GLOBAL LANGUAGE ACADEMIES OF DOWNEY
CARPENTER

Admissions Policy

Mission Statement

At Carpenter Elementary, we cultivate a love of learning; we ignite curiosity through inquiry-based experiences while thriving in a compassionate, active, and multilinguistic environment. We foster a school community where our internationally-minded youth develop an appreciation of differences and respect for the dignity of all people.

Statement of Philosophy

Carpenter Elementary School believes that all students have the right to an inclusive, challenging, and engaging education that fosters academic excellence, multilingualism, intercultural understanding, and international-mindedness. As an International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years programme (PYP) World School, we are committed to providing equitable access to learning experiences that promote inquiry, student agency, and the development of knowledgeable, caring, and reflective learners who contribute positively to their local and global communities.

Purpose

This policy establishes equitable access to the school's educational programs and outlines the expectations for participation in the IB PYP Global Language Academies of Downey (G.L.A.D.) programme. The policy applies to all students, including neighborhood students and those applying for inter-or intra-district permits. The policy reflects the mission of Carpenter Elementary School, the philosophy of the International Baccalaureate, and the policies of Downey Unified School District.

Programme Overview

Carpenter Elementary School is an authorized International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme World School serving students in dual language Transitional Kindergarten through Grade 5. The PYP is a student-centered framework that promotes inquiry, conceptual understanding, and the development of the whole child. Through transdisciplinary learning, students are encouraged to ask questions, think critically, take action, and make meaningful connections between their learning and the world

around them. Guided by the IB Learner Profile, Carpenter Elementary fosters academic excellence, multilingualism, intercultural understanding, and international-mindedness, preparing students to become lifelong learners and responsible global citizens.

Access and Inclusion

Carpenter Elementary is committed to ensuring that all students have access to the IB PYP G.L.A.D. program.

Students identified as multilingual learners, students receiving special education services, students with accommodation plans, and students requiring academic interventions are welcomed and supported within the programme. Admission shall not be denied based on language proficiency, disability, or identified learning needs.

Appropriate supports and services will be provided in accordance with district, state, and federal requirements to promote student success.

Admission Requirements

Enrollment at Carpenter Elementary School is open to students who meet the requirements established by the State of California and Downey Unified School District, including submission of required enrollment documentation such as proof of residency, age verification, immunization records, and emergency information. All enrolled students participate in the IB PYP.

Enrollment in the G.L.A.D. program follows district enrollment procedures and available program capacity. As part of the enrollment process, parents/guardians are required to attend a G.L.A.D. information meeting to gain an understanding of the program's goals, instructional model, expectations, and commitment to developing bilingualism, biliteracy, academic achievement, and intercultural competence. Parents/guardians must also review and sign the G.L.A.D. Parent Agreement prior to enrollment in the program.

Downey Unified Permit Policy Alignment

Carpenter Elementary School adheres to all Downey Unified School District enrollment, residency, transfer, and permit procedures. Students seeking enrollment through an intra-district or inter-district permit must comply with district-established permit requirements, timelines, and approval processes. Acceptance into Carpenter Elementary School G.L.A.D. program and participation in the IB PYP is subject to district policies, available space, and programme capacity. Enrollment decisions shall be made in accordance with applicable district regulations while maintaining equitable access to educational opportunities for all students.

Consistent with district policy, permits may be revoked or canceled if established district requirements are not maintained, including but not limited to attendance, behavior, residency, or other conditions specified by the District.

Support for New and Mid-Programme Students

Carpenter Elementary supports students who enter the program at any grade level by providing families with orientation resources, program information, and guidance on school expectations. Teachers and staff work collaboratively to provide appropriate support. This includes scaffolding and differentiated instruction, ensuring a successful transition and equitable access to learning for all students.

Communication and Application Process

Students and families interested in the IB PYP Programme can visit the Carpenter Elementary School website during the allotted open application period and access the informational session application. The admissions team aims to provide timely decisions and maintain consistent communication with families throughout the admission process.

Policy Review and Stakeholder Involvement

This Admission Policy is reviewed annually by relevant stakeholders to ensure continued alignment with IB standards and practices, Downey Unified School District policies, and the mission and educational goals of Carpenter Elementary School. Revisions will be made as needed to reflect changes in program requirements, district policies, and the evolving needs of the school community.

Adopted by: Carpenter Elementary School

Last Review Date: 10/30/2026

Next Review Date: October 2027