

Hollingworth Preschool

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Self-Guided Tour

Dear Prospective Family,

Thank you for your interest in Hollingworth Preschool. I am grateful for the opportunity to share our school with you. We have compiled these slides to offer you a window into our approaches and values as you consider a preschool on behalf of your child.

Hollingworth is a small community of children, loved ones, and teachers who all share a commitment to creating opportunities that nurture all children's curiosities and interests within a responsive environment. The relationships we develop with our Hollingworth community last for many years as we care deeply for each child and their family. The ethos of Teachers College anchors our approaches and reflections as we enact innovative curriculum for the children. It is my privilege to collaborate with each and every member of our community at this magical stage of childhood.

With Gratitude,

Sarah Duer, Preschool Director



Who We Are



Sarah E. Duer
Preschool Director



Ayuko Boomer
Blue Class Head Teacher



Mónica Reyes
Yellow Class Head Teacher



Hollingworth Preschool
is a program of The Hollingworth
Center, which operates within
Teachers College, Columbia
University.



**The Hollingworth Center
was founded in 1984.**

Since then, we remain at the
forefront of innovation in early
childhood education.



**The Hollingworth Center has a dual mission:
to serve children and families and to serve teachers.**

We enact our mission through our core programs,
Hollingworth Preschool and **Hollingworth Science
Camp**, as well as several outreach programs.

TEACHERS COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Hollingworth Center

