



2010-2011 Application Information

About Our School

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School is a parent-child program in a rural setting that emphasizes the value of the outdoors, self-directed play, and self-esteem. Our school in the woods is where parents are the students and children come to play. We offer a unique school experience that integrates an outdoor program in a natural setting with a more traditional indoor program in a charming old schoolhouse. The school has been a place of learning for teachers, parents, and children since 1956.

Children attend 1-3 days per week, depending on age. Parents attend one class per week, recording observations of their child, while the children grow and explore with their teachers and peers. Through observation and monthly parent education meetings, parents acquire an understanding of their child's development and personality. Tuition assistance is available for those in need.

Parent Participation Requirements

1. Attend one entire class session per week (per child). If you are enrolled in a two-day program, you are required to care for one other child during class, one day per week. If you are enrolled in a three-day program, you are required to care for two other children during class, one day per week.
2. Write 20 in-class observations per year (per child you have enrolled).
3. Participate in 12 evening meetings per year (per family). (8 meetings per year per family for the Saturday Afternoon class.)
4. Work 4 hours per year at the scheduled maintenance day (per family).
5. Participate in fundraising by serving on an Auction committee and contributing \$50 worth of goods or services (per family).

Carpooling & Partnerships (Does not apply to 2 year old classes and the Saturday Afternoon class)
Carpooling allows you to come just one day a week with your child and provides opportunities for your child to develop a special relationship with his/her carpool partner(s). Carpooling is an important and enriching part of our curriculum. Carpool recommendations will be made in August and finalized at the first evening circle meeting. Carpool partners are encouraged to meet before school begins to allow the children and parents to get to know each other and to discuss expectations. This can be very helpful in establishing a successful carpool.

School Policies

Children enrolled in classes that meet more than 1 day per week are required to attend their class regularly. Failure to do so may be cause for dismissal.

Siblings 6 months and younger may attend class.

Twins are recognized as two individual enrollments. Parents are required to attend one class per week per child and complete 10 observations per child per semester.

How To Apply

Please be thorough when filling out the attached application form. Indicate ALL classes that you are willing to attend and that are age-appropriate for your child by number ranking your choices (i.e., the number "1" will identify your first choice, the number "2" your second choice, and so on). Since placement in your first choice class is not guaranteed, it is strongly recommended that you select at least a second choice class. ***Please use a separate application form for each child you wish to enroll.***

Return your completed application form with your non-refundable application fee of \$60.00 (\$20.00 for each additional child) to the address at the bottom of the application form. Please make your check payable to "LGSONS."

All applicants will receive a written response to their application by early March. Those qualified applicants not placed in a class will automatically be placed on a waiting list and notified if a spot becomes available.



Priority Registration

The priority registration period to submit applications for the 2010-2011 school year is **January 24 - February 8, 2010**. Applications **MUST** be postmarked by **February 8, 2010** to be eligible for priority registration. Applications requiring a receipt signature will not be accepted.

Families currently enrolled in the regular program, which includes all classes except the Saturday Afternoon class, wishing to re-enroll for the following year **MUST postmark their application by February 8, 2010** in order to be guaranteed a spot in the school for the following year. As long as the application is postmarked by February 8, 2010, the particular postmark date itself will not impact how the application is processed (i.e., an application postmarked 1/25/10 will not have priority over an application postmarked 2/8/10). All applications postmarked **AFTER** February 8, 2010 will be processed on a first come, first serve basis and will not be eligible to participate in the lottery for a particular class.

Currently enrolled families must be up-to-date on all obligations before submitting an application. These obligations include fundraising, maintenance, tuition, late fees, meetings, and observation requirements that were due on or before February 8 of the current school year. Children currently enrolled in the regular program will be guaranteed a spot in the school the following year if the following criteria are met:

- Application is postmarked by February 8, 2010.
- The family is up-to-date on all obligations at the end of the current school year.

How Classes are Filled

First priority is given to families who are currently enrolled in the regular program who wish to re-enroll in the regular program the following year. Current families are not guaranteed a position in their first choice of class but will be placed in classes based upon space availability, their assigned lottery number, and teacher recommendation. The remaining spots in a particular class will then be filled with current Saturday Afternoon class families, then alumni families, and then with families who are new to the school. Families enrolled in the Saturday Afternoon class have priority to enroll in the Saturday Afternoon class again the following year.

The school's policy does not allow repeating of a class in the regular program by a particular child. However, a family may petition the Board to request that a child repeat a class. The petition review and potential exception will be based on teacher recommendation and Board approval.

