

# ADMISSION PROCESS

The Admission Process will determine the applicant's appropriateness for placement at the Banyan School. We strive to provide the best education possible for our students and are selective in order to ensure success. Banyan School does not offer admission to those students with primary emotional and/or behavioral issues.

- ♥ Parents or school district child study team members who contact Banyan School will speak with a member of the administrative team to discuss a student's possible eligibility. Upon request, an information packet will be sent to parents and school districts.
- ♥ Applicants must submit records to Banyan School for review by the Admissions Committee. Records must include a current IEP, educational and psychological testing, and achievement battery. The Admissions Committee consists of an LDTC, psychologist, and administrator.
- ♥ If the review of the records is positive, the parent, student and/or child study team member will be invited for an intake appointment. This appointment will include a tour of the school, an interview, and a question and answer session.
- ♥ If the Admission Committee feels that Banyan School is an appropriate placement for the student, the student is invited to visit for 3 to 5 days.
- ♥ Classroom teachers and other staff members evaluate the student's visit based on classroom participation and behavior. A successful visit will result in admission to the program. An acceptance letter will be issued to all successful candidates.
- ♥ Banyan School does offer rolling admission throughout the year based on availability.



**BANYAN  
SCHOOL**

12 Hollywood Avenue  
Fairfield, NJ 07004  
Phone (973) 439-1919  
Fax (973) 439-1396  
[www.banyanschool.com](http://www.banyanschool.com)



Dream



Believe



Achieve

Banyan School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally afforded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

**BANYAN  
SCHOOL**

## OUR MISSION

To educate elementary and middle school students with learning disabilities by identifying individual strengths and abilities, continuously monitoring individual progress, and adapting the curriculum to meet each student's changing educational needs.

**B**anyan School is a private, non-profit, state approved elementary and middle school for students with average or above average intelligence whose academic success has been compromised by a primary learning disability. While the term "learning disability" is very general, it does encompass many factors that can impact a child's education, including:

- Attention Deficit Disorder
- Auditory Processing
- Dyslexia
- Fine and Gross Motor Co-ordination
- Organizational/Study Skills
- Reading Comprehension/Decoding
- Short and/or Long Term Memory
- Social Skills
- Speech and Language
- Visual/Spatial Processing

### Occupational Therapy

This program is focused on a neurological approach to the organization of the nervous system. It provides goal-directed activities to restore function by helping the child develop skills in eye-hand coordination, sensory integration awareness, form and space perception, and auditory language processes. When these skills are developed, the child is better prepared to learn basic academic skills.

**R**ecognizing that each student entering Banyan School will have his or her own learning style, the students are taught compensatory strategies to ensure academic success. Next, we monitor each student's progress to be sure that a particular teaching method is appropriate. Finally, we adapt the curriculum to meet each student's changing educational needs.

Banyan School has both an elementary and middle school program. The elementary school program is designed to fully develop basic academic and social skills. The middle school program is designed to apply these skills, while emphasizing organizational strategies and study techniques. The goal of these efforts is to prepare students to become independent learners.

Classes are small, with a maximum 8 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio. The school day is divided into periods, with "core" subjects taught in the morning.

The curriculum includes:

- |                        |                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - Art                  | - Physical Education & Health |
| - Computer Science     | - Reading                     |
| - Decoding             | - Science                     |
| - Language Arts        | - Social Skills               |
| - Mathematics          | - Social Studies              |
| - Music                | - Speech/Language             |
| - Occupational Therapy | - Writing                     |

### Social Skills

Through class meetings, activities, and peer groups, we teach students effective and appropriate ways to relate to peers and adults. Students learn about themselves and their effect on others. Our goal is to enable a student to have a positive self image, a sense of personal responsibility, and an ability to interact effectively in social situations.

**T**o accomplish our mission, we have an outstanding administrative, teaching, and support staff, which includes the following:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| - Director   | - Music Teacher                          |
| - Principal  | - Occupational Therapy Consultant        |
| - New Jersey Certified Teachers of the Handicapped | - Physical Education & Health Instructor |
| - Art Teacher                                      | - Psychologists                          |
| - Computer Consultant                              | - School Nurse                           |
| - Learning Consultants                             | - Speech & Language Pathologist          |
| - Librarian  |  |

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

- ★ Assistive Technology Program
- ★ Eighth Grade Experience
- ★ Clubs
- ★ Cultural Arts Program
- ★ Enrichment Classes
- ★ Extended Year Summer Program
- ★ Parent Support and Education Program
- ★ Peer Mentoring Program
- ★ Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)
- ★ Social Skills Group
- ★ Sports Program

### Speech and Language

The primary goal in the Speech and Language Department is to develop and support the auditory, verbal, visual, and written skills that the student needs in order to function effectively in the classroom. Individual and group sessions focus on receptive and expressive language skills. Pragmatics are also an integral part of the program.