Hilldale School Adds Programming to Early Childhood Curriculum

August 18, 2026

DALY CITY, CA - August 18, 2026 -
Hilldale School has introduced a set of additions to its early childhood program, including individualized instruction planning, environmental education, a multicultural curriculum, and a workshop series for parents and caregivers.

The school said the additions were developed together rather than introduced separately, and that classroom scheduling was adjusted to accommodate them within the existing program day. Administrators said planning drew on published research in early childhood education and on input from teaching staff.

The individualized instruction component structures activities around each child's pace and areas of interest rather than moving a full classroom through the same sequence. School officials said instructors combine digital resources with established classroom methods, and that the balance between the two is determined by teachers based on the activity rather than set as a fixed ratio.

Environmental education has been incorporated into daily classroom activities, according to the school. The component covers recycling, conservation and related topics introduced at an age-appropriate level. Officials said the material is delivered through hands-on activities rather than instruction, and that children participate in classroom recycling routines as part of the daily schedule.

The multicultural curriculum draws on music, art, storytelling and language activities reflecting the range of backgrounds represented in the surrounding community. Administrators said the curriculum was built with attention to the specific communities the school serves rather than assembled from general materials, and that families have contributed to some of the activities.

The workshop series for parents and caregivers covers child development stages and approaches for supporting learning outside the classroom. School officials said the sessions were added in response to questions raised by families, and that topics are selected based on what comes up during parent conferences rather than set in advance for the year.

Social and emotional learning is also part of the additions, addressing how children identify and manage emotions and interact with peers. Officials said this material is delivered within regular classroom activity rather than as a separate session, and that instructors completed preparation on the approach before it was introduced.

Families evaluating a preschool in Daly City weigh factors including instructional approach, class size, staff qualifications and how programs communicate with parents, according to the school. Administrators said questions from prospective families about individualized instruction have become more frequent during recent enrollment cycles.

School officials said staffing was a consideration throughout planning. Administrators said the school reviewed how the additions would affect teacher preparation time and classroom ratios before the components were finalized, and that some scheduling adjustments were required as a result.

Officials said the workshop series is scheduled at varying times to accommodate families with different work schedules. Administrators said sessions are offered both in the morning and in the evening, and that materials are made available afterward to families who cannot attend either time.

The school said the additions did not change enrollment capacity or class sizes. Administrators said the components were built into the existing program structure rather than requiring additional classroom space, which they said kept the changes from affecting availability for incoming families.

The school said it plans to gather feedback from families and teaching staff as the programming continues through the year. Officials said adjustments will be made based on that feedback rather than on a fixed review schedule, and that individual components may be expanded or scaled back depending on how they work in practice.

Administrators said the school also intends to review how the additions affect classroom routines before considering further changes. Officials said no timeline has been set for that review, and that results from the first full year will inform what follows.

Families seeking information about a preschool in Daly City can find details about Hilldale School and its expanded programming at https://www.hilldaleschool.org.

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