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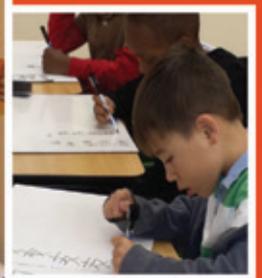
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Education Guide



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Help Your Children Develop a Positive Attitude about Academics



by Heidi Smith Luedtke

When we look at our children, we see possibilities and potential. We envision growth, learning and success. Even if our kids are struggling right now, the future looks bright from a parents' perspective. But kids don't always see a bright future.

A recent study by psychologist Kristin Lagattuta and her colleagues found parents consistently underestimated kids' worries and overestimated their optimism. Being assigned to a lower-level reading group or getting a poor report card may cause a lot of anxiety. Since kids don't have the same perspective as adults, they may not see a way out of their current situation.

Beware of Mixed Signals

Reality TV shows and overnight success stories reinforce the idea that some people have talent and others do not. Psychologist Carol Dweck calls this a fixed view of ability. Kids who adopt a fixed mindset believe they've already got all the smarts they'll ever have. These kids choose easy tasks because they don't think they can improve with repeated practice. If they don't succeed right away, kids with a fixed mindset give up. They see failure as proof that they don't have what it takes, not as a signal to invest more effort or try another approach.

Parents may inadvertently reinforce a fixed mindset in their attempts to boost kids' self-confidence. Statements such as "You're so smart!" or "Math is easy for you!" sound positive on the surface, but they suggest kids should not have to try too hard to do well. As academics become more difficult, kids who believed "I am smart" and "School is easy" may begin to question their own abilities. At any age, the belief that you don't have the right stuff can be devastating.

Build a Can-Do Attitude

You can help your child develop an optimistic learning mindset. Use these simple strategies to help your child set goals, build skills and overcome setbacks. Persistent practice is the key to academic success.

■ **Talk Up Opportunities.** Each morning, discuss upcoming events with your child. Share your anticipation about a meeting you have at work. Say "I'll have a chance to present my ideas," or "I can practice speaking in front of a large group." Encourage your child to share his coming events as well. Focus on what you both can learn instead of what you could lose.

■ **Tell Kids Learning is Difficult.** A series of studies by French psychologists Frédérique Autin and Jean-Claude Croizet found sixth-grade students who were told learning is hard and failure is common performed better on subsequent academic tests, even after they'd failed to solve a single problem in the initial set. Establish the expectation that learning is a challenge and many students struggle. Remind your child that practice helps build new skills: no one is born knowing how to multiply fractions or how to spell "catastrophe." This relieves the pressure kids feel to prove they're smart already.

■ **Affirm Effort.** Instead of highlighting talents and triumphs, recognize hard work. Say "You are such a dedicated student," or "I am so proud that you kept trying when you didn't get the answer right away." These statements buoy kids' self-esteem and encourage them to keep trying.

■ **Take Risks.** Kids need to see parents step outside our comfort zones. Try new things that don't come easily. Learn a foreign language. Run a race. Introduce yourself to new people. Model the kind of courage you want for your child. And if things don't go as well as you'd hoped, zero in on what you learned. Every setback has a silver lining.

■ **Reframe Limiting Beliefs.** Your child isn't likely to improve his grades if he believes he failed a test because he's dumb. A specific, situational explanation like "I failed because I didn't understand the vocabulary" or "I didn't use the study guide" moves your child in the right direction. Ask guiding questions like "What can you do differently next time?" to help your child make the switch.

■ **Build Skills.** Create a step-by-step plan to help your child develop new skills. Read books or watch how-to videos together. Create opportunities for him to practice in situations that aren't too

scary, like rehearsing a speech in front of the family dog. Once he's developed basic skills and confidence, move on to more challenging situations.

■ **Highlight Improvement.** Learning is a process. Encourage a growth mindset by commenting on your child's progress, not his grades. Say "you really improved on your math understanding," or "your essay has become much more organized since I saw the rough draft." Use a simple chart to track improvement and remind him of how far he's come. The best confidence boost you can give your child is the belief that he can learn anything, if he puts his mind to it. □



Establish the expectation that learning is a challenge and many students struggle. Remind your child that practice helps build new skills.



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A Perfect Preschool: Get Your Child Ready and Eager to Learn

by Beth Kanter

Early childhood education encompasses childcare and preschool programs and gets your child ready for a smooth transition into the school years. It also shapes a child's attitude toward school, so finding the right preschool is an important decision. *Atlanta Parent* can help you with your search with answers to these questions:



How old should my child be when he starts?

Most preschools serve 3- to 5-year-olds, though some take younger kids. You can choose from a part-time schedule or a full-time one. Your choice will depend on your family's situation – working moms might prefer five days a week – and on your child's temperament. Parents typically start investigating options about a year before they want their children to attend.

How do I choose the right preschool?

Research, research, research. First, decide on location (close to work or home?) and hours (half-day, two or three days a week, full-time?). You can choose from programs at private schools, childcare centers, religious institutions (such as synagogues and churches), state-funded schools, and cooperatives run by parents. Start by asking for recommendations from

other moms. Next, check whether the schools are state-licensed, which ensures the facility meets safety requirements and has adequate staffing. Many states exempt religious-based preschools from all or some requirements, although many meet these standards anyway.

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centers based on curriculum, teacher qualifications, class size, and health and safety standards; only about 8 percent of U.S. preschools are currently accredited. (Search for NAEYC-accredited preschools near you at rightchoiceforkids.org.)

Most preschools have websites that will have much of the information you need. Call each school under consideration if you have questions about fees, admission policy or curriculum. Once you've narrowed down your choices, schedule visits. Most preschools run open houses during the winter. Also, meet with the director and spend time in a classroom to observe the teachers. Visit each school with your child and see how she responds to the classroom, the teachers, and the activities.

What should I look for during a visit?

The basics: Is the facility clean and safe? Do you see smoke detectors and first-aid kits? Is there a well-kept outdoor play area? Are there plenty of art materials, age-appropriate toys and books in good condition? Is the atmosphere friendly and fun? Student work should be displayed in the hallways and around the classroom, hung at kid-level. Pay attention to it – would you be able to pick out your child's artwork? If all the pictures look the same, then your child will learn to make a bunny just like everyone else's. That's not really the goal.

The classroom should have a variety of activity areas – a reading place, an art station with materials on shelves that kids can reach, a block corner, a puzzle area and a place for naps. Children should not all be doing the same thing at the same time; they should be playing with toys or other kids but still well supervised.




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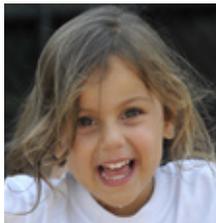
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Preschoolers Need Play, Physical Activity

by Michelle Klampe

Preschoolers who have better developed fine and gross motor skills are more likely to have good social behavior and ability to stay on task, according to researchers at Oregon State University.

