

BRIDGES Charter School

Hands on Education Connecting Kids to Their World

Dear Parent,

Thank you for your interest in BRIDGES Charter School's Independent Study Program. BRIDGES Charter School offers both, a site-based program as well as the Independent Study Program.

We are a public school operating with public educational funds. Our Independent Study Program is an innovative, state-of-the-art program where our motto "One student at a time where your child's SUCCESS is our primary goal" is implemented through our unique approach in homeschooling.

The primary goal of BRIDGES Charter School is to maximize learning opportunities for students, and to elicit young people's innate love of learning, build their self-confidence, and prepare them for success and excellence in their academic and personal pursuits.

At BRIDGES Charter School we focus on the whole child. This approach to education is founded on relationship and choice which develops the whole child's social, emotional, cognitive, kinesthetic, spatial, interpersonal, intrapersonal and natural intelligences. We believe that this philosophy is one that works beautifully for you as a homeschooling family as well.

BRIDGES Charter School's Independent Study Program embraces the wide differences in student learning styles, abilities, and interests that are often difficult to accommodate in a classroom school setting. Unlike a traditional public school, parents tailor the learning environment to the individual needs of their children. As a result of our unique system, a standard curriculum is not mandated, and parents remain the authority of any material affecting their children's attitudes, values, and beliefs. An individually assigned Supervising Teacher will provide training for you in curriculum choices, learning styles, computer literacy and other areas as needed.

To begin our enrollment process, please fill out the **student application** and return it to BRIDGES Charter School, 1139 Windsor Drive, Thousand Oaks, Ca. 91360, along with:

- Copy of your child's Birth Certificate
- Copy of your child's Immunization Record
- If you would like an immunization waiver, print your child's name on the front, sign the personal beliefs affidavit on the back, and send it in lieu of the immunization record.
- Report of Health Exam for School Entry, for entering K and 1st graders
- Oral Health Assessment or Waiver of Oral Health Assessment Requirement Request Form, for entering K and 1st graders who have not been previously enrolled in public school
- Copy of current IEP, Assessment Reports or Records Request Authorization form, if applicable, for special ed students

We will then assign your child to a Supervising Teacher as long as there is availability in our program. Our Supervising Teachers are credentialed teachers who oversee each student's educational progress and provide support to the family as needed. The Supervising Teacher will contact you to set up a time and place to meet where he/she can explain the various educational options and the curriculum available for your child. At that time you can make the final decision as to whether you wish to enroll your child in our school. Please do not withdraw your child from his/her current school until you have met with your Supervising Teacher and are officially enrolled with BRIDGES Charter School. If you have a child who is in Special Education, our Special Education Department will contact you before you are assigned to a Supervising Teacher.

Visit our school website for additional information at www.bridgescharter.org or email Claudia Weintraub, our Independent Study Coordinator at: Claudia.Weintraub@bridgescharter.org.

Thank you again for your interest in BRIDGES Charter School and we look forward to working with you to meet your child's educational needs.