



KIDS FIRST CHICAGO

Family Fit Check List

There are many types of schools and any one of them could be a great option for you and your student. When choosing a school, it's important to think about which will fit your family's needs the best, regardless of type. In order to find the best fit, think about the questions below to help you figure out which schools meet your needs.

LOCATION AND TRANSPORTATION

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| WHAT SHOULD I ASK? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does location matter? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do I need the school to be close to home or work? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | How will I get my child to school? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do I want my child to walk, be driven, or take public transportation to school? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is the journey to and from school safe for my child? |

STRUCTURE AND POLICY

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| WHAT SHOULD I ASK? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Am I willing or able to consider a non-standard school schedule? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What are the start and end times of my child's school? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do I need before- and/or after-care? If so, how much does it cost? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do I want or need to keep my children together? |

SEE THE SCHOOL

Online research can help you get started on your school search, but nothing can take the place of an in-person visit. During the school search process be sure to take the time to visit the school, meet the administrators, talk to other parents, and ask students how they like their school. Come armed with specific questions about the school's teaching methods, enrichment programs, and disciplinary code. When speaking with other parents, be sure to include those who have recent experience with the school, and try to speak to as many as possible.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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| WHAT SHOULD I ASK? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does my child have a desire to attend school with current friends or neighbors? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What do you want the school community to look like? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What are the expectations around parent engagement? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does my work schedule allow me to participate? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is diversity important to me? |

LANGUAGE

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| WHAT SHOULD I ASK? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does my family or child speak a language other than English? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Which subjects will be taught in my child's native language? Which subjects will be taught in English? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What additional supports does the school offer to assist my child as an English Language Learner? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What support is available to me as an English Language Learner, so that I can be engaged in my child's learning at home? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | If I'd like my child to develop bilingual skills, what programs or services does your school offer? Do you offer an optional Dual Language Education (DLE) program? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | If your school offers a DLE program, which subjects are taught in English and which are taught in Spanish? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does your school offer additional language courses outside of a DLE program? If yes, which languages are offered? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What additional supports does the school offer to assist my child in developing bilingual skills? |

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS

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| WHAT SHOULD I ASK? | <input type="checkbox"/> | How does your school support students with an IEP or other diverse learning need? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | How will core instruction be delivered to my student? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | What programs and activities will my child have access to outside of the classroom? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | How does the school communicate with me to support my child's learning outside of the classroom? |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | If I have questions about my child's education needs, who can I talk to? |