For the study, researchers assessed 92 children, ages 3-5. The assessments were conducted in fall and again in spring. Results showed that fall measures of visual motor integration skills – a type of fine motor skills – predicted good scores on executive function tasks. Children’s object manipulation skills, a type of gross motor skill, predicted better in social behavior.

“The findings speak to the potential role, early on, of fine and gross motor skill development,” said Megan MacDonald, an assistant professor in OSU’s College of Public Health and Human Services. “In kindergarten, children are playing games, socializing, lining up on the playground and more. For a variety of reasons, some children come into school not prepared for those things.”

‘Kids need to move’

Past research has proven that good social behavior is key to a healthy transition to school. Children with executive function skills are more likely to be more successful in kindergarten and beyond.

Research is needed to better understand how motor skills are linked to these school readiness skills, but the findings underscore the need to expose young children to play and physical activity.

Fine motor skill development could include stacking blocks or other items or playing with creative toys such as Legos or crayons. Gross motor skill development could include playing catch or playing on toys at the park.

“Kids need to move. It’s part of who they are at that age,” MacDonald said.

The findings were published in Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport.



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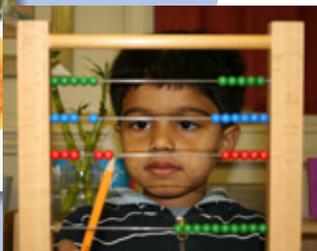
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The rigorous Waldorf high school curriculum immerses students in the sciences, in mathematics, and in the humanities. Students learn from the original writings of great thinkers and leaders, writing and illustrating their own textbooks that incorporate material from a variety of classic and contemporary sources. Students learn to think and to connect academic work to real world issues. Art, music, physical education, gardening, extensive trips, and community service balance academic work. A diverse student body, a vibrant foreign exchange program, interfacing with schools in other countries and extracurricular activities like Model U.N. contribute to the strong international atmosphere of our high school. At Academe, students become well rounded human beings who care about others and the world.

Located just east of downtown Decatur, Academe of the Oaks serves students in grades nine through twelve. Please call to schedule a visit or see the website for more information. www.academeatlanta.org

The Cottage School

The Cottage School's 2016-2017 school year marks its 32nd year of providing a comprehensive educational program for middle and high school students with learning differences and ADD/ADHD. In August 2016, TCS expanded its program to 4th and 5th grades. The school's 23-acre campus in Roswell includes a state of the art media center, computer and science labs, a multi-purpose athletic and performing arts facility, outdoor classrooms, and trails for mountain biking and cross-country. AdvancEd accredited for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Southern Association of Independent Schools, TCS provides an academic college preparatory curriculum that meets Georgia high school graduation standards and HOPE scholarship requirements. Career centered courses assist students in post-secondary planning. Experiential classes and clubs include drama, forensics, horticulture, computer literacy, yoga, chess, photography, journalism/yearbook, Interact, and culinary skills. Ten-to-one student/teacher class sizes accommodate various learning styles. TCS' athletic program offers a wide range of sports and provides opportunities to develop a positive competitive spirit, learn self-discipline, and foster teamwork and sportsmanship. TCS offers an after school program as well as summer academic programs and sports camps. Visit www.cottageschool.org.



Arbor Montessori School

Founded in 1970, Arbor is one of the largest and oldest Montessori schools in the Southeast, serving 300 students from ages 18 months to 14 years. Arbor is one of only two Montessori schools in Georgia accredited by AMI, SACS and SAIS.



We just opened a second campus at 1434 Scott Blvd. in Decatur and are now enrolling children ages 18 months to 6 years.

For over 100 years, the hallmarks of a Montessori education have been creativity and innovation; critical thinking and problem-solving; communication; collaboration; and focus on character. Montessori is the originator of project-based learning.

An Arbor Montessori education cultivates concentration, motivation, self-discipline and love of learning in every child. This is accomplished through specially designed sensorial materials, multi-age classrooms, and teachers who are specifically trained to put the child in touch with exactly what he or she needs at that very moment to learn. In addition to an outstanding academic curriculum, Arbor offers art; music; Spanish; a before and after-school program; clubs and teams; and a close-knit community of families.

Schedule a personalized tour by calling 404-321-9304 or emailing us at info@arbormontessori.org. More information at www.ArborMontessori.org.

Covenant Christian School

Established in 1975, Covenant Christian School (CCS) in Smyrna celebrates a long history of Christian education. CCS is committed to partnering with Christian families in the nurture and education of their children by providing a distinctly classical and Christ-centered academic program. Our teaching is intentionally founded upon biblical truth, and our methodology is based upon the Trivium of a classical liberal arts education: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric. CCS serves students from K4-8th grade.

The experienced faculty and staff bring many years of committed Christian teaching to our students every day. They are personally devoted to applying Christian principles in all areas of teaching as they lead students to grow in knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and virtue. CCS students also have opportunities to broaden interests outside the classroom by offerings in athletics, music, drama, dance, and various clubs. Service opportunities are also a part of the CCS experience.

Covenant invites Christian parents to come learn about the benefits of classical Christian education by attending our next Open House on January 10 at 9:30am. For more information or to request a personal tour, visit www.ccsmymrna.org, or call Admissions Director, Barbara Hines, at 770-435-1596, ext. 1116.

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Spotlight on Private Schools



Fulton Science Academy

Fulton Science Academy Private School (FSAPS) serves advanced and gifted students using an award-winning STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) curriculum. Now enjoying its fifth year as a private school and its second year at a beautiful new campus in Alpharetta, FSAPS proudly represented the state of Georgia in five national and international academic competitions in 2016. This year, the school received a prestigious STEM Education Excellence Award by the Technology Association of Georgia and was recognized as the Best Private School and Best Private Primary School by Appen Media.



Fulton Science Academy is a small school with a big heart. The student body is diverse and reflects award-winning academic teams, competitive athletes, personal entrepreneurs, professional working actors, and award-winning critical thinkers. There is no “one size fits all” mentality at FSAPS. Uniqueness is embraced and small class sizes ensure a level of individualized attention and care that students and faculty have come to know and love. FSAPS also provides students beginning in Pre-K with courses in physical education, music, robotics, computer science, art, and foreign language. Visit fultonscienceacademy.org for more details or call 678-366-2555 to schedule a tour.

GRACEPOINT School

Founded in 2012, GRACEPOINT was formed when two families believed that there must be something better for their children with dyslexia.

Beginning with a mere four students, GRACEPOINT has steadily grown to an enrollment of more than 70 students. To accommodate this growth, GRACEPOINT began its 5th year at a new location on the campus of Piedmont Church in Marietta. Students in grades one through eight receive a comprehensive, high quality education program that combines remediation with enrichment and acceleration. Students typically complete remediation in three to four years allowing them to transition into a more traditional educational environment.



