

## Kindergarten Admissions 2016

### Tips for Families

*All families with children born in 2011 should apply to kindergarten between December 7 and January 15. This includes students with disabilities, children currently in pre-k, and English Language Learners.*

*If you are zoned to a school that has had a kindergarten waitlist in recent years, you may have some questions about this process. To find your zoned school, visit [www.nyc.gov/schoolsearch](http://www.nyc.gov/schoolsearch) or call 311.*

### **How are offers made? Who is placed on the waitlist?**

All schools' offers are determined by admissions priorities. Zoned students who have a sibling who will be in grades 1-5 next fall are the first priority group. After zoned siblings are admitted, the next priority group is all other zoned students. If there are not enough seats for everyone in this group, there is a random selection to determine which students are selected for admission. The remaining students are on the waitlist.

### **How does the waitlist work?**

All students are automatically put on the waitlist for schools they ranked higher than their offer. Waitlist order is based on the same admissions priorities as offers. If you are on the waitlist for your zoned school, your spot on the waitlist is random among other zoned students on the waitlist. Your zoned school has a set waitlist order which they will use to make offers for any seats that become available between mid-March and mid-October. You are welcome to contact the school for information about where your child is on the waitlist. Zoned students arriving after the initial application deadline will be added to the end of the zoned waitlist.

### **Where will my child be given an offer if we don't get in to our zoned school?**

Your child will be given an offer to attend another school you list on your application OR another school in your district of residence. We encourage you to research other schools, particularly in your district, where you would be interested in having your child attend. The Kindergarten Directory is a good resource for this—you can find maps, a list of schools that admitted non-zoned students, and other data about individual programs in the book. You should particularly consider schools that could admit non-zoned students last year, as they are more likely to have space to accommodate children from outside the zone this year. If we cannot offer you one of the other choices you list on the application—or if you do not list any other choices on the application—we will find a seat for your child in a school in your district.

### **How should we rank schools on the kindergarten application?**

You should rank schools in order of your preference. Where you put a school on the application doesn't affect your priority to the school. For example, if you prefer a non-zoned school to your zoned school, you should rank it first. If we cannot offer you a placement at your first choice school, you still have zoned priority to attend your zoned school and will not be disadvantaged compared to other families in your priority group who ranked it first.