Opportunities
for Grad Students

Global
Outreach

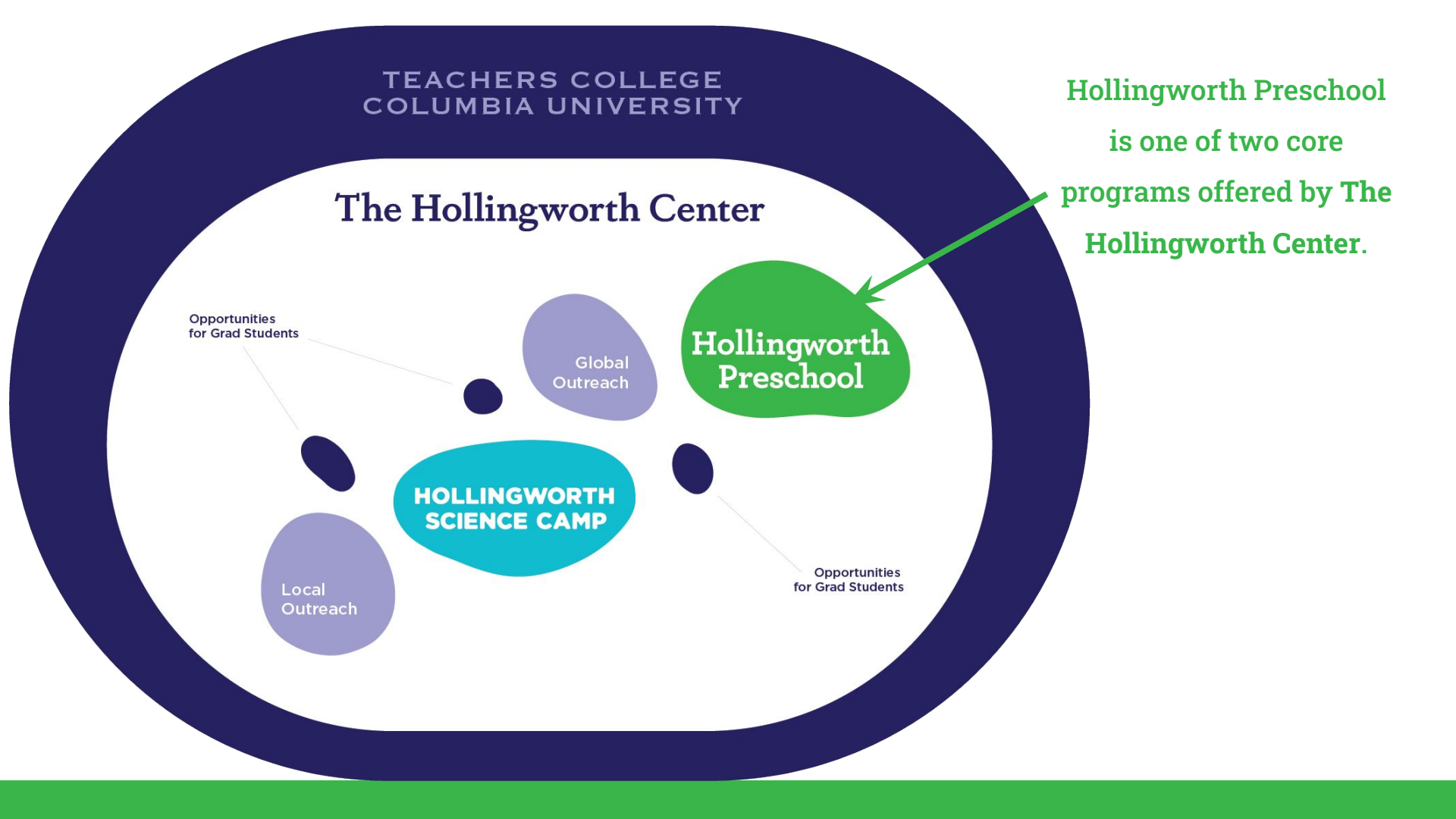
Hollingworth
Preschool

HOLLINGWORTH
SCIENCE CAMP

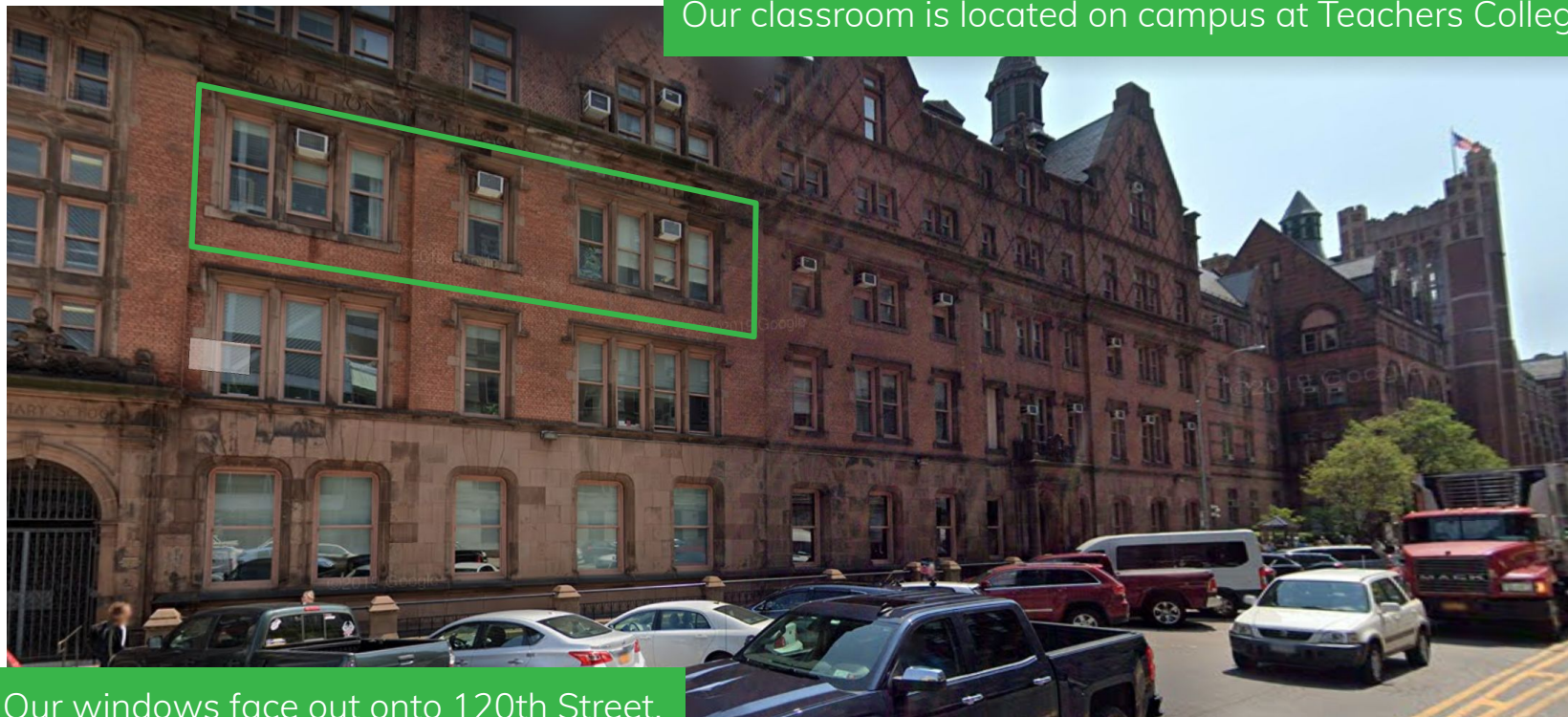
Local
Outreach

Opportunities
for Grad Students

Hollingworth Preschool
is one of two core
programs offered by The
Hollingworth Center.



Our classroom is located on campus at Teachers College.



Our windows face out onto 120th Street.



Our teaching team includes experienced head teachers with advanced Teachers College degrees.

Our assistant teachers are Masters or Doctoral students from across several programs at Teachers College.



We Believe...



Each child has immense potential and capacity and our role as educators is to create opportunities to nurture those potentials.

Experiences guide meaningful learning.

We Believe...

Families are a child's first teacher and ongoing communication with families is essential.

We value every child and family's unique lived experiences as we endeavor to create a diverse community of learners.



Curriculum



Core Tenets:

- Respect
- Inquiry
- Gratitude
- Sustainability
- Joy