GRACEPOINT utilizes the Orton-Gillingham method, a multisensory approach woven into all subject areas. Their students receive seventy-five minutes of explicit reading instruction daily by a certified Orton-Gillingham teacher. The student/teacher ratio for reading is 5:1. All other classes have a student/teacher ratio of no more than 8:1.

The mission at GRACEPOINT is to equip students with the skills needed to develop into independent and confident learners. They strive to instill a life-long desire for their students to grow in wisdom and knowledge of the Lord, so that each will fulfill God’s purpose and bring Him glory. gracepointschool.org. 678-709-6634.

Greater Atlanta Christian School

GAC offers a dynamic experience to 1,800 students (infants through 12th). GAC never stands still, and consistently adopts new learning strategies to better prepare students for collegiate experiences at top universities.



The 88-acre campus provides resources from state-of-the-art facilities to new programs with a focus on STEAM-learning and personalized and project-based learning: Brand new middle school and high school facilities, new learning spaces dedicated to STEAM, new Art & Design Center, and construction of a newly designed Performance Hall for fine arts. Whether your child excels in academics, arts, or athletics, they have access to endless opportunities on one campus. Offerings include dance classes, music lessons, drama groups, over 70 athletic teams (youth through varsity levels), in-school swim lessons, over 20 annual mission trips annually, an Environmental Center, international study abroad programs, 22 AP classes and 21 Honors classes. See why kids come from 90 zip codes to be at GAC.

Call Mary Helen Bryant in Admissions at 770-243-2274 or mbryant@greateratlantachristian.org. Visit www.greateratlantachristian.org.

Holy Innocents’ Episcopal School

Holy Innocents’ Episcopal School is Atlanta’s only comprehensive Episcopal school, with 1,376 students ages 3 years old through 12th grade. On its 43-acre campus, HIES has a stand-alone Primary School, Lower School, Middle School and Upper School, as well as a Fine Arts Building, two modern gymnasiums and four expansive athletic fields.



And the campus flagship building – a new, state-of-the-art, three-story STEM Building – includes a robotics lab, greenhouse and cutting-edge broadcast studio.

The HIES college-prep curriculum challenges students, encourages collaboration and inspires creative thinking. Course offerings include acclaimed reading and writing programs, foreign language classes for all ages, hands-on science programs, robotics, engineering, film and TV production classes and the Program for Global Citizenship.

Students can discover their artist within at HIES, and the school has a proud athletic tradition, with many regional and state championships.

The HIES campus is located just north of Atlanta’s Chastain Park and inside the Perimeter. For more information, visit hies.org

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www.ArborMontessori.org



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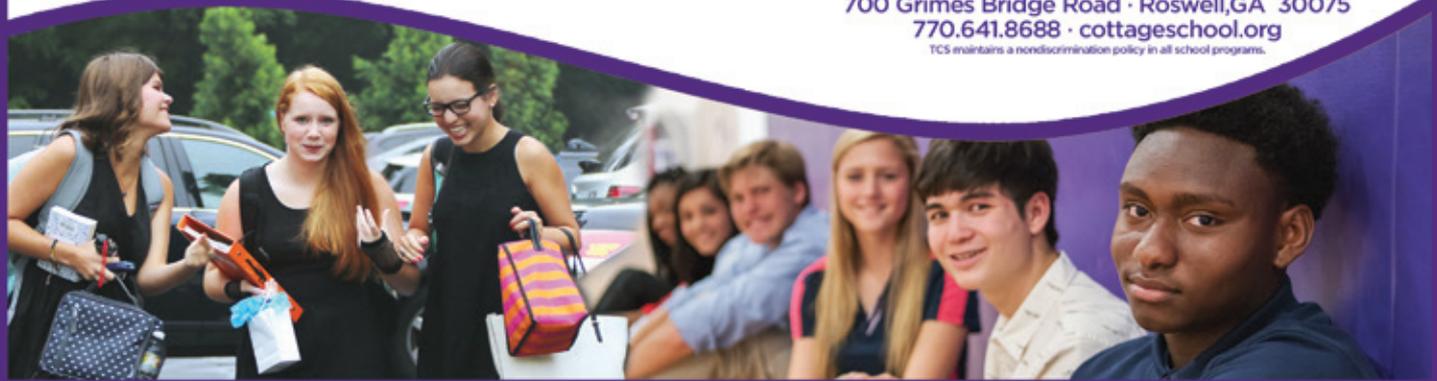
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Contact TCS to Schedule a Tour

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TCS maintains a nondiscrimination policy in all school programs.



Spotlight on Private Schools



Holy Spirit Preparatory School

Holy Spirit Preparatory School is a remarkable institution among the many independent schools in the Atlanta market. The young, accomplished school is one of the few independent Catholic schools in the Atlanta metro area. It serves students from 6 months all the way through 12th grade, so is perfect for families. Its high school keeps getting named one of the top Catholic high schools in the country by the Catholic Education Honor Roll.



Their AP scores are way above state and national averages (in the hardest AP tests, like Chemistry and Calculus, their students average over a 4 out of 5, which is incredible), and their alumni get accepted to Ivy League schools, military academies, top 25 schools, and universities across the world.

But, really, it's all about fit. Because they maintain a smaller enrollment than most independent schools, they find the right place for each student - channeling them to the right club, the right gifted classes, the right team - and the right college fit after HSP. This school is all about personalized learning, small class sizes, and forming students in "mind, body, and soul" in a family of faith and learning. For more information, you can visit www.holyspiritprep.org or call or text them at 678-761-7992.

Montessori School at Emory

Montessori School at Emory was founded over 22 years ago becoming accredited as a Montessori School in 1993. With over 175 students, from 15 months through 14 years, the Montessori School at Emory supports the whole child and prepares them for life through accredited, authentic quality Montessori programs. Children are given one-on-one instruction from their teacher which creates an individualized program that engages their interests and skill levels.



Montessori School at Emory offers several options. Full day, half day, 10 month or year round formats are available. Afternoon enrichment programs are also offered from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., in which children enjoy experiences in the creative arts and sciences such as music, art and foreign language. Also, early morning drop-off is available at 7 a.m. For more information about the Montessori School at Emory, call 404-634-5777 or visit www.MontessoriSchoolatEmory.com.

McGinnis Woods Country Day School

McGinnis Woods Country Day School is a private, non-parochial school offering a rich Preschool, Elementary and Middle School Education. The beautiful school campus is located in Alpharetta on the border of Forsyth and North Fulton counties. The Preschool accepts children as young as 6 weeks old and the Elementary and Middle School teach students in PreK 4 through 8th grade. McGinnis Woods Country Day School is GAC, SACS, and NAEYC accredited. It is also a member of the Georgia Independent School Association.



The mission of McGinnis Woods is to inspire students with the passion to excel. This is accomplished by providing superior hands-on, minds-on academics and inspiring a lifelong love of learning. Classes with low student-teacher ratios, provide for frequent one-to-one learning. The students learn through a variety of groupings including class lessons, small group activities, hands-on STEM activities and "buddy" classes which encourage multi-age groupings. Frequent guest speakers, monthly field trips, character education, and community service round out the challenging curriculum. Drama Club, Competitive Sports and Robotics teams train year round. After school programs and Discovery Clubs are also available.

