



Questions to Ask			
General	<i>Covenant</i>	Program A	Program B
Do teachers have training in a licensed child development class?	✓		
Are ALL staff members certified in Infant and Pediatric CPR and First Aid?	✓		
Have all staff members undergone a thorough background check?	✓		
Are all staff members subject to pre-employment and random drug tests?	✓		
Are teachers required to take an additional 35 hours of professional development training every year? *CYFD, the state licensing agency, only requires 24 hours.	✓		
Is there a balance of free time and structure?	✓		
Do children have daily playtime outside?	✓		
Is the outdoor playground age-appropriate, safe and secure?	✓		
Is the school licensed by CYFD?	✓		
Does the school have a 5-star rating from CYFD?	✓		
Does the school hold itself to a higher standard through voluntary accreditation?	✓ ICAA		
Does the school have an open-door policy for parents to check on their children at any time?	✓		
Is the school open year round?	✓		
Does the school offer full- and part-time care?	✓		
Does the school have a full-service state-of-the-art kitchen?	✓		
Does the school provide nutritiously balanced meals and snacks?	✓		

Are all meals included in tuition?	✓		
Do students practice emergency drills (more than just fire drills)?	✓		
Security			
Does the school have a locked entry into the classroom area?	✓		
Are all outside access doors locked and alarmed?	✓		
Are all doors security locked?	✓		
Does the school provide you with an access code for secure check-in and check-out of your child?	✓		
Does the school seek to establish lasting relationships and partnerships with parents?	✓		
Communication			
Does the school post a parent information board outside of each classroom that provides information about what students did today, menu, daily schedule, lesson plan and important announcements?	✓		
Are teachers accessible to parents for questions about their child's progress and experience?	✓		
Does the director provide a monthly newsletter?	✓		
Does the school provide you with a parent handbook so that you are aware of all policies, procedures, school closures and expectations?	✓		
Curriculum			
Does the school utilize a proven curriculum to prepare your child for elementary school?	✓		
Does the curriculum make use of age-appropriate methods, activities and learning objectives?	✓		
Is each child's educational progress recorded?	✓		
Infants and Toddlers			
Does the program make use of sensory-based learning?	✓		
Is there continuity of care provided by the same teachers every day?	✓		
Are independence, social skills and exploration encouraged?	✓		
Do teachers provide daily communication with parents about their infant's day (feeding, milestones reached, diapering, emotional well-being, etc.)?	✓		

Is the ratio of caretakers to infants at least 1:5?	✓		
Is the diaper changing area sanitized and safe?	✓		
Do caregivers interact with infants and toddlers through reading, singing and talking to children?	✓		
Is there a play area separate from the sleeping area?	✓		
Are daily activities scheduled to promote your child's physical, cognitive and language development?	✓		
Are toys properly sanitized every night?	✓		
Twos			
Are important phonics pre-reading skills taught and encouraged?	✓		
Are children read to every day?	✓		
Do teachers provide daily communication with parents about their child's day?	✓		
Do teachers work with parents to maintain a structured potty-training program at home and at school?	✓		
Are play areas safe and welcoming to children?	✓		
Pre-School/Pre-Kindergarten			
Is the curriculum designed to prepare your child for elementary school with a phonics-based reading program?	✓		
Is a variety of children's literature available to students?	✓		
Are children read to everyday?	✓		
Are a variety of instructional methods used throughout the day (i.e., small groups, large group and individual learning?)	✓		
Are computers available in the classroom to teach children computer literacy skills?	✓		
Are children able to progress at their own educational rate?	✓		
Does the school offer enrichment programs, like dance and gym?	✓		

Does the school teach art, Spanish and sign language?	✓		
Are children taught how to write, read and count?	✓		
Private Kindergarten			
Are children provided with academic challenges that promote individual learning?	✓		
Do the children learn to read with a phonics-based curriculum?	✓		
Is the kindergarten program accredited and recognized by the NM Department of Education?	✓ ICAA		
Does the school work within state standards of kindergarten education so that students are well-prepared to enter first grade?	✓		
Are children encouraged to be independent and use their imaginations?	✓		
Is there a reliable routine in place so children know what to expect every day?	✓		