

Saint Andrew Academy's top ten reasons for entering Preschool

Learn to Trust Others: Young children need opportunities to develop trust for adults other than their parents. Until they understand that a variety of adults can help them meet their needs, they will be unable to attend to the new cognitive and social activities available to them once they enter kindergarten.

Develop Positive Social Skills: Children who attend Saint Andrew Academy preschool have frequent occasions to hone their skills while interacting with their age appropriate peers. Learning how to negotiate time with a favorite toy, taking turns, developing leadership skills, and learning to be a team member, are a few of the skills to be mastered at this early age. In addition, they will have opportunities to learn from their 8th grade buddy which is another enriching activity to help prepare them for kindergarten.

Learn Independence Skills: Learning how to care for their own needs in a group setting without having their parent facilitate it is essential for kindergarten preparedness. Parents see the beauty of this learning right away when they realize they have more time to attend their individual needs rather than always attending to their little one because now their little one can do it independently – put on jacket, carry backpack, tie shoes, go to the washroom, eat in a social setting, etc.

Develop Positive Self Esteem: Saint Andrew Academy preschool children have the opportunity to try out new skills. Sometimes they are successful the first time; sometimes they are not, but at Saint Andrew Academy, we believe that the only true failure is not trying. Accomplishing new skills is an empowering event. Empowered children feel good about themselves.

Variety of Play and a Variety of Classes: In the Saint Andrew Academy children are exposed to different types of play: active, passive, interactive and solitary. Free play is critical for becoming adept at and coping with stress as well as building cognitive skills such as problem solving. Saint Andrew Academy preschoolers also take part in P.E., Spanish, Art, Media, and numerous programs related to curriculum links.

Exposure to different cultures: Saint Andrew Academy embraces all children and ensures that each child has ample opportunities to meet and play with children from various backgrounds. Here, they have the opportunity to know and understand the ways we are all the same, which in turn, will create an environment contributing to a peaceful future.

Team Building and Goal Setting: At Saint Andrew Academy, preschoolers learn the nuances of building a team. Some tasks will require a team mate who is good at building, others will require good negotiating skills, or coloring or letter writing; the list goes on. They will choose their playmates according to what they wish to accomplish. In essence, they will build a team that will help them achieve their goal. In addition, this team building extends into the P.E. class, where children

Early Intervention: Sometimes children have physical or cognitive disabilities that their parents are unaware of. The teacher's and director's understanding of the appropriate developmental benchmarks are in a better position than most pediatricians, to evaluate your child's development. The earlier a disability is diagnosed, the earlier intervention can begin! Children who receive early intervention often times will not fall behind their peers. Undiagnosed vision, hearing or development problems can lead to learning disabilities.

Cognitive Development: Saint Andrew Academy Preschool children are exposed to many applied cognitive skills. Letters are not taught in isolation but rather in application. While playing in the 'Home Life' center, children may need to write a shopping list. Letters learned in context are much more effective than isolated instruction. Moreover, the preschoolers are able to even navigate technology, using the Smart board and computer stations to learn literacy and numeracy skills. Finally, Saint Andrew Academy preschoolers are able to explore the world around them by taking part in educational field trips like the Louisville Zoo, Derby Museum, Huber's Farm, and more. These field trips are not just add-ins but fundamental parts of the pre-school curriculum.

Faith-based Development: At Saint Andrew Academy, preschool children have the wonderful opportunity to develop and share their faith. They learn the value of the Golden-Rule, attend church, take part in holiday programs, and enjoy the caring environment that a faith based school embraces.