University Primary School
Application Policies and Procedures

The assumption underlying UPS practices is that all children have strengths and talents. The curriculum is focused on using best practices to nurture these strengths and talents. At UPS we continue to build upon best practice from the fields of gifted education, special education, and early childhood and elementary education. We strive to differentiate learning for each of our amazing students, including those with special needs. University Primary School infuses instructional strategies from these fields into an exemplary early childhood program, to provide opportunities for students to develop and to display their talents. It is a program where emphasis is placed on "optimizing learning" (Clark, 1986), and engaging children's minds (Katz & Chard, 1994). At University Primary School, the goal is to maximize a child's full developmental potential.

To assess your child’s strengths, as much information as possible will be collected to comprise an Individual Portfolio Profile for admission consideration.

I. Parent Input
   A. Descriptive Questionnaire
   B. Site Visit Questionnaire

II. Independent Work or Play Samples from the Child
   A. 8 1/2 X 11 Drawing by the child of his/her family - May use any materials, but markers, crayons, or pencil are fine!
   B. Photograph of construction done independently - May be out of blocks, legos, clay, boxes, etc.
   C. Other: Parent or child’s choice (i.e., sample of drawing, taped conversation, story telling, etc.)

The application process will be complete when all of the items below have been returned:
   _____ Site Visit Questionnaire
   _____ Application Form
   _____ Family Data Form
   _____ Parent Questionnaire
   _____ Paid non-refundable application fee
   _____ Three Work or Play Samples from child

All classrooms will be balanced according to gender, ethnicity, and age if possible. Placement decisions will be made by a Placement Committee comprised of University Primary School teachers and the Director. Parents will be informed regarding placement decisions in mid-April. Please direct any questions about the application process to Ali Lewis, Interim Director alilewis@illinois.edu or 333-3996.