Children currently enrolled in the 3/4's class have priority over those currently enrolled in the 3's class for enrollment in the 4/5's class.

Children attending a 5-day pre-K or Kindergarten class are not eligible for the regular program. However, they may request to enroll in the Saturday Afternoon class.

Children must be two years old and cannot be three by September 1 to be eligible for the 2's class. Children must be three years old and cannot be four by September 1 to be eligible for the 3's class. Children must be three years old and cannot be five by September 1 to be eligible for the 3/4's class. Children must be four years old by September 1 and cannot turn six before June 1 to be eligible for the 4/5's class.

A family may petition the Board to admit a child whose birthday does not fall within the age requirement guidelines by writing a letter. The petition must accompany the family's application form and be received prior to the end of the priority registration period. The Board, Director, and Head Teacher must approve the petition to waive the age requirement. If the age waiver is approved, the age requirement will be waived in subsequent classes.

Waiting Lists

When a class has more applicants than spaces, the class is filled by a lottery. If you are placed in your second choice class, you are automatically put on the waiting list for your first choice class based on your lottery number. The waiting list is used actively throughout the current school year and during the summer to fill open spots. You will be called if a spot (or your first choice class) becomes available for your child. However, you will be committed to the class in which you are enrolled by the first circle meeting of the new school year. At that time, all waiting lists for enrolled families will be eliminated. If a position becomes available after the first circle meeting, it will be filled by the remaining applicants on the waiting list. Applicants who are not enrolled in the school will remain on the waiting list until the next application period. The school's waiting list does not roll over from year to year. Thus, in February 2011, the waiting list for the 2010-2011 school year will be null and void.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School (www.lgsons.org)
 "Mountain School"



2010-2011 Application Form (Please print clearly)

Child's Name: (first) _____ (last) _____

Child's Birth Date: _____ Gender: Girl Boy

Mother's Name: (first) _____ (last) _____

Father's Name: (first) _____ (last) _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell or Alt. Phone: _____

Email (1): _____ Email (2): _____

Is your family: Current Alumni New

If you are a **CURRENT** family, please list the child(ren)'s name(s) and their class(es): _____

If you are an **ALUMNI** family, please list the child(ren)'s name(s) and the years they attended the school: _____

Note: Alumni status includes: (a) Families who have attended the school, including the Saturday Afternoon class, and have completed all financial and participation requirements **and/or** (b) Parents who attended the school as children. Alumni status is not extended to those families who have only attended summer school.

If you are a **NEW** family, please tell us how you learned about LGSONS (check all that apply):

- Alum Education Fair Friend Internet Search Newspaper Article Parent's/Mom's Group
 Posted Flyer Printed Ad Other/Describe: _____

Nursery School Program

Please rank your class choices in order of priority. Note that your child must be the age listed to be eligible for that class.

Rank	Class Name	Child's Age	Classes Per Week	Class Day(s)	Class Time(s)	Tuition		
						Annual	Tri-Annual	Monthly (10)
	Wednesday 2's	2 by 9/1/10	1	Wednesday	9:15-11:45AM	\$998	\$366	\$120
	Friday 2's	2 by 9/1/10	1	Friday	9:15-11:45AM	\$998	\$366	\$120
	Saturday 2's	2 by 9/1/10	1	Saturday	9:15-11:45AM	\$998	\$366	\$120
	3's	3 by 9/1/10	2	Tuesday/Thursday	9:15-11:45AM	\$1,760	\$620	\$196
	3/4's	3 by 9/1/10	3	Monday Tuesday/Thursday	9:15-11:45AM 12:30-3:00PM	\$2,450	\$850	\$265
	4/5's	4 by 9/1/10*	3	Monday/ Wednesday/Friday	12:30-3:00PM	\$2,450	\$850	\$265
	Saturday Afternoon **	3,4,5 or 6	1	Saturday	12:30-3:30PM	\$998	\$366	\$120

* Child cannot turn 6 prior to 6/1/11

** Enrolling in this class does not give you priority registration in the regular program for the following year. You will be guaranteed a position in the Saturday Afternoon class for the following year provided you are in good standing.

Return your completed application form with your non-refundable application fee of \$60.00 (\$20.00 for each additional child) to the address below. Please make your check payable to "LGSONS."

LGSONS Registration
 Attn: Priscilla Amend
 P.O. Box 33091
 Los Gatos, CA 95031

If you would like to receive confirmation that your application form has been received, please address and **stamp** the attached postcard. (If you obtained these forms from the website, please enclose your own self-addressed, stamped postcard for your confirmation.)