



# THE FRIENDSHIP ACADEMY

## FOUNDATION

### Covenant Relationship

- Personal Teacher/ Administration will adhere to the state criteria/ Bright From the Start and The Friendship Academy's founding principle criteria which includes:
  - Requirement that one parent have a relationship with Christ as Lord and Savior
  - Expecting and supporting family involvement in school which includes 4 volunteer hours each school quarter.

## OUR PROGRAM

The Friendship Academy seeks to provide a focused and coherent Pre-K 3-6 curricular, instructional, and assessment framework where students are encouraged to think critically and deeply.

- Meeting needs of each student including accelerated opportunities.
- Visual and performing arts emphasis-resources and affiliations with local arts providers.
- Foundational and excellence in curriculum programs
- Lowest ratio possible
- Age and developmentally appropriate material and methods.
- Written and spoken expression
- Exposure to science and math appropriate for ages
- Pre-K 3-6 spiral plan for developing age appropriate critical thinking skills
- Knowing what we believe and why we believe it

## COMMUNITY

The Friendship Academy has partnered with local Community Not-for-Profit organizations that utilize volunteers to provide services for Greater Atlanta. Students will

learn the importance of giving back to the community they live in and philanthropic themes. Students' families will have opportunities to volunteer at various events.

## CORE SUBJECT APPROACH

### ***The Primary Academy Mathematics Program (PRE-K2-6 YEARS OF AGE)***

Students in the Primary Academy will participate in active, numeracy-rich experiences in mathematics. Problem solving skills and computational skills are interwoven across lessons, subject areas, and mathematical strands. Students will be introduced to foundations in geometry, algebra, data analysis, measurement and number sense. Primary Academy students will develop a disposition for learning mathematics early on, providing a foundation for the conceptual and abstract thinking that teachers build upon in later grades.

#### *Sampling of Primary Academy Mathematics Content:*

Developing —number sense

Mastering basic computation skills

Understanding and extending patterns

Applying problem solving strategies

Developing understanding of concepts through problem solving

Analyzing data and using and connecting a variety of mathematical representations

Manipulating shapes, numbers, and space to develop estimation skills

### ***The Primary Academy Language Arts Program (PRE-K2-1<sup>st</sup> grade (6 YEARS OF AGE)***

The primary goal of the language arts program is to help students build basic understanding of the mechanics and structure of the English language. Language Arts is integrated into all areas of the curriculum. The curriculum continually builds upon and extends language development as they refine their skills while writing in their journals, reviewing current events, studying mathematical word problems, and enjoying literature. The core curriculum emphasizes the formation of good listening, writing, and speaking skills. Students improve speaking, listening, and spelling abilities through large and small group instruction. Teachers provide daily opportunities to apply skills learned in both writing and speaking activities, all students participate in activities which develop important basic concepts and foster creative expression.

The core curriculum emphasizes traditional grammar, including parts of speech; students must analyze and eventually learn to diagram sentences. Spelling and vocabulary development are continued and composition skills are extended through both formal and creative writing assignments.

*Pursuant to federal and state special education regulations (including LRE and FAPE), the school will provide the continuum of special education services (including related services) to eligible students. Explain who will carry out these responsibilities- the school's staff or outside providers.*

In order to serve our special needs students, The Friendship Academy will hire certified special education personnel. This will of course depend on the population of the school. The School will initially hire a Special Education Teacher who will assume the role of Special Education Coordinator and teacher. As the identified population grows, this will be divided among more people the number of which will be dependent on the school population and their needs. When the school is near its target enrollment, we anticipate the need for a Special Education Coordinator and special education teachers and assistants, depending on the requirements of our student population. The Special Education Coordinator will oversee all testing, documentation, accommodations and placements for students.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The Friendship Academy shall:

Hire or contract with a licensed certified school psychologist or a licensed clinical Psychologist. Participate in workshops, in-services and/or training offered by COUNTY OSPS for persons serving as psychologists.

Use COUNTY forms for psychological services

## SOCIAL SERVICES

The Friendship Academy shall:

. • Hire or contract with a licensed school social worker to provide services to students in accordance with state guidelines and COUNTY policy

. • Report all allegations of child abuse and/or neglect to the charter school social Worker

. • Use COUNTY forms for social services

. • Participate in workshops, in-services and/or training offered by COUNTY OSPS for persons serving as social workers.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

The Friendship Academy shall:

. • Hire or contract with a licensed school counselor to provide services to students in accordance with state guidelines and COUNTY policy.

. • Participate in workshops, in-services and/or Training offered by COUNTY OSPS for The Friendship Academy

• Use COUNTY forms for counseling services