



# Village Charter School

## Application for Enrollment

- We recommend that all interested families view our website [www.villagecharterschool.com](http://www.villagecharterschool.com).
- Age Eligibility:
  - UPK/Transitional Kindergarten (TK) students are eligible for TK if they turn 4 by 9/1 of the school year.
  - Kindergarten students turn 5 on or before 9/1 of the school year.
- Completion of this application does not guarantee placement.
- **A complete application includes a copy of the applicant's birth certificate.**
- **IMMUNIZATIONS:** Within one week of acceptance, in order to receive a registration packet, you will be required to submit a copy of the applicant's most recent and up to date immunizations record. Failure to provide proper documentation within this time frame will terminate the acceptance.
- If VCS has more approved applicants than space, names of all students approved for enrollment will be placed into a lottery drawing of each necessary grade.
- Applicant names not pulled in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list which will remain active through the applied school year.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Applying for Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School year \_\_\_\_\_

Sibling of VCS student  Yes  No Applying with sibling(s)  Yes  No Grade of sibling(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Male  Female  **(BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS REQUIRED)**

Residence Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
(No PO Box)

Parent #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### School History:

Name of current/last school attended: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Last date attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year of first school entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the student ever been expelled from school?  Yes  No If yes, please provide the date of expulsion: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please provide reason for expulsion: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your child:

RCVD	____/____/____
TOUR	____/____/____
ACCPT	<input type="checkbox"/> ____/____/____
BC	<input type="checkbox"/> IMMU <input type="checkbox"/>
DCLND	<input type="checkbox"/>
VCS SIB	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
APP SIB	_____

(continue) \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly state why you would like your child to attend Village Charter School:

Please explain any behavioral issues that your child has:

All information provided on this application is confidential.

Your signature below confirms your review and understanding of the attached policies.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **THE VILLAGE CHARTER SCHOOL**

The following policies are from the VCS Handbook. Please do not include them with the application.

The full handbook and policies can be viewed at <https://www.villagecharterschool.com/2021/about/handbook/>.

#### **OUR MISSION**

The Village Charter School is dedicated to providing a quality education in a positive and respectful multi-age environment where world cultures are explored, our connection to nature is honored, and character development is nurtured. Our school is a place where the intellectual, imaginative, and humanitarian promise of each student is cultivated and celebrated in a community that practices mutual respect, embraces diversity, and inspires a passion for learning.

#### **OUR VALUES**

- We develop and maintain a diverse school community that fosters respect and cooperation.
- We provide a rich, well-rounded, developmentally and age-appropriate learning environment.
- We guide and stimulate thinking, embrace and nourish feelings, strengthen the body, encourage and accept creativity, and promote environmental and social responsibility.

#### **MULTI-AGE, DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION**

We are committed to a developmental, multi-age learning environment that honors the whole child and meets each individual student's need for academic achievement and real-world opportunity. A student's classroom placement is based on their developmental needs and readiness.

##### ***Why a multi-age, developmental education?***

At Village Charter School, we strongly believe that all students need to be responsible for their learning actions and choices. Therefore, we are committed to providing a multi-age developmental program, as this setting provides the best opportunity to present a child-centered learning environment.

Listed on the following page are some strengths/differences between the instructional presentation of a traditional classroom setting and a multi-age developmental classroom setting.

#### **NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY**

The Village Charter School admits the students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school and the school does not discriminate on the basis of race in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

At The Village Charter School, we consider "getting to school on time" and your DAILY attendance to be a common gesture of respect towards our community. Not only does it affect us financially, but it is also an indication that you truly share a common value system with us, and that you are modeling that value system for your children. Each absence and tardy affects the daily rhythm of your child's classroom, the teacher's ability to teach in a cohesive way, and your child's feeling part of the classroom culture. Please continue to follow our policies around illness, but if your child is not ill, please make plans and organize your schedule so that school attendance and being on time is a top priority in your family. Make carpool arrangements, plan appointments outside of school hours, have a backup plan to transport your child if you are unable to do so, and plan trips for already established school holidays.

