



## Early Admissions Policy

### Age-Eligible Children

The New School of San Francisco (NSSF) admits children into Kindergarten if they will be five years of age on or before September 1 (EC Section 48000[a]). Generally, early admission and enrollment of students younger than age five as of September 1 is not allowed.

### Early Admission for Under-Age Children to Kindergarten

NSSF is frequently requested by parents/guardians to enroll children who are not age-eligible for kindergarten. California law allows for local control options for admitting children to kindergarten who do not meet the above age eligibility.

While NSSF adheres the age-eligibility requirements - and believes them to be an important policy for pedagogical and practical purposes - the school will allow early admissions on a case-by-case basis and only under the following, limited conditions:

- NSSF's Early Admission policy is approved by the school's Governing Board.
- Only siblings of current students will be eligible for early admissions.
- Only children born within NSSF's initial school-year enrollment window (four weeks from the first day of school), will be eligible for early admission.
- Children admitted early may not begin school at the beginning of the school year, but they must wait until their fifth birth date occurs (EC Section 48000[b]);
- All Early admissions requests must be made in writing to the school's Director of Community.
- Admission will be based on the school's assessment of the child's readiness for kindergarten.
- A committee of grade level educators and administrators will be established to review each early admissions request and make a determination as to the child's readiness.
- The following will be used to assess kindergarten readiness:
  - Preschool records demonstrating age-appropriate social emotional skills, knowledge and abilities and/or teacher observations.
  - Parent report of the child's knowledge, skills, and abilities.

- Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) assessment, SEL screener or equivalent, if not included in preschool records. Assessments must be from a valid and reliable instrument and be aligned with NSSF's kindergarten expectations. *(Please note: Parents are responsible for obtaining records, reports, and assessments, including paying for alternative assessments to be conducted).*
- All decisions are final and will be made within 10-15 school days of the request and all relevant information being received.

If a child continues in kindergarten past the anniversary dates of their early admission, NSSF is required to sign and file a Kindergarten Continuance Form to continue the child in kindergarten to the end of the school year, and to avoid jeopardizing audit findings and result in a loss of apportionment.

The early admissions policy will be made available to parents in an accessible format and is subject to review by NSSF's Governing Board.