

Hillside Academy



Hillside Preschool & Academy's faith-based elementary school program is a non-profit school designed to meet the needs of the church congregation and surrounding community. Hillside Academy offers an excellent education for your Transitional 5 (T5) students and all elementary grades K-5th. A strong emphasis is made on developing the whole child spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally and physically. Teachers in our Academy use a variety of methods to ensure student's learning needs are met. This includes small and large group instruction, project-based classroom assignments, use of technology, as well as hands on experiences across the curriculum.

Awards and Certifications

- AdvancEd SACS Accredited
- Certified Program of Excellence by the North Georgia Conference Preschool Association
- Certified Drug Free Workplace through the state of Georgia
- Townelaker Reader's Choice Award for best Private School

TRANSITIONAL 5'S

This program is part of our Academy and serves children who have been through a 4-year-old preschool program. Students in this class are being gifted an additional year of growth before entering Kindergarten the following year. The curriculum offers children a play-based, hands on learning experience that is differentiated to meet the needs of individual students in the class. The curriculum includes Zoo-phonics, Handwriting Without Tears and Learning Without Tears Math. Star Early Literacy is used as an assessment program to measure individual student growth throughout the year. The lead teacher has a background in education and is highly qualified. The student to teacher ratio is 16:2 and the program hours are 9:00am – 1:00pm Monday-Friday.

KINDERGARTEN

Hillside's Kindergarten program uses a hands-on approach to learning. Many lessons are turned into games or projects to make learning fun. Kindergarten classrooms are set up to allow students to have plenty of movement and differentiated instruction. Kindergarten classrooms incorporate technology centers and use flexible seating in the classrooms. There is a strong emphasis placed on sight words, reading and writing in our program. Our students are introduced to the Accelerated Reader and Star Early Literacy assessment programs. Hillside Academy Kindergarten spots are limited and based upon a mandatory Kindergarten screening conducted after an application has been submitted.

Our Kindergarten program operates from 8:00am- 1:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Each class has an 18:2 student ratio. Our Kindergarten teachers are currently certified and are trained in the Orton-Gillingham multi-sensory approach to reading. Kindergarten teachers use the following curriculum and resources to help guide their teaching and are aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence.

- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness
- Reading
- Spelling
- Math
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Keyboarding Without Tears
- Bible
- Music
- P.E.
- Spanish
- Science Lab
- Art

FIRST – FIFTH GRADE

The First through Fifth grade classes use a variety of curriculums as resources to help guide their learning and are aligned with the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Project-based learning is incorporated throughout the Academy classes to allow students to dive deeper into their learning and knowledge of a particular subject. Students are assessed throughout the year using Accelerated Reader, Star Reading and Star Math. Students in 3rd and 5th grades will take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in the spring of that year. Smaller class sizes and having two adults in the classroom allow teachers to meet the students at their individual levels and differentiate instruction to meet student needs. Teachers in the Academy are all currently certified and have a background in Early Childhood Education. Students graduating from our Academy program are able to continue their learning confidently knowing that they are God's children and made with a purpose. These students are on track with their peers no matter what their next educational setting may be.

The 1st-5th grade programs operate from 8:00am – 1:00 pm, Monday – Friday. Each class has an 18:2 student ratio. Students learning topics and curriculum include:

- Journeys Language Arts
- Go Math
- Science and Science Labs
- Social Studies
- Bible Instruction
- Technology incorporated
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Keyboarding Without Tears
- Accelerated Reader
- Bi-weekly visits to Rose Creek Library
- Specials (Music, Spanish, Art, PE, Bible)

***A current teacher recommendation is needed with Academy applications as well as a most recent copy of the student's report card.**