##### ***Tardy/Absences/Truancy:***

**Education Code Section 48260** – Any pupil subject to full time education who is absent from school without valid excuse more than three days or tardy in excess of 30 minutes on each of more than three days in one school year is a truant and shall be reported to the attendance supervisor of the superintendent of the school district.

- Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are to be brought to the office. After signing your child in a staff member will escort him/her to class. **After 8:45 a.m. parents are not to walk students to class.**
- The school office should be notified of a child's absence either by phone or email.
- A Truancy letter will be sent to the home of any child that is habitually tardy and or absent. Chronic tardiness or absences will be addressed by the Board of Directors.

<b><i>Traditional Classroom</i></b>	<b><i>Multi-age Developmental Classroom</i></b>
State and district determine the curriculum and assign to grade level.	The curriculum is shared by all grade levels and takes into consideration students' interests.
Subjects are often taught separately and in isolation.	Subjects are integrated and highlight real life settings.
Teachers "cover" material dictated by textbook publishers.	Student needs and interests determine curriculum.
Teachers are the central focus of the classrooms and the keeper of information	Teachers act as facilitators and guide the learning of their students.
Instruction is directed towards mastery and retention of stated objects.	Instruction is designed to develop life skills and individual interests.
Instruction often emphasizes one learning style.	Instruction centers on different learning styles.
Ability grouping and levels is an alternative to whole class instruction	Heterogeneous grouping is emphasized with students supporting students.
Emphasis on whole class instruction minimizes individual differences.	Individual differences are met through small, flexible changing groups.
Children are expected to learn the same curriculum in the same way.	Children are provided the opportunity to learn in a way that meets their learning style.
Heavy emphasis is placed on performance on a standardized test and getting the right answer.	Students are afforded the opportunity to demonstrate their learning through real life application.
Teachers are held responsible for student behavior.	Students are held responsible for their own behavior.
Learning occurs best in quiet, orderly classrooms.	Learning is enhanced by student interaction and movement.
Children work on goals established by the teacher.	Children work on developmentally appropriate goals established by the child, teacher and parent.

## **FOOD**

***Snacks/Lunches:*** We encourage you to send your child to school with snacks and lunch that are whole foods rather than processed foods. This helps guarantee that preservatives and processes which remove the nutritional value of foods are not present.

- Whenever possible, send the food in recyclable and reusable containers, reducing landfill waste.
- Send as much protein as possible to support brain function.
- Please do not send food high in sugar or with corn syrup.
- Water only.
- If your child brings highly processed food or a sweetened beverage, they will be asked to put it away and to save it for the ride home at the end of the day.
- Chewing gum and candy are not allowed.

## **DRESS CODE**

The Village Charter School guidelines for school dress are based on matters relating to health, safety, good school organization and deportment. Safety and cleanliness are important. Items disruptive of the school's learning environment should not be worn.

***Clothing:*** Please send your child to school in clothing that helps support his/her learning. All clothing should be free of images or language that is distracting, violent, drug or alcohol related, aggressive or media based. All clothing and shoes must be weather appropriate and suitable in terms of freedom of movement and body coverage. Students of all ages must be in clothing that allow them to safely and appropriately participate in all activities including but not limited to running, hiking, yoga, climbing, etc.

## **CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Cell phones and personal entertainment devices (iPod, electronic toys, etc.) are ***not allowed*** on the school campus. If we find a student with one of these items, we will hold it in the school office and return it to a parent at the end of the day.

## **FINGERPRINTING/ BACKGROUND CHECK**

Any individual who wishes to volunteer in classrooms or participate in curriculum-based outings sponsored by Village Charter School **must have been fingerprinted through the Village Charter School ORI number**. A background check must have been received from the Department of Justice *PRIOR* to volunteering or participation. This is a one-time event that does not need to be renewed by returning families.

