

Undivided

Preschool Tour Notes

School: _____ Date: _____

Building

Things to look for:

<p>Is the playground adequately fenced in? Are gates locked?</p> <p>Are the locks in good shape or broken?</p> <p>If there are stairs or ramps, are they uncluttered?</p>	
<p>How far will your child need to walk from the school's front door to the classroom or playground?</p> <p>If your child has difficulty walking long distances, how will they be supported?</p>	
<p>If there is a kitchen, are precautions taken to ensure it is inaccessible to children?</p> <p>Is the kitchen clean and uncluttered?</p>	



Classroom and Routine

Things to look for:

<p><i>Try to tour the classroom at different times of day. Playtime can look very different from structured periods like circle time.</i></p> <p>What did you think went well?</p> <p>Do you have any concerns?</p>	
<p>Are the toys, furniture, and materials in good shape or in need of repair?</p>	
<p><i>If your child has sensory sensitivities, look for things that may bother them.</i></p> <p>Are there decorations dangling from the ceiling that may be distracting, very bright colors, or a lot of loud noises?</p> <p>Is there natural light?</p> <p>Is there a quiet place in the classroom where your child can take a break?</p>	
<p>Is the bathroom clearly marked?</p> <p>Is there a changing station?</p>	



Is there sufficient privacy?	
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Questions to ask:

<p>Which error correction or disciplinary procedures are used in class?</p> <p>Are teachers able to individualize for your child? If so, what are some ways they've done so in the past?</p> <p>Can teachers use a system you already have in place, such as a sticker chart?</p>	
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Students

Things to look for:

<p>Do students have freedom of movement? Are they able to wiggle and stretch?</p> <p>If the children are on the floor, are they allowed to lie down or sit in different positions?</p>	
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Questions to ask:

<p>How many students are in the classroom?</p> <p>What is the age range of children?</p>	
<p>Are children with disabilities included in the classroom, or do they attend in a separate room?</p> <p>Are they separated for part of the day? If so, where will they be?</p>	
<p>Are children able to contribute to the classroom environment?</p> <p>Are their projects hung on the wall?</p> <p>Are they able to give teachers ideas for activities?</p>	

Teachers/Staff

Things to look for:

<p>Are teachers down on the children's level (sitting on the floor or kneeling while speaking to students)?</p>	
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Are their interactions warm and friendly?	
Does the classroom appear to have enough staff? Are teachers positioned in different areas around the room to maximize supervision and interaction?	

Questions to ask:

Is there more than one teacher present? What are their names? How long have they been teaching? Do they have a degree or certification, like a CDA?	
Are there any teaching assistants or volunteers present? How often are they in the classroom? What training do they receive?	



<p><i>If you're concerned about staffing levels or if your child has a compromised immune system, ask the school about substitute availability.</i></p> <p>How easy is it for teachers to get their shifts covered?</p> <p>Is there a chance they may come in sick?</p> <p>Are parents ever asked to volunteer when there is not enough staff?</p>	
<p>How is attendance collected?</p> <p>Which safety measures are put in place to ensure all children are where they should be?</p>	
<p>How do teachers keep parents informed and involved?</p> <p>Do they use any apps or programs to communicate or send you pictures of your child?</p> <p>Do they encourage volunteers and welcome parents in the classroom?</p>	



Curriculum

Questions to ask:

What curriculum does the school use? Are teachers able to individualize learning and set goals with you?	
How is students' progress monitored? Will you be able to keep track from home if students are distance learning?	
Does the school routinely send home activities for you to work on with your child?	

Supports and Accommodations

Things to look for:

Are children with disabilities included in activities in meaningful ways? What kinds of supports are teachers utilizing?	
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<p>Are there visual supports posted in the classroom?</p> <p>Is there a visual schedule at the children's level?</p> <p>Is there a graphic guide for washing hands by the sink?</p>	
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Questions to ask:

<p>How are medications given?</p> <p>How do staff members track what medications are given?</p> <p>Where are medications stored?</p> <p>What precautions are taken so that children do not have access to medications?</p> <p>Is there a nurse working on-site?</p>	
<p>What kinds of technological supports does the school have access to, such as iPads or speech-generating devices?</p>	



<p>Is the classroom set up to easily accommodate mobility devices such as gait trainers and wheelchairs?</p> <p>Is the school on one level, or will your child need to access the elevator to reach any services?</p>	
<p>Is the school partnered with other programs or professionals to offer support programs on-site?</p> <p>If they are offered off-site, will the school be able to transport your child there? How are those transports handled?</p>	
<p>If your child is still wearing diapers or pull-ups, are staff members able to change them?</p> <p>If so, what are the safety procedures they follow?</p> <p>Is more than one staff member available to help with changing?</p> <p>Is there a possibility that the school may call you to assist with changing?</p>	



<p>If your child is using the bathroom independently but needs help cleaning themselves, what supports are available?</p> <p>Are wet wipes kept on hand for your child to use?</p>	
<p>If meals are provided on-site and your child has food allergies or sensitivities, can the school accommodate these?</p> <p>What are some ways the school has accommodated food preferences and allergies?</p> <p>What will you need to do to set up these accommodations for your child?</p>	
<p>What are some ways the school helps children with disabilities during mealtime?</p> <p>Is someone available to feed children who need support?</p>	



<p>What supports are available for your child in class?</p> <p>Do teachers have access to weighted vests, fidgets, or sensory seats?</p> <p>Do they have access to headsets to amplify their voices or ASL programs?</p>	
<p>Is the school in a relationship with other schools or services you've already accessed?</p> <p>For example, is it partnered with an early intervention program, and can some of your child's information be transferred to facilitate their transition?</p>	
<p>Any additional notes</p>	