



Visiting a School Worksheet: What to Ask, What to Look For

School visits provide crucial information that will assist you in your choice. Before a visit, do some planning. During your visit, use this worksheet to record answers to your key questions.

Name of school _____ **Recommended by** _____

Address _____ **Phone** _____

Email _____ **Website** _____

Contact person (principal, etc.) _____ **Contact person's phone** _____

Contact person's email _____

Type of School

- private school traditional public school public magnet school
 public charter school online school

Number of students _____ **Percentage of students with LD** _____

Average student-teacher ratio _____

QUESTIONS TO ASK

General

Do you have a particular educational focus or teaching approach? _____

How do you individualize instruction? _____

What is your policy on homework? _____

How do you evaluate student progress? How frequently will you report my child's progress?

What are your resources/programs/volunteer opportunities for parents?

Is there an active PTA group? _____



What is your policy on discipline and safety? _____

How do teachers use technology to engage students in the classroom? To communicate with students? To communicate with parents?

What do you offer in the arts, foreign languages, extracurricular activities?

How will teachers collaborate to meet my child's learning needs? How do you support professional development?

Is there a learning specialist on staff? A guidance counselor? A school psychologist?

About LD instruction

What programs/accommodations/modifications/support do you provide for students with learning disabilities?

Do you have a tutoring program?

How are students with LD integrated into mainstream classrooms?

How do you celebrate/display the work of every child?

Do you have LD specialists on your staff? How knowledgeable are mainstream teachers about LD?



WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheerful, inviting classrooms | <input type="checkbox"/> Displays of student work | <input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic, knowledgeable teachers who keep students engaged |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confident, involved principal | <input type="checkbox"/> Good behavior in halls, lunchroom, on playground | <input type="checkbox"/> Good condition of building, facilities, grounds |

ESPECIALLY FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS OR ONLINE SCHOOLS

Are scholarships available? _____

What is the tuition? Are there payment schedules? _____

Are there additional fees (for extracurricular activities, tutoring, field trips)?

Is the school accredited? _____

By which organization(s)? _____

NOTES/GENERAL IMPRESSIONS
