The current school year is now underway. And, depending upon your child’s age, current grade, or maybe even your satisfaction with their current school or placement, it is time to consider alternatives for September 2018.

**LEARN ABOUT AND MEET APPLICATION DEADLINES**

- Sign-up for [Enrollment Updates](#) and more from the DOE.
- Sign-up for [InsideSchools’ free newsletter](#).
- Live in Brooklyn? [NYCSchoolHelp](#) offers a monthly newsletter just for you.

Watch for the following announcements:

- **Gifted & Talented Programs:** As of this writing the Request for Testing (RFT) for children entering Kindergarten through Grade 2 is not yet posted but will be available in early October. Applications must be submitted by November 13.
- **Middle School:** Applications will be distributed in November and due in December.
- **Kindergarten Application:** Kindergarten applications for children born in 2013 will be available on November 28 and due in January.
- **PreK For All:** The application for children born in 2014 will be available following the conclusion of the Kindergarten application period.

**GET TO KNOW YOUR OPTIONS**

**STEP 1: Identify your school district and zoned public school.**

- Using the [DOE mapping system](#) you can easily identify your zoned school and other schools that are close to your address. Many of the schools listed will be in your School District however; some schools may be located in an adjoining School District.

**STEP 2: Learn about the options and how to apply.**

- Attend a NYC Department of Education sponsored Admissions Event. One event is scheduled for each of the 32 NYC school districts. Families residing in NYU housing live in District 2.

  **Elementary Admissions Events** - Learn about public PreK, Kindergarten, and Gifted & Talented programs and how to apply to each. The information event for District 2 is scheduled on October 25, 6-8pm at the Clinton School for Writers & Artists, 10 East 15th Street.

  **Middle School District Fair** - Learn about and meet with representatives of the middle schools in your School District. The District 2 Fair is scheduled on October 19, 5-7:30 p.m. at Stuyvesant High School, 345 Chambers Street.

- Access the DOE published online directory or handbook for [Elementary School](#), [Gifted & Talented](#), and [Middle School](#).
• Get to know InsideSchools.org, the go-to resource that provides independent information about NYC public schools.
  - **Sign up for their monthly email** to stay up to date on timelines, events, and more.
  - **Search the website for information** about the 32 school districts, how to apply to schools from PreK through high school, how to choose a school, and more.
  - **Read profiles of individual schools** based on visits and interviews with school administrators, teachers and parents.
  - **Review their list of over 250 free programs** to enrich your child’s educational experience.
  - **Peruse their downloadable publications** for valuable information about NYC educational policy topics and challenges, as well as, practical guidance on how to effectively participate in the system (eg. [How to Rank Your Middle School Choices](#)).
  - **Attend their special events.** The next event is InsideSchools’ PreK & Kindergarten Event on October 5, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

**REGISTER FOR SCHOOL TOURS OR OPEN HOUSES**

• Once you’ve identified schools that interest you be sure to visit their websites to learn about the dates of their school tours or open houses. A word of advice: Tours fill up fast therefore it is advisable to sign-up early.

• Families interested to apply for the PreK For All programs are encouraged to tour along with the Kindergarten families this Fall. If the timing doesn’t work, don’t worry, schools and early childhood programs will also offer tours/open houses to coincide with the UPK application period and again following notification of placement.

**WATCH FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT NYC PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS IN THE COMING MONTHS** and please contact Erin Donnelly with suggestions for additional information or topics. Her email address is erin.donnelly@nyu.edu and phone is 646-997-9986.