Our curriculum is woven throughout the classroom space and flow of the day, providing children the opportunities to make meaningful connections.



See how a study of space is woven throughout the day.



Language of Hollingworth



We know that language is a powerful way that we shape our community and reflect our values.

Language of Hollingworth



Loved Ones

We use the term Loved Ones to refer to a child's family constellation, which can include parents, grandparents, caretakers, and others.



Friends

Friends is a gender neutral group name that we use frequently.



Plan A & Plan B

Throughout the day we invite the children to make choices and plans, and use the language of Plan B to encourage a flexible mindset.

Many Modes of Communication



Sign Language (ASL)

Many Modes of Communication



School Songbook

Song



Songs are woven into many parts of our day; we have a song for anything and everything!
We know that song is powerful way to learn early literacy concepts and strengthen
our community connections.

Our Program Structure

Blue Class
(3 and 4 year olds)

8:45 - 12:45 PM

OR

8:45–3:00 PM

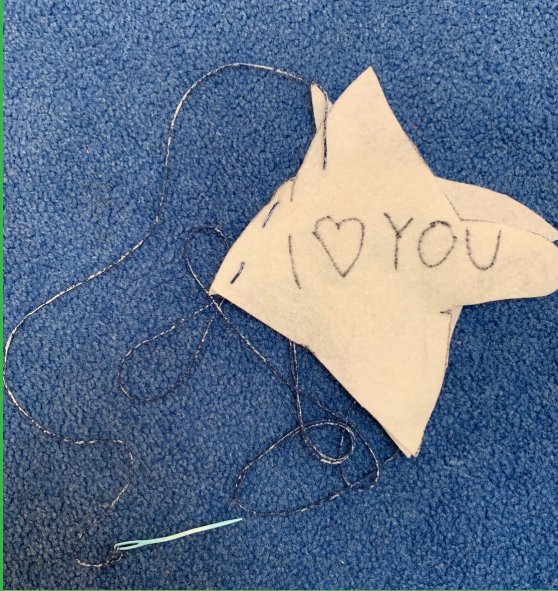
Yellow Class
(4 and 5 year olds)