Please visit www.mcginiswoods.org or call 770.664.7764 to set up a tour at 5380 Faircroft Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30005. Experience the McGinnis Woods difference!

Mount Vernon Presbyterian School

Located in the heart of Sandy Springs, MVPS is a school of inquiry, innovation, and impact. Grounded in Christian values, Mount Vernon prepares all students to be college ready, globally competitive, and engaged citizen leaders.



We inspire young minds. By designing learning experiences with and for children, we connect foundational skills to real-world opportunities. We believe students have big ideas, and we empower them to make a difference in their world now.

Leading the national conversation around K-12 design thinking, students identify real world issues, collaborate through research, test results and ultimately produce solutions with an impact. Grades 9-12 offer a dynamic opportunity called Interim Term. Students travel the globe or engage in internships around the city. Partnering with the local community, MVPS students perform more than 10,000 hours of community service. Rounding out the experience, 90% of students participate in one more of the School's 51 sports teams.

Explore more at mountvernonsschool.org to learn about our inquisitive students and devoted faculty, our innovative approach to learning, and the expanding impact of our community.



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Spotlight on Private Schools



The Waldorf School of Atlanta

Childhood First. Celebrating 30 years, The Waldorf School of Atlanta offers a revolutionary notion – that in the midst of a high-speed world, children should be provided a timeless space to do their sacred work.



The school nurtures within students the will to become life-long learners by fostering their ability to think with clarity, feel with compassion, and act with purpose in the world.

The Waldorf curriculum is rich in every branch of academics and enlivened with the arts and practical skills. As such, it honors children at each stage of their development, nurturing their current capacities and preparing them for new learning to come.

Located in Decatur, with a satellite location in Inman Park, The Waldorf School of Atlanta serves children from age 2 through 8th grade. Aligned with the ideals of Waldorf education – a century-old approach to learning, carried on by 1,000 schools worldwide – The Waldorf School invites you to learn more at www.waldorfatlanta.org!

The Westminster Schools

Westminster is a coeducational Christian preparatory school which seeks to serve students who are bright, motivated, and curious by nurturing them through challenge. The environment develops leaders of conscience who will be a positive force in the world. The School was founded in 1951, guided by a mission to prepare students for college and for life. With an enrollment of approximately 1,860 students in grades pre-first through 12, Westminster fulfills its mission through a curriculum that engages children across the key dimensions of their growth – academic, physical, and spiritual.



The School's dynamic curricular offerings are complemented by extracurricular opportunities including unique service learning projects that partner the students with nonprofit organizations locally and abroad; a dynamic arts program that includes music, visual arts, and drama; a nationally recognized athletic program with more than 84 teams across 17 sports; and interdisciplinary global programs spanning five continents. Westminster students are encouraged to deeply investigate and explore their passions under the guidance of gifted faculty.

Learn more about Westminster's academics, faculty, and extracurricular activities, or find more information about the admissions process, at westminster.net.

Woodward Academy

Woodward Academy is the largest independent school in the continental U.S., with 2,700 students spanning two campuses on 133 acres in metro Atlanta.

With an average class size of only 16, teachers, coaches, and counselors provide wise, individual guidance at every step, mentoring students in life-shaping qualities of good character, and helping them reach their fullest potential.



Students develop a deep respect for difference as they collaborate with peers from more than 20 metro-Atlanta counties and a broad array of religious, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

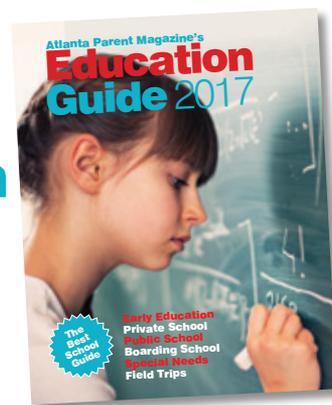
Woodward offers prolific opportunities to try and triumph, including 20 AP courses, a Transition Program for students with mild learning differences in grades two through eight, and a wide range of clubs, arts opportunities, and athletic options. The Global Connections Program offers extensive international study abroad programs.

A typical Woodward Academy graduating class attends more than 100 different colleges and universities, devotes 5,000 hours to community service projects, and earns more than \$14 million in collegiate scholarship awards.

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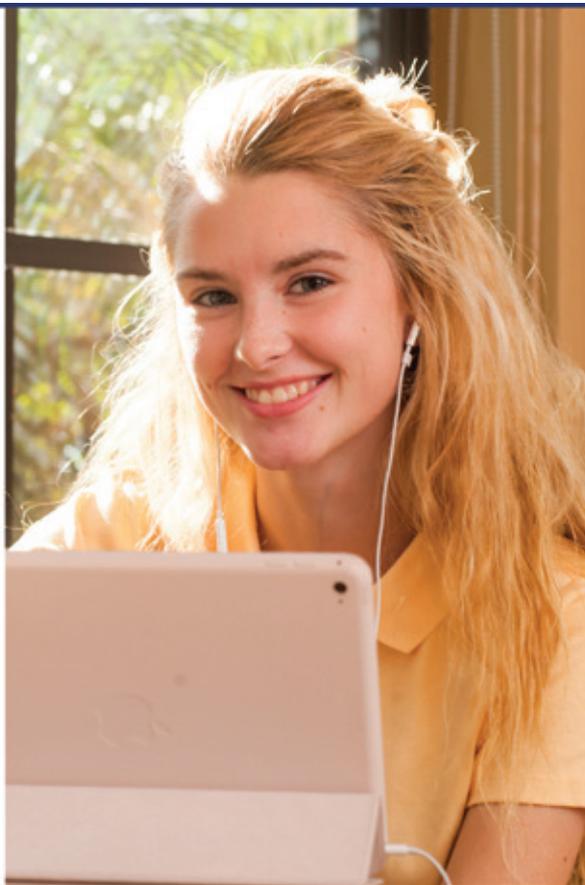
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Going Away to Learn

A Look at Boarding Schools

Families don't have to be rich and famous to send their children to boarding schools – often they're just families in search of a school that has a curriculum and teaching style that encourages good character and academic excellence.

Some families opt for boarding school as part of a family tradition, sending kids to the alma mater of a parent or grandparent.

Boarding schools often have smaller class sizes for more individualized learning and a wider variety of extracurricular activities. Some of the advantages of boarding schools include:

■ **A School For Every Child:** College prep – the most conventional school form – can be co-ed or single sex. Military schools mimic the structure and discipline of the armed forces. Arts-based schools prepare students for careers as professional dancers or musicians. Religious schools emphasize faith. Other schools are designed for kids with behavioral or emotional issues.



