



Children's Programs

Children's programs at Bank Street College of Education provide the gold standard in progressive education and support for young children and adolescents. Through a unique approach that places children at the center of their own learning, our programs employ dynamic, age-appropriate curricula designed to support the whole child by nurturing their intellectual, social, physical, and emotional growth.

At the heart of our work is the knowledge that children learn best when they are actively engaged with ideas, materials, and people. This idea guides our educators to create rich learning environments that are optimal for children's development and inspire a lifelong love of learning.

In step with Bank Street's longstanding mission to help build a more just and democratic society, our children's programs are broadly inclusive and strive to reflect the diversity of our community. Children's programs educators support students of all backgrounds to work collaboratively and respectfully with one another to solve problems and learn about the world around them.

The School for Children



The Bank Street School for Children is an independent, co-educational nursery through 8th-grade school in New York City. Recognized for its ability to nurture the creative, independent, and problem-solving talents of all children through an approach that emphasizes learning by doing, the School for Children is a working model of the Bank Street Graduate School of Education's approach to teaching and learning.

The school's curriculum is experience-based, interdisciplinary, and collaborative, and students grow by making meaningful connections within the classroom and beyond. Graduates enter the world with a flexible mind, an openness to new experiences, and a strong sense of advocacy and social justice.

The School for Children includes the Lower School for children ages 3-6, the Middle School for children ages 6-10, and the Upper School for children ages 10-14.

- Serves 450 students ages 3-14 years old
- 65% of faculty members hold a master's degree from the Bank Street Graduate School of Education
- A 6:1 student-to-teacher ratio in the Lower and Middle Schools; an 8:1 student-to-teacher ratio in the Upper School
- 53% of children are students of color
- 42% of students receive financial aid

After School

Bank Street offers an After School Program through which School for Children students can pursue creative, intellectual, physical, and social interests outside of school hours. Children participate in music, arts, movement, and STEM activities that promote self-expression, discovery, and growth while having the opportunity to develop new friendships and learn from students in other classrooms and grade levels. After School services are used by approximately 75 percent of School for Children families over the course of the year.



Summer Camp



Bank Street Summer Camp offers 11 weeks of extensive programming that mirrors the philosophy of the School for Children and helps campers expand their physical abilities, independence, decision-making, and leadership skills. A large percentage of our counselors are Bank Street teachers, Graduate School alumni, and current graduate students.

Administration and staff work together to create a nurturing, child-centered camp community by establishing deep and caring relationships with children and their families. Counselors go beyond their conventional role by remaining flexible within our shared space and with a busy schedule of swim, trips, and day-to-day activities, such as movement, woodworking, block building, art, cooking, theater, sports, and more. Camp also offers specialized programs, including Spanish immersion, science, coding, theater, sports, and film.

- Serves 500 children 4-16 years old
- 64% of staff members and 40% of campers are people of color
- 25% of campers receive financial aid
- 45% of staff are Summer Camp alumni and 32% of staff are School for Children alumni

The Family Center

The Family Center is an inclusive center that provides developmentally appropriate, child-centered services and support for children ages 6 months to 5 years and their families.

Designed to help all children develop the early social, emotional, and cognitive skills essential to lifelong success, the Family Center's Childcare Program provides full-time and part-time child care services for families of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with a diverse set of needs. In addition, the Family Center offers special education and therapeutic services to children who have developmental or educational challenges through its Home & Community-Based Program. Services include Special Education Itinerant Teachers (SEITs), multidisciplinary preschool evaluations, and infant-toddler parent playgroups.

- Serves 60 families each year through the Center-Based Childcare Program
- 15 SEITs support 30 children in Manhattan and Brooklyn
- Conducts multidisciplinary preschool evaluations for 60 children
- Serves 35 children in inclusive infant-toddler playgroups



Liberty LEADS



Liberty LEADS at Bank Street College is a high school completion and college access program that has served more than 1,700 students between 5th and 12th grades since 1989. Established to help empower underrepresented youth in New York City, the program makes an impact in the lives of students every day by helping them attain higher education, embrace leadership engagement, and create a positive future for themselves and others.

Bank Street Head Start

Bank Street Head Start is recognized as an outstanding free preschool program offering educational, nutritional, mental health, and social services to 68 families each year. Our educators help prepare children ages 3-5 years old for lifelong success by providing the social-emotional support they need to help them develop a positive feeling about learning and attending school.