8:45 - 12:45 PM

OR

8:45–3:00 PM

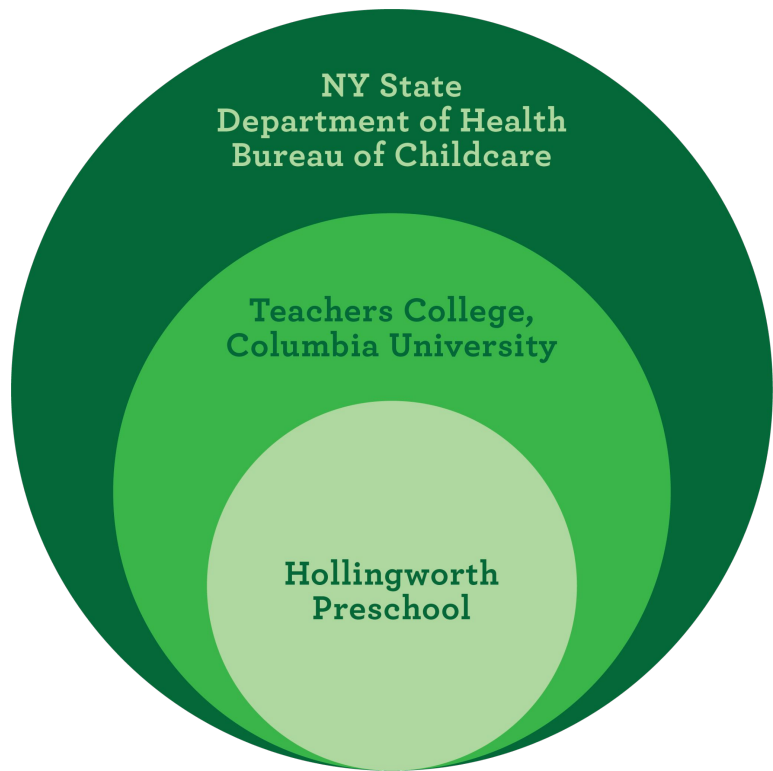
Gradual Entry Plan



Gradual entry allows us to introduce the children to one aspect of their school experience at a time.

We will take extra steps to support the children in their transition to preschool.

Hollingworth Pandemic Response



For the 2022-2023 school year,
we will be on campus in-person.

Our first priority is the safety
and wellbeing of our community.

We will follow all levels of NYC
DOH protocols.

Hollingworth Pandemic Response

Core Four
Protocol



We utilize a multi-layered approach to keeping our community safe.

In addition to the measures listed in our core four protocol, we also require a daily health screening that ensures no symptomatic individuals enter our classroom.

Our pandemic approach has been highly successful in preventing transmission within our community.

Hollingworth Pandemic Response



We have taken additional measures to support our children in distancing during eating while also maintaining an engaging and welcoming environment.

A Hollingworth School Day

Hello Time

Meeting

Choice Time

Snack

Playtime

Rest

Farewell



A Typical Day at Hollingworth

A Hollingworth School Day

Hello

Our school day begins before the classroom doors open as the teachers prepare to greet the children, setting up our materials as an invitation to play. In doing so, we hope to spark the children's curiosities, encourage their collaboration, and support their transition into the classroom as they begin their school day



A Hollingworth School Day

Meeting

Singing “Come on over to the green rug”, or another song, we transition the children to gather for meeting. This is the heart of our school day when we gather as a community to ponder our common focus. Meeting often involves: roll call, stories, songs, activities, surveys, and discussion.



A Hollingworth School Day

Choice Time

After the more structured part of our school day, choice offers the children a balance with open time for free play. Choice offers all of the children time to explore areas, materials and ideas of their own choosing



A Hollingworth School Day

Playtime

Children engage in a balance of free play, organized activities, games and yoga in our playroom. On other days, using a walking rope, the children travel to local parks, campus lawns or the green market to enjoy fresh air and exercise outside.



A Hollingworth School Day

Farewell

At the end of our school day, we reconvene at the green rug for more songs, a story, and to review our day and preview the next day.