Trinity-Pawling School

■ **Smaller Is Better:** Typically, boarding schools have a much smaller class ratio than public schools. The student to teacher ratio is often no more than 10-to-1.

■ **Academic Challenge:** Boarding schools tend to have an intense academic curriculum. Educators have advanced degrees, and kids are challenged to excel.

■ **Access to Faculty:** Teachers live on campus in many cases and are available to students outside the classroom.

■ **Learning from Extracurriculars:** According to the Southeastern Association of Boarding Schools, each school designs its extracurricular program to fit the culture of the school.

■ **Independence with Rules:** Boarding students get to experience life away from home in a structured atmosphere.

■ **Preparation for College:** Students are ready academically and are better prepared to live away from home when its time for college.

■ **Ethnic Diversity:** Many schools strive for a student body that is racially, economically and socially diverse, offering financial aid to maintain that balance.

■ **A Community of Lifelong Friends:** Because the students, faculty and administrators are interacting at all hours of the day, students learn from bonding experiences. Sharing in the common goals and traditions of the school fosters strong friendships.

As Much Structure as Needed:

■ Supervision runs the gamut from military-style discipline to looser atmospheres with student autonomy.

■ **A Safe Environment:** Many schools have tight security systems. Because of the close-knit nature of the campus, any visitors or strangers are more likely to be spotted.

– Sharon Morioka and Amanda Allen



Florida Preparatory Academy

“I LEFT MY HOMETOWN
AND DISCOVERED
THE WORLD.”

Stephanie P., 9th grade

It takes courage to start at a new school, especially when it's away from home. Like Stephanie, we at Saint Mary's see a challenge as an opportunity to grow. Our vibrant 24/7 campus in the heart of Raleigh, N.C. brings girls from around the state, the country and the world — all eager to discover, explore and imagine. The possibilities are endless.

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Since 1907 Riverside Military Academy has remained the nation's preeminent military college preparatory academy educating young men in grades 7-12.

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www.riversidemilitary.com

Gainesville, Georgia

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If your child loves the outdoors and sports, excels in small classes and would benefit from developing leadership and organizational skills, New York Military Academy is the school for you.

New York Military Academy, established in 1889, is located in Cornwall-on-Hudson in the beautiful Hudson Valley, just 4 miles from the US Military Academy at West Point. It is a college preparatory school with classes from the 6th – 12th grade. New York Military Academy is devoted to developing young leaders for success and accomplishment in college and in life. Inherent in our mission are four objectives: academics, athletics, character and leadership. Guided by these objectives, we help our cadets grow in mind, body and character and support them in furthering their education goals with small classes and nightly mentoring study halls.

NYMA's dedicated, classical model of education includes leadership training, athletic competition, and rigorous academic inquiry. Academics are reinforced with a healthy outdoor environment and a JROTC program which teaches leadership and organizational skills as well as an awareness of physical well-being. Students are required to experience competition and team building through involvement in sports all year long and holding various leadership positions as they advance through the grades.

The sound academic preparation we offer our students, including their experiences with organizational leadership skills, prepare New York Military Academy's students for success in every aspect of their lives.



Please contact the Office of Admission at
 Telephone: 845-534-3710 (Ex: 4272)
 Email: jdolan@nyma.org
 Or visit our website: www.nyma.org

New York Military Academy
 78 Academy Avenue
 Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY, 12520



Trinity-Pawling School

Boarding and Day for Boys - Grades 7-12 / Postgraduate



At Trinity-Pawling, **we know how boys learn best.** We seek to unlock the full potential of every student - in an active, experiential learning environment.

Visit us in beautiful Pawling, NY or learn more at www.trinitypawling.org

A Typical Day at Boarding School

Wonder what your child's daily schedule will look like at boarding school? Students develop a sense of independence with the absence of parents, but administrators are quick to step in and lend a helping hand. Young men and women thrive in this environment, and learn to manage their time wisely. Here is a look inside:



7-8 a.m.:	Rise and eat breakfast	3:30-5:30 p.m.:	Extracurricular activities, study time or advisor conferences
8-8:20 a.m.:	Chapel or school meeting	6-7 p.m.:	Dinner
8:30-Noon:	Classes and mid-morning break	7-9 p.m.:	Study hall
Noon-1 p.m.:	Lunch	9-10 p.m.:	Personal time
1-3:30 p.m.:	Classes	10-11 p.m.:	Lights out

On weekends, students visit family or friends or participate in scheduled activities such as field trips. Some schools require attendance at a church service.

Here is a list of our advertisers to help with your boarding school search.

■ **Arthur Morgan School**

Co-ed boarding and day school for grades 7-9. Burnsville, N.C.; arthurmorganschool.org; 828-675-4262

■ **Christchurch School**

Episcopal co-ed boarding and day school for grades 9-12 Christchurch, Va.; christchurchschool.org; 804-758-2306

■ **Florida Preparatory Academy**

Co-ed boarding and day school for grades 5-12. Melbourne, Fla.; flprep.com; 321-723-3211

■ **Landmark School**

Co-ed boarding and day school for grades 2-12 with language-based learning disabilities. Pride Crossing, Mass.; landmarkschool.org; 978-236-3010

■ **New York Military Academy**

Military-style co-ed boarding and day school for grades 6-12. Cornwall on Hudson, N.Y.; nyoma.org; 845-534-3710

■ **Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School**

Co-ed boarding and day school for grades 5-12. Rabun Gap, Ga.; rabungap.org; 706-746-7467

■ **Riverside Military Academy**

Military-style boarding and day school for boys in grades 7-12. Gainesville, Ga.; riversidemilitary.com; 1-800-462-2338

■ **Saint Mary's School**

Episcopal boarding and day school for girls in grades 9-12 Raleigh, N.C.; sms.edu; 919-424-4000

■ **Trinity-Pawling School**

Boarding and day school for boys in grades 7-12. Pawling, N.Y.; trinitypawling.org; 845-855-3100

■ **The Vanguard School**

Co-ed boarding and day school for grades 6-12 with learning differences. Lake Wales, Fla.; vanguardschool.org; 863-676-6091



Brandon Hall School celebrates *student success*
Atlanta's only *Day* and *Boarding* School, offering
rolling admissions for domestic and international students
Beautiful *27-acre campus* along the Chattahoochee River

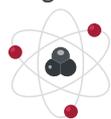
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College Park

