



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

***Q. What is Karen Kain School of the Arts?***

**A.** Karen Kain School of the Arts (KKSA) is a publicly funded middle school with an emphasis on arts integration, specifically, drama, dance, vocal music, visual arts and media. We are not a performing arts school

***Q. How can my child enroll at KKSA?***

**A.** Students must be in their Grade 5 year, complete the online application by the deadline and participate in a student workshop or virtual student submission process. Every September, KKSA admits 60 Grade 6 students. We attempt to balance the program by gender. We maintain a waitlist of all other applicants who may be offered a placement at the school in the event that there is a vacancy in the Grade 6 or 7 program in the future. Students are only admitted via this process and in the Grade 6 or 7 year. No admissions are offered in the Grade 8 year. All students are required to have a Toronto address (postal code starting with M).

***Q. Do I require an Optional Attendance form as part of the application or Admission Process?***

**A.** Students attending or applying for the KKSA program **do not** require a TDSB Optional Attendance form.

***Q. What is the application process for my child to attend a workshop at KKSA?***

**A.** In person workshops are not being held for the 2021/22 school year, they have been replaced by a virtual student video and written submission. KKSA has an online application system. Each year the system opens in early October and closes the day before the winter break. All students who apply before the deadline are asked to submit their online will be a part of the virtual student workshop process.

***Q. What if I miss the application deadline?***

**A.** We **do not** accept and/or process late applications. The deadline for the 2021/22 school year was December 18, 2020.

***Q. How are the needs of Special Education students supported at KKSA?***

**A.** Our program model supports the TDSB philosophy of integrated student support. Students can receive support within the classroom for up to 50% of the school day.

***Q. How are the needs of French Immersion students supported at KKSA?***

**A.** KKSA offers the Core French Program that follows the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum. Teachers work to diversify the program to accommodate the needs of individual students, from both French Immersion and French language schools.

***Q. Where can I get more information on KKSA?***

**A.** Please refer to the [KKSA Website](https://www.kk.sa.on.ca/) often to access information on KKSA. You may also contact the school at [karenkainschoolofthearts@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:karenkainschoolofthearts@tdsb.on.ca).

***Q. Is it possible to have a tour of KKSA?***

**A.** Unfortunately tours cannot be accommodated due to disruption to student programming, capacity safety issues and Covid 19 restrictions. Elements of daily school programming are showcased in our 2021 information presentation. Students accepted into KKSA and their parents participate in an information session in May (TBD) prior to their entry in September.

***Q. How does KKSA ensure that the application process is equitable?***

**A.** At KKSA we are committed to ensuring that fairness, equity, and inclusion are essential principles of our school community and are integrated into our registration process, programs, operations, and practices. KKSA follows the Equitable Policy practices as outlined on the TDSB website: [TDSB Equity Policy](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/equity-policy). As part of the Board's strategic efforts and commitments to advance equity and inclusion, and ensure non-board discrimination, KKSA encourages applications from families that represent the full diversity of communities in Toronto. Our admission policy allows for priority entry for members of diverse communities, which will count for a minimum of 25% of all grade admissions. As another part of our process, we aspire to have a population that is at least 30% non female. As aligned with TDSB policies, KKSA strives to meet the accommodation needs of persons with disabilities. Applicants are encouraged to make their needs for accommodation known in advance during the application process.

***Q. My child has a sibling currently attending KKSA. Will they be granted admission?***

**A.** KKSA is a specialized program that is specific to the needs of the individual student. Every child is evaluated on an individual basis. Siblings are not guaranteed admission to KKSA.



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**Q. My child receives accommodations and/or modifications to their daily programming. How do I ensure the same level of support during the workshop?**

**A.** As the application process is virtual this year, we would ask that students receive the same support, time, resources etc. when preparing their presentation and written response.

**Q. How do I know that the school has received my child's application?**

**A.** All on-line applicants have received a confirmation email. If you have applied using our online registration system and have not received a confirmation email, please contact the school by email at [karenkainschoolofthearts@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:karenkainschoolofthearts@tdsb.on.ca).

**Q. What does my child need to prepare for the Student Submission?**

**A.** Students must submit a written piece (maximum 500 words) telling us why they love the arts and provide two experiences that show why the arts are important to them in a 2-minute video. The submission is due by February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Applicants will receive detailed information at the information night (January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021) and by email when the submission window opens.

**Q. How are students notified of submission results?**

**A.** ALL successful and waitlist candidates are notified by email, on **Friday, April 30, 2021 (TENTATIVE)**.

**Q. Can I find out what position my child is on the waitlist?**

**A.** To be fair and sensitive to our applicants, we do not publish/announce the order of the waitlist, however the waitlist order is categorized by blocks of students which will be shared.

**Q. When do I need to confirm my child's offer of placement?**

**A.** Signed confirmations of acceptance must be received at KKSA by **Friday, May 7, 2021**. Signed confirmations may be delivered by mail, courier, in person or through TDSB board mail (ask the Office Administrator at your home/closest TDSB school). COVID-19 restrictions may impact these actions.

**Q. Can I get the results of the workshops?**

**A.** Unfortunately, based on the number of applicants, it is not possible to offer individual feedback. The selection committee looks at all parts of the application package and use the published rubric to evaluate students.

**Q. How many performances are there at KKSA?**

**A.** KKSA typically holds two **Student Showcases** per year. Our showcases are a representation of the artistic work that is created on a daily basis in the different subjects at school. KKSA is not a "Performing Arts" school.

**Q. My child has many extra-curricular obligations and will be away often. How will this affect their learning?**

**A.** KKSA is a very busy school with many field trips, guest presentations, several collaborative assignments, extra-curricular activities, etc. Please keep this in mind when discussing the suitability of this program with your child. As in any learning environment, regular and consistent attendance is strongly recommended.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE CURRENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC, DATES AND TIMES FOR OUR APPLICATION PROCESS MAY REQUIRE MODIFICATIONS. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO MONITOR THE KKSA WEBSITE OFTEN TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ANY NECESSARY CHANGES.**

**[KKSA WEBSITE](#)**