Our Spaces

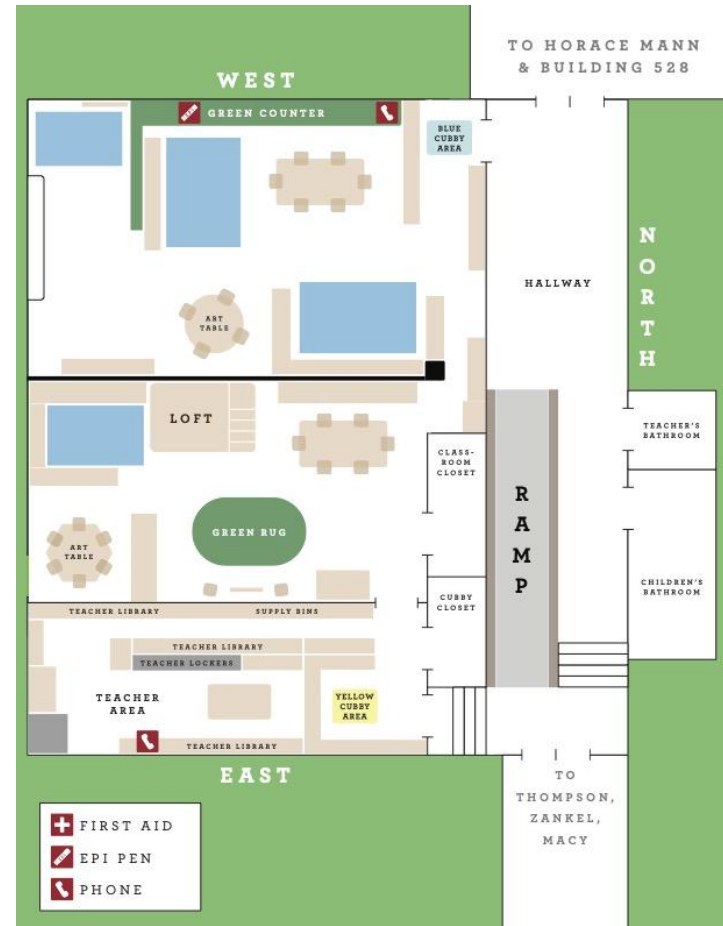


Classroom
Macy Cafe
Playroom
Russell Courtyard
Columbia Campus
Riverside Park
Sakura Park



The Classroom

Our classroom...



The Green Rug



Pretend Area



Art & Maker Studio



Block Area



Emergent Literacy Development



Movement & Play



Mindfulness & Rest



Family Events: Opportunities to Gather



Family Events: Learning with Loved Ones



Messy Day



Columbia
Greenmarket
Shopping



Craft Day

Family Events: Learning with Loved Ones



Thanksgiving



Author Visits

Kindergarten Support

As an early childhood center we make an unwavering commitment to support our families as they seek ongoing schools for their children.

We provide ongoing Kindergarten support from the Spring prior to when the HPS student would be attending Kindergarten.

- 4-5 year olds: Spring 2021 to Spring 2022
- 3-4 year olds: Spring 2022 to Spring 2023



Kindergarten Support

Hollingworth Preschool supports the Kindergarten application process in multiple ways.

- We ensure every child is authentically presented in the materials requested by the school through a strength-based lens.
- Our narrative reports are immensely detailed in order to capture the individuality of each child.
- Families are positioned as members of our community who are dedicated to their child's educational path.



Kindergarten Support Components

- Continuous updated information about the process and significant dates for private and public schools
- Whole-group meetings with important resources and support materials
- Individual Kinder Meetings
- Individually scheduled meetings in late September for those applying to independent schools to review and finalize school lists
- Available drop-in hours
- A detailed child specific confidential report written and submitted for each child

Our Admissions Process

Application Components

- Completed application
- 2-3 photographs of your child engaging in something they enjoy
- Sent electronically to hollingworthpreschooladmissions@tc.columbia.edu

In-person

- Child will visit Hollingworth Preschool for a “Hello Time” (20-30 minutes) to join the class for some open-ended play with a variety of materials while loved one wait in the preschool hallway
- Opportunities for tour of the preschool by request

Admissions Timeline

	Application Deadline	Notification of Admissions Decision	Enrollment Contract and Deposit Due
☐ Early Decision Notification	November 21, 2025	December 5, 2025	December 12, 2025
☐ Standard Notification	January 9, 2026	February 26, 2026	March 5, 2026
☐ Rolling Notification	After January 9, 2026	Rolling	Rolling

Admissions timeline is available on the application, which is located on the admissions page of our website. No University affiliation is required to apply.



Thank you!

Sarah Duer

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Check out our instagram:

[@hollingworthpreschool](https://www.instagram.com/hollingworthpreschool)