Woodward North
Pre-K to 6
Johns Creek

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woodward.edu

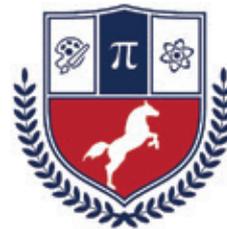


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Whitefield

ACADEMY

A Christ-centered college preparatory school for grades PreK4 through 12

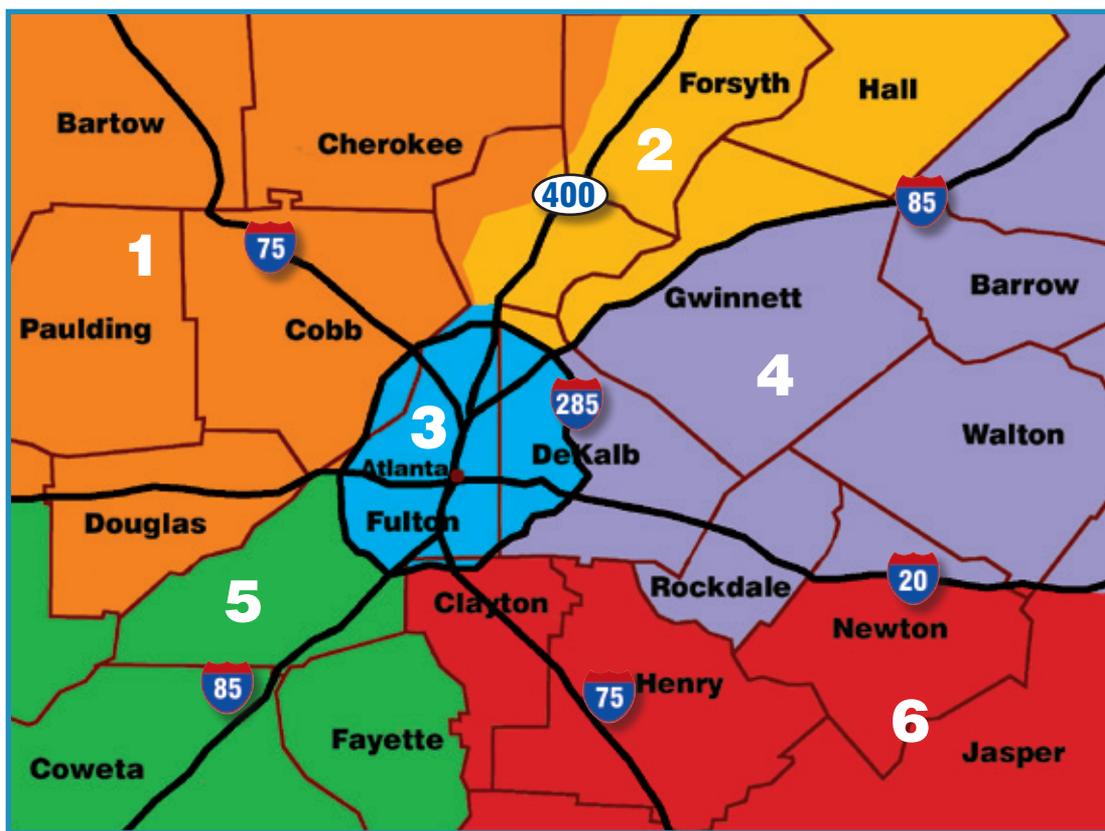
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Private Schools At-A-Glance

Our comprehensive directory of private schools in metro Atlanta lists schools that have 150 students or more. Montessori schools have 100 students or more, while special needs schools may have smaller enrollments. To be included, schools must go at least through third grade. Our advertisers are also included.



This map has been divided into color-coded zones. In our directory, each school listing has a corresponding color to help you easily locate private schools in relation to your neighborhood. Schools are listed alphabetically.

Region	Location/Neighborhoods
1	Acworth, Austell, Canton, Cartersville, Douglasville, Kennesaw, Lithia Springs, Mableton, Marietta, Powder Springs, Smyrna, Woodstock
2	Alpharetta, Cumming, Duluth, Gainesville, Johns Creek, Milton, Norcross, Roswell
3	Atlanta, Buckhead, Chamblee, Doraville, Dunwoody, Midtown, Sandy Springs, Vinings

Region	Location/Neighborhoods
4	Auburn, Buford, Conyers, Covington, Dacula, Decatur, Gainesville, Grayson, Hoschton, Lawrenceville, Lilburn, Lithonia, Loganville, Monroe, Norcross, Snellville, Stone Mountain, Sugar Hill, Tucker
5	College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Fayetteville, Hapeville, Newnan, Peachtree City, Sharpsburg, Tyrone
6	Forest Park, Griffin, Hampton, Jonesboro, Locust Grove, Lovejoy, McDonough, Monticello, Morrow, Riverdale, Stockbridge

Need-to-Know Information About Metro Atlanta's Private Schools

Schools At-A-Glance			2017 Directory			
School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Academe of the Oaks 146 New St., Decatur (DeKalb) academeatlanta.org	4	404-405-2173	9th-12th	94	\$17,500/yr.	
Alexsander Academy 1090 Powers Place, Alpharetta (Fulton) alexsanderacademy.org	2	770-777-0475	K-12th	34	\$11,000-\$16,500/yr.	Learning differences
Alpharetta Christian Academy 44 Academy St., Alpharetta (Fulton) alpharettachristianacademy.com	2	770-475-5762	18mos.-6th	350	\$180-450/mo.-\$9,000/yr.	Baptist
Annunciation Day School 2500 Clairmont Rd. NE, Atlanta (DeKalb) annunciationdayschool.org	3	404-565-2850	18mos.-8th	115	\$1,985-\$9,923/yr.	Christian
Arbor Montessori School 2998 Lavista Rd., and 1434 Scott Blvd., Decatur (DeKalb) arbormontessori.org	4	404-321-9304	18mos.-14yrs.	293	\$9,325-\$18,500/yr.	Montessori
Arlington Christian School 4500 Ridge Rd., Fairburn (Fulton) arlingtonchristian.org	5	770-964-9871	K4-12th	225	\$5,775-\$9,125/yr.	Christian
The Atlanta Academy 2000 Holcomb Woods Pkwy., Roswell (Fulton) atlantaacademy.com	2	678-461-6102	Nursery-8th	300	\$3,000-\$14,000/yr.	non-denominational Christian
Atlanta Girls' School 3254 Northside Pkwy., Atlanta (Fulton) atlantagirlsschool.org	3	404-845-0900	6th-12th	260	\$23,330/yr.	
Atlanta International School 2890 N. Fulton Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) aischool.org	3	404-841-3840	K3-12th	1,194	\$21,000-\$24,000/yr.	
Atlanta Jewish Academy 5200 Northland Dr., and 3120 Raymond Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) (DeKalb) atjewishacademy.org	3	404-843-9900	Infants-12th	500	\$14,835-\$22,767/yr.	Jewish
Atlanta Montessori International School 1970 Cliff Valley Way NE, Atlanta (DeKalb) amischool.com	3	404-325-6777	8wks.-15yrs.	200	\$11,000 - \$17,000/yr.	Montessori
Atlanta Speech School 3160 Northside Pkwy., Atlanta (Fulton) atlantaspeechschool.org	3	404-233-5332	Infants-6th	375	\$6,772-\$36,004/yr.	Learning disabilities, special needs
Bedford School 5665 Milam Rd., Fairburn (Fulton) thebedfordschool.org	5	770-774-8001	1st-9th	148	\$18,250/yr.	Learning disabilities
Bible Baptist Christian School 2780 Mount Carmel Rd., Hampton (Henry) biblebaptistministries.com	6	770-946-4700	K4-12th	175	\$3,610-\$6,644/yr.	Baptist
Blessed Trinity Catholic High School 11320 Woodstock Rd., Roswell (Fulton) btcatholic.org	2	678-277-9083	9th-12th	1010	\$11,850/yr.	Catholic
Brandon Hall School 1701 Brandon Hall Dr., Dunwoody (Fulton) brandonhall.org	3	770-394-8177	6th-12th	170	\$31,940/yr.	
Bridgeway Christian Academy 4755 Kimball Bridge Rd., Alpharetta (Fulton) bridgewayca.org	2	770-751-1972	K3-8th	170	\$2,940-\$11,375/yr.	Christian

