis on community and unwavering commitment to the child serve as the cornerstones of the school. We are fortunate to have cultivated a community over the years that not only focuses on our students, but also includes the adults. Parent involvement is woven into the daily life of Westland. Through this model, we create a partnership between home and school that is strong and vital.

As a beacon of progressive practice, Westland serves as a place where other educators, policy makers and parents can turn to observe what's possible when a school starts by nurturing the child's natural curiosity, and then fosters the depth of learning that emerges from that approach, no matter what the learning tool at hand, or content studied.

In this new century, where technology is consistently taking us to new places, and where the very nature of communication and work are changing, there is much said about the value of an education that promotes collaboration, problem solving, information analysis, adaptability, and intrinsic motivation. As a long-standing progressive school, teaching and learning in this way has been fundamental to our approach since 1949. Such experience puts us in an incredible position to apply our practices to this ever-changing, dynamic world.

I look forward to meeting you as you search for the right school for your child.

Sincerely,

Scott Moran  
Head of School



# Westland School Application for Admission

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in Fall 2017 \_\_\_\_\_

Child prefers to be called \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from primary) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from primary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

College (s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

College (s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Present School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

School Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Schools \_\_\_\_\_

## Siblings

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Present School \_\_\_\_\_

Present School \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about Westland? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why are you interested in progressive education?

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What are your expectations regarding your child's education?

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In what areas of parent participation are you interested?

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Are there any special characteristics about your child of which you would like us to be aware?

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OFFICE USE ONLY

Applic. Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Rec'd By \_\_\_\_\_



## Westland School

### **How to Apply Kindergarten Admission Information & Checklist**

There are a number of important steps to follow when applying to an independent school. In order to help you easily navigate this process, we have designed this checklist. Please call us if we can answer questions or assist you in any way.

- Birthdate Cut-Off Date: Applying kindergarteners must be five years old by October 15 of their kindergarten year.
- Applications: Applications are accepted beginning September 1, 2016. Priority consideration will be given to applications received by December 12.
- The Application Fee is \$125 and is due with the application.
- Open Houses: Our fall morning open houses with campus tours are 2 ¼ hours in length (9:30-11:45am), are for parents only, and require an RSVP: Please check our website at [www.westlandschool.org](http://www.westlandschool.org) for open house dates.
- Flexible Tuition is available to qualifying families. If you are interested in applying for flexible tuition, please sign and return the enclosed Flexible Tuition form with your application for admission.
- School Release of Information Form: Please complete, sign and return with your application for admission. We will send the form to your child's pre-school and they will send records directly to Westland.
- Parent Interview: After receiving your application for admission, we will call to schedule your interview with one of our administrators.
- Student Visit: We'll call to schedule your child's one-hour visit in January or February with a small group of applicants.
- Kindergarten Admission Acceptance Letters will be mailed March 17, 2017.
- Relax and enjoy these fleeting childhood years!



## Westland School

### Fast Facts

#### The numbers:

- ❖ We have 130 students in 6 multi-age class groupings kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ❖ There is a head teacher and an associate teacher in each class group of 22 students.
- ❖ Head teachers have an average of 23 years of teaching experience.
- ❖ 20% of our students are children of color.
- ❖ The school day is 8:45–3:00, with early dismissal at 2:30 on Tuesdays.

#### Who we are:

- ❖ We were founded in 1949 on the developmental and progressive principles of John Dewey and Jean Piaget.
- ❖ Active parent participation is integral to the life of the school.
- ❖ Children become self-motivated, enthusiastic learners through real-world experiences that make learning relevant to them.
- ❖ Our social studies-based approach integrates and connects language arts, math, the visual arts, science, music, woodworking, and print shop. Children participate in specialist classes several times per week.

Our children's rich experience also includes:

- Gardening every week in our organic edible community garden.
- A twice-per-week P.E. program that is non-competitive and stresses cooperation, sportsmanship, individual skills and the rules of the game.
- Frequent field trips that are vital to the social studies units; children recreate and share their experiences through block-building, culminations, artwork and journals.

#### Beyond Westland:

Our graduates successfully matriculate at Westside and Valley public middle schools and the following independent and parochial schools:

Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School - Archer School for Girls - Berkeley Hall School  
Brentwood School - Campbell Hall School - Chaminade College Preparatory School  
Crossroads School - Harvard-Westlake School - Manzanita School - Marlborough School  
MUSE School - Oakwood School - Our Lady of Angels School - St. Francis de Sales School  
Sierra Canyon School - Waverly School - Wildwood School - Windward School



## Westland School

### Pre-School Information Release Form

**To the Parents:**

Please complete and sign this form, attach it to your completed admission application, and return to Westland. We will send the form directly to your child's school.

I/we authorize the release of information for my child.

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To the Pre-School:**

The parents of the following child have applied for admission to Westland School. Enclosed is our Preschool Evaluation form for the child's teacher to complete and send back to the address below. Thank you.

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Nickname (if any)

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Current School Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

Westland School  
Admission Committee  
16200 Mulholland Drive  
Los Angeles, California 90049



# Westland School

## Flexible Tuition

In support of both our founding values and our school community we are pleased to announce that we will begin using the term Flexible Tuition at Westland.

The flexible tuition model has a different approach to tuition reduction. Rather than focusing on a tuition grant or aid, the focus is on a tuition rate that each family can afford. The change in language and practice conveys our fundamental belief that all families have equal value in our community, regardless of the tuition they pay.

The perception of the traditional financial aid model intimates a one-way street – that the recipients are the sole beneficiaries. The flexible tuition model creates a more accurate and inclusive picture, acknowledging that socioeconomic diversity itself brings value to the entire community. In addition, research demonstrates that diversity benefits all students, from improved critical thinking skills and cognition to a more socially responsible worldview.

Our goal over the course of the next four years is to extend flexible tuition to help some of our families whose incomes fall in the middle range. The flex tuition model will be in place for admissions for the 2017/18 school year. As that will be our first year with this model we are uncertain as to how many families will be applying and therefore uncertain as to the top income level that will be eligible for flexible tuition. Each year, as we move forward, we expect that we will gain a clearer understanding of the income levels that will be eligible for flexible tuition. After submitting an admissions application please contact Carole (cbarber@westlandschool.org) should you have any questions about your eligibility for flexible tuition.

If you would like to apply for flexible tuition, please complete this form and return it with your admissions application. We will then send you an email with instructions for submitting a flexible tuition application.

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We are interested in applying for Flexible Tuition:

Name of student applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Grade applying \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_