***Fingerprinting Fees:*** Each volunteer is responsible for their own fingerprinting costs.

## **FRAGRANCE-FREE POLICY**

*Per American Lung Association [www.Lung.org](http://www.Lung.org) • 1-800-LUNG-USA (1-800-586-4872)*

A fragrance-free environment helps create a safe and healthy workplace. Village Charter School recognizes the hazards caused by exposure to scented products and cleaning chemicals and we have a policy to provide a fragrance-free environment for all employees, students and visitors to keep a safe and healthy environment. This policy applies to both employees, students, parents and visitors of Village Charter School.

### **Policies**

- Village Charter School expects that all classrooms, offices and spaces used by the staff, students and their visitors remain free of scented products.
- Personal care products such as cologne, perfume, aftershave lotions, scented lotions, fragranced hair products and/or similar products are not to be worn at the Village Charter School.
- Use of artificial air fresheners and chemically derived candles are prohibited at the Village Charter School.
- Use of cleaning products should also be free of fragrances.

## **THE PARENT PLEDGE PROGRAM (PPP)**

As an independent charter school, we have the freedom and flexibility to hand select our own amazing staff and to individualize our curriculum so EACH child's needs are met and his/her educational experience is full of joy and wonder. In exchange for this freedom and autonomy, we are responsible for significantly more of our own expenses than traditional, district supported public school sites. Traditional public schools are not responsible for managing costs related to leases, insurance, special education, or other operating costs. A fully funded PPP at \$125/month per family enables us to meet our annual operating budget needs and fund all of our magical enrichment programs, field trips and festivals.

## **SCHOOL & PARENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Enrollment in The Village Charter School is a choice to participate in a specific approach to education that requires a strong working partnership between the school and every parent. As partners, we agree that:

### **THE SCHOOL WILL:**

- Provide a safe and positive learning environment and program.
- Treat parents and students respectfully.
- Maintain regular ongoing communication with parents through a weekly school bulletin and written information from your class teacher.
- Inform parents of the progress and activities of the class through letters from the teacher and regular class parent meetings. Parent participation in the activities of the school will be encouraged.
- Provide opportunities for parent education throughout the year.
- Provide time for two parent/teacher conferences per child, per year.
- Provide teachers with professional development and mentoring as needed.
- Encourage open and direct communication, with opportunities for parents to provide feedback and input, and clear protocols for expressing and resolving concerns, disagreements, or conflicts.

### **THE PARENT WILL:**

- Provide a home life for their children that supports the efforts and approach of the school, including a rhythmic daily schedule, adequate sleep, a healthy diet, restricting electronic media exposure, and minimizing stressful circumstances in daily life.
- Read the Parent Handbook and follow the school's policies, procedures, and practices.
- Read the weekly VCS Bulletin and regularly check the website to stay informed and respond as needed.
- Learn about multi-age education to understand and be able to support the approach.
- Ensure *regular and punctual* daily attendance by their children.
- Monitor and support their children's adherence to the school's dress and behavior expectations.
- Attend regularly scheduled parent meetings and individual parent/teacher conferences.
- Participate in (volunteer) activities for the school using the guideline set forth in the Parent Participation Requirements (see VCS Handbook for details).
- Participate in our Parent Pledge Program to the degree they are financially able, so that the school can continue to provide an enriching educational experience for all students (see VCS Handbook).
- Treat teachers and staff respectfully.
- Communicate concerns or conflicts quickly and directly to the appropriate person; follow the established procedures for healthy resolutions of disagreement or conflict.
- Refrain from using private emails and/or social media to discuss school related conflicts.
- Keep all communications with POUSD employees, Northwest Prep staff, SCOE staff, YMCA staff, their students and visitors to cordial pleasantries and direct the need for any additional communication to the VCS office.