Schools At-A-Glance

2017 Directory

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Brookwood Christian School 4728 Wood St., Acworth (Cobb) brookwoodchristian.com	1	678-401-5855	1st-12th	60	\$14,500/yr.	Learning Disabilities/ Christian
Cambridge Academy 2780 Flat Shoals Rd., Decatur (DeKalb) acambridgeacademy.org	4	404-241-1321	2yrs.-8th	225	\$7,280-\$8,000/yr.	
Casa Montessori 150 Powers Ferry Rd., Marietta (Cobb) casamontessori.com	1	770-973-2731	18mos.-6th	150	\$9,100-\$11,000/yr.	Montessori
Center Academy 3499 South Cobb Dr., Smyrna (Cobb) centeracademy.com	1	770-333-1616	4th-12th	50	\$16,295/yr.	Learning disabilities
Cherokee Christian Academy and Cherokee Christian High School 3075 Trickum Rd., Woodstock (Cherokee) cherokeechristian.org	1	678-494-5464	K-12th	380	\$6,500-\$12,200/yr.	non-denominational Christian
The Children's House at Serenbe 10636 Serenbe Ln., Palmetto (Fulton) thechildrenshouseatserenbe.com	5	770-463-0081	3yrs - 7th	40	\$6,300-\$8,250/yr.	Montessori
The Children's School 345 Tenth St. NE, Atlanta (Fulton) tcsatl.org	3	404-873-6985	3yrs.-8th	370	\$19,990/yr.	
Christ the King School 46 Peachtree Way, Atlanta (Fulton) christking.org	3	404-233-0383	K-8th	560	\$8,750-\$12,060/yr.	Catholic
Cliff Valley School 2426 Clairmont Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) cliffvalleyschool.org	3	678-302-1302	3yrs.-8th	316	\$7,260-\$18,180/yr.	
Collins Hill Christian School 1612 Collins Hill Rd., Lawrenceville (Gwinnett) chscrusaders.org	4	770-962-0642	K4-8th	155	\$2,100-4,600/yr.	Baptist
Colonial Hills Christian School 7131 Mt. Vernon Rd., Lithia Springs (Douglas) chrams.org	1	770-941-6342	K3-12th	245	\$6,395-\$8,020/yr.	Christian
Community Christian School 2001 West Jodeco Rd., Stockbridge (Henry) communitychristianschool.net	6	678-432-0191	6 wks.-12th	800	\$4,600-\$8,300/yr.	Christian
Cornerstone Christian Academy 5295 Triangle Pkwy. NW, Peachtree Corners (Gwinnett) cornerstonecougars.org	4	770-441-9222	K-8th	320	\$9,734-\$12,392/yr.	Christian
Cornerstone Schools 4888 Browns Bridge Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) cornerstonesch.com	2	770-205-8202	PreK-12th	350	\$8,000-\$11,000/yr.	
The Cottage School 700 Grimes Bridge Rd., Roswell (Fulton) cottageschool.org	2	770-641-8688	4th-12th	165	\$24,200-\$24,950/yr.	Learning differences
Counterpane Montessori 839 Highway 314, Fayetteville (Fayette) counterpane.org	5	770-461-2304	3yrs. - 12th	100	\$12,000/yr.	Montesori
Country Brook Montessori School 2175 N. Norcross-Tucker Rd., Norcross (Gwinnett) countrybrookmontessori.com	4	770-446-2397	18mos.-3rd	75	\$7,000-\$10,400/yr.	Montessori
Covenant Christian Academy 6905 Post Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) covenantrams.org	2	770-674-2990	K4-12th	260	\$7,500-\$7,950/yr.	Christian
Covenant Christian Academy 3425 Hwy. 20, Loganville (Gwinnett) covenant-cougars.org	4	770-466-7890	K3-12th	235	\$7,000-\$8,000/yr.	Christian
Covenant Christian School 3130 Atlanta Rd., Smyrna (Cobb) ccssmyrna.org	1	770-435-1596	K4 - 8th	212	\$5,000 - \$9,000/yr.	Christian

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Covered Bridge Montessori School 488 Hurt Rd., Smyrna (Cobb) coveredbridgeacademy.com	1	770-801-8292	18mos.-5th.	100	\$6,200-\$10,500/yr.	Montessori
Crabapple Montessori School 12387 Crabapple Rd., Alpharetta (Fulton) crabapplemontessori.com	3	770-569-5200	18mos-12yrs.	160	\$7,000-\$12,000/yr.	Montessori
Creekside Christian Academy 175 Foster Dr., McDonough (Henry) creeksideacademy.org	6	770-961-9300	K3-12th	775	\$3,800-\$5,800/yr.	Christian
Cumberland Academy of Georgia 650-A Mt. Vernon Hwy. NE, Atlanta (Fulton) cumberlandacademy.org	3	404-835-9000	4th-12th, post grad. Program	100	\$23,400/yr.	Asperger, high-functioning Autism
Cumberland Christian Academy 2356 Clay Rd., Austell (Cobb) cumberlandchristian.org	1	678-426-1600	PreK3-12th	447	\$3,890-\$7,780/yr.	Christian
The Davis Academy 8105 Roberts Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) davisacademy.org	3	770-671-0085	Kprep-8th	550	\$18,973-\$22,757/yr.	Jewish
Discovery Montessori Academy 1453 East Cleveland Ave., East Point (Fulton) discoverymontessoriacademy.com	5	404-767-5005	4wks.-12yrs.	115	\$6,100-10,020/yr.	Montessori
The Duluth Montessori School 2997 Main St., Duluth (Gwinnett) duluthmontessori.com	2	770-476-9307	14mos.-12yrs.	140	\$8,456-\$12,507/yr.	Montessori
Eagle's Landing Christian Academy 2400 Hwy. 42 North, McDonough (Henry) elcaonline.org	6	770-957-2927	K3-12th	1100	\$3,312 - \$11,064/yr.	Christian
Eastside Christian School 2450 Lower Roswell Rd., Marietta (Cobb) eastsidechristianschool.com	1	770-971-2332	K-8th	320	\$5,165-\$8,800/yr.	Christian
The Epstein School 335 Colewood Way NW, Sandy Springs (Fulton) epsteinatlanta.org	3	404-250-5600	18mos.-8th	550	\$6,195-\$20,850/yr.	Jewish
Excel Christian Academy 325 Old Mill Rd., Cartersville (Bartow) excelca.org	1	770-382-9488	K-12th	275	\$9,540-\$10,200/yr.	Christian
Faith Lutheran School 2111 Lower Roswell Rd., Marietta (Cobb) faithmarietta.org	1	770-973-8921	18mos.-8th	200	\$5,000-\$8,500/yr.	Lutheran
Fayette Montessori 190 Weatherly Dr., Fayetteville (Fayette) fayettemontessori.com	5	770-460-6790	20mos.-6th	78	\$2,624-\$8,160/yr.	Montessori
Fellowship Christian School 10965 Woodstock Rd., Roswell (Fulton) fellowshipchristianschool.org	2	770-993-1650	PreK-12th	808	\$3,714-\$15,486/yr.	Christian
First Baptist Christian School 2958 N. Main St., Kennesaw (Cobb) fbcskennesaw.com	1	770-422-3254	2 yrs.-5th	140	\$2,255-\$6,388/yr.	Christian
Foundations for the Future 1500 Stanley Rd., Kennesaw (Cobb) foundationsschool.com	1	770-429-4799	6wks.-6th	202	\$7,200-\$9,800/yr.	
The Friends School of Atlanta 862 Columbia Dr., Decatur (DeKalb) friendschoolatlanta.org	4	404-373-8746	PreK-8th	173	\$16,900-\$20,300/yr.	Quaker
Fulton Science Academy 3035 Fanfare Way, Alpharetta (Fulton) fultonscienceacademy.org	2	678-366-2555	PreK-12th	450	\$11,000-\$13,000/yr.	
Galloway School 215 W. Wieuca Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) gallowayschool.org	3	404-252-8389	K3-12th	750	\$12,500-\$26,000/yr.	

Schools At-A-Glance

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School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
George Walton Academy 1 Bulldog Dr., Monroe (Walton) gwa.com	4	770-267-7578	K4-12th	840	\$4,500-\$11,000/yr.	Judeo-Christian
Grace Christian Academy 355 McDonough Rd., Fayetteville (Fayette) gracechristian.info	5	770-461-0137	K3-12th	189	\$4,765-\$6,706/yr.	Christian
Gracepoint School 570 Piedmont Rd., Marietta (Cobb) gracepointschool.org	1	678-709-6634	1st-8th	76	\$20,500/yr.	Dyslexia/Christian
Greater Atlanta Christian School 1575 Indian Trail Rd., Norcross (Gwinnett) greateratlantachristian.org	3	770-243-2000	K3-12th	1800	\$15,930-\$20,100/yr.	Christian
Greenforest-McCaleb Christian Academic Center 3250 Rainbow Dr., Decatur (DeKalb) greenforestacademy.org	4	404-486-6737	K-12th	223	\$6,790-8,390/yr.	Baptist
Harbour Oaks Montessori 1741 Athens Hwy., Grayson (Gwinnett) harbouroaks.org	4	770-979-8900	18mos.-12th	130	\$6,600-\$9,000/yr.	Montessori
Harvester Christian Academy 4241 Central Church Rd., Douglasville (Douglas) harvesteracademy.com	1	770-942-1583	K4-12th	385	\$4,491-\$7,689/yr.	Christian
Heart of Hope Academy at the Elaine Clark Center 5130 Peachtree Ind. Blvd., Chamblee (DeKalb) elaineclarkcenter.org	3	770-458-3251	6yrs.-22yrs.	70	\$18,000/yr.	Special Needs
Hebron Christian Academy 2975 Old Peachtree Rd., and 775 Dacula Rd., Dacula (Gwinnett) hebronlions.org	4	770-963-9250	K-12th	900	\$6,500-\$8,125/yr.	Christian
Heritage Preparatory School 1700 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta (Fulton) heritageprep.org	3	404-815-7711	PreK-8th	140	\$5,300-\$15,750/yr.	Christian
The Heritage School 2093 Hwy. 29 N, Newnan (Coweta) heritageschool.org	5	770-253-9898	4yrs.-12th	450	\$7,500-\$14,950/yr.	
High Meadows School 1055 Willeo Rd., Roswell (Fulton) highmeadows.org	2	770-993-2940	3yrs.-8th	400	\$6,300-\$18,750/yr.	
Holy Innocents' Episcopal School 805 Mt. Vernon Hwy., Atlanta (Fulton) hies.org	3	404-255-4026	3yrs.-12th	1375	\$9,760-\$25,520/yr.	Episcopalian
Holy Redeemer Catholic School 3380 Old Alabama Rd., Johns Creek (Fulton) hrcatholicsschool.org	2	770-410-4056	K-8th	478	\$7,795/yr.	Catholic
Holy Spirit Preparatory School 4465 and 4449 Northside Dr., and 4820 Long Island Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) holyspiritprep.org	3	678-904-2811	6mos.-12th	575	\$6,130-\$23,365/yr.	Catholic
Horizon Christian Academy 1270 Sawnee Dr., Cumming (Forsyth) hcaga.org	2	678-947-0711	K-12th	230	\$9,100-\$10,300/yr.	Christian
The Howard School 1192 Foster St., Atlanta (Fulton) howardschool.org	3	404-377-7436	K-12th	271	\$29,980-\$31,460/yr.	Learning disabilities
Immaculate Heart of Mary 2855 Briarcliff Rd. NE, Atlanta (DeKalb) ihmschool.org	3	404-636-4488	K-8th	500	\$7,350-\$9,775/yr.	Catholic
Intown Community School 2059 Lavista Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) intownschool.org	3	404-633-8081	K-8th	229	\$6,400-\$10,000/yr.	Christian
Ivy League Montessori School 1791 Kelly Mill Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) ilmsnet.com	2	770-781-5586	18mos.-12yrs.	100	\$165-\$890/mo.	Montessori

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Joseph Sams School 280 Brandywine Blvd., Fayetteville (Fayette) josephsamsschool.org	5	770-461-5894	Birth-22yrs.	80	\$9,100-\$21,200/yr.	Special needs
Killian Hill Christian School 151 Arcado Rd., Lilburn (Gwinnett) khcs.org	4	770-921-3224	K5-12th	370	\$6,125-\$10,225/yr.	Baptist
King's Ridge Christian School 2765 Bethany Bend, Alpharetta (Fulton) kingsridgecs.org	2	770-754-5738	PreK-12th	850	\$6,500-\$18,637/yr.	Christian
Lakeview Academy 796 Lakeview Dr., Gainesville (Hall) lakeviewacademy.com	2	770-532-4383	PreK3-12th	592	\$6,372-\$16,560/yr.	
Landmark Christian School 777 Robinson Rd., and 50 SE Broad St