

How do we define giftedness at Westmount Charter School?

- Students are gifted when they perform, or show potential for performing, remarkably high levels of accomplishment in learning rate, depth of knowledge, and reasoning and problem-solving abilities when compared to others of their age, experience, and environment.
- Giftedness is *asynchronous development* in which advanced cognitive abilities and heightened intensity combine to create inner experiences and awareness that are qualitatively different from the norm. This asynchrony increases with higher intellectual capacity. The uniqueness of the gifted renders them particularly vulnerable and requires modifications in parenting, teaching and counseling in order for them to develop optimally. (Columbus Group, 1991)

2018 – 2019 Admissions Information

- We have chosen not to offer an open house for our middle grades this year as we do not anticipate much movement in grades 5 - 9 for the 2018 - 2019 school year. We are now at the maximum numbers for our Charter as well as building capacity.
- We are not able to entertain private meetings or tours. We receive dozens of requests each week and we are simply not staffed to accommodate these ongoing requests.
- Should we determine any spaces to offer for September 2018, we will host a group tour to those families prior to asking them for a decision on whether they wish to accept their offer.
- Each year we are able to offer approximately 10 – 12 spaces in grade **5 only**. These spaces only become available at this grade level to accommodate for the increase in class sizes from the elementary campus to the mid-high campus.
- As in the past several years, we anticipate extremely limited space for grade 6 – 8 (less than 2 spaces per grade). You are welcome to apply but we will not know of possible availability until our current students have re-registered in the spring. If everyone re-registers, there will be no spaces to offer.
- We may be able to offer about 5 – 8 spaces for grade 9 and can usually accommodate any grade 10 applicant who meets our admission criteria for our gifted program.
 - ✓ All applications must include a psychological assessment indicating for giftedness in order for an application to be considered. You can call any psychologist you feel comfortable working with. We do not endorse any one individual or organization.
<http://www.yellowpages.ca/search/si/1/Psychologists/Calgary+AB>
 - ✓ Please refer to the Administrative Procedure AP-300 regarding Student Selection for further information. http://www.westmountcharter.com/charter_board/policies_procedures.html
- If we are unable to offer your son or daughter a space at Westmount Charter School for the 2018 – 2019 school year, you will need to re-apply for each school year with completely new application documents.
- **We do not maintain a waitlist from year to year.**

Admissions Timeline

November 2017 - February 28, 2018

- ✓ Applications available online for you to download.
- ✓ <http://www.westmountcharter.com/admissions/midhigh.html> review and follow all steps.
- ✓ February 28, 2018 - Deadline to submit a completed application package; attach all required documents. Website has the full list in step 4.
- ✓ Completed applications, including all accompanying documentation, are to be delivered in person or mailed to Westmount's registration desk, located in the mid-high office.
- ✓ Applications must be dropped off in a sealed envelope with applicant's name and grade clearly labelled.
- ✓ Emailed documents will not be accepted.
- ✓ We **cannot** make photocopies in the office, please obtain these elsewhere.
- ✓ You will be emailed to confirm we have received the completed application.

March 2018:

- ✓ Families will be emailed with a recommendation of suitability for the Westmount Mid-High program.
- ✓ *This email is not an offer of a space for the 2018/2019 school year.*
- ✓ Offers for placement will be emailed specifically to families once available space has been determined.

** Applications received **after** February 28, 2018 will be placed at the bottom of the wait list, maintained until September 2018.