

DOWNTOWN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL – APPLICATION FORM 2022-2023

About Downtown Alternative School

Downtown Alternative School is a supportive and nurturing community that fosters curiosity, engagement, and a lifelong love of learning to empower students with the core values, skills and knowledge they need to be confident and successful citizens.

Downtown Alternative School (DAS) is a community-based school that employs to engage and empower the student body with core values, above and beyond providing students with the tools they need to achieve academic success in the standard Ontario Elementary School Curriculum.

Our students, from Junior Kindergarten to Grade Six, live the following core values through supporting programs and activities in and outside the classroom.

1) Social Consciousness 2) Parental Engagement 3) Community Involvement

The core values equip DAS students with a unique and rewarding educational experience, while preparing them for lifelong learning and ongoing success as confident, responsible and caring citizens. Alternative learning techniques at DAS include:

1) Child-Led Learning 2) Arts-Based Learning 3) Multi-Age Learning

TDSB is committed to creating an equitable school system where the achievement and well-being of every student is fostered through rich, equitable learning experiences in diverse, accepting environments where all are included, every voice is heard, and every experience is honoured.

TDSB is committed to a learning and working environment which actively promotes and supports human rights and accessibility for people with disabilities. We will make an effort to accommodate your needs, though please note that this location is not wheelchair accessible.

Personal Information contained on this form or general information collected on behalf of the Toronto District School Board regarding the students is collected under the authority of the Education Act and in compliance with sections 14, 31, and 32 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used for education, transportation and health and safety purposes. For further Information, please contact Laurie Jantzi, Principal at 416-393-1882 or laurie.jantzi@tdsb.on.ca.

How to Complete the Application Package

We hope that our Open House presentation and tour gave you and your child a good sense of what our school is all about. The enclosed material will help you determine the suitability of our school for your child and your family and will provide you with the information needed to complete the application process.

How to Apply

To complete the application, you will need to:

- ✓ Complete the application package
- ✓ Return the entire application package in person or mail it directly – **no fax**
- ✓ During remote learning, you can scan and email the package.

All sections of this application must be completed in order to be eligible for the lottery.

Application forms must be received by **Friday, February 25th, 2022 by 4:00 pm**. They can be mailed or dropped off (outside the main door where someone must be there to receive it) to the main office at Downtown Alternative School, 85 Lower Jarvis St, Toronto, ON, M5E 1R8. During remote learning the package can also be scanned and emailed to the school.

The Selection Process

If necessary, the selection process will be determined by a lottery. **Successful applicants will be notified by email (by phone in cases where there is no email address) no later than March 4th, 2022. Written confirmation (by email or handwritten letter) of acceptance must be received by the school no later than Friday March 11th, 2022, by 4:00pm.**

STUDENT INFORMATION

No. _____ ON WAIT LIST

Name: _____ Male Female Non-binary D.O.B. _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Current School: _____ Grade Interested In: _____

☐ **I have a sibling at Downtown Alternative School who is currently in JK- Grade 6.**

In keeping with Optional Attendance procedures, preference will be given to siblings, in circumstances only where both siblings will be enrolled and attending the school at the same time. For example, if a current Grade 5 student has a current sibling applying for next year for JK- Grade 6, the sibling rule would apply. The rule is that both students need to be attending the same school at the same time.

☐ **I am applying with my twin as a set, and we are submitting only one application.**

ONE application will be submitted for both twins. Should that application be drawn, two pupil placements in the class will be taken. If parents choose to have twins apply individually, two separate applications will be submitted, and regular lottery rules will apply. If one twin is chosen, the other twin is not automatically granted acceptance by virtue of being a sibling.

PARENT INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address (if different from student): _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Preferred Phone Contact: Home Work

Please indicate which number we can reach you in theParent/Guardian Name: _____ **daytime.**

Address (if different from student): _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Preferred Phone Contact: ☐ Home ☐ Work**After careful thought, we believe that Downtown Alternative School is the right choice for our child and family.**_____
Parent/Guardian Signature_____
Date_____
Student Signature_____
Date

PILOT ADMISSION PROCESS

We value the choices that our school board offers to our students and their families and are proud of the excellent learning opportunities that our alternative elementary schools provide to their students and communities.

As part of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan, we are committed to providing equity of access to learning opportunities for all students. In looking at our elementary alternative schools we note that many alternative elementary schools are not proportionally representative of the diverse student population in the TDSB.

In order to explore further the possibility of making our elementary alternative schools more reflective of our board-wide student population, we are offering students the opportunity to participate in a pilot admission process for the school year at JK entry level.

Please note that this pilot would count for 25% of the JK entry grade only.

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As part of the Board's strategic efforts and commitments to advance equity and inclusion, and ensure non-discrimination, Downtown Alternative School encourages applications from families that represent the full diversity of communities in Toronto. If you feel comfortable, please check all the boxes below that apply to your child.

☐ **Racialized.** *Please specify (select all that apply):*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black | <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East/Southeast Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> 2SLBGTTIQQ+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latin | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Race – please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern | |
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☐ **Indigenous.** *Please specify (select all that apply):*

- ☐ First Nations
- ☐ Métis
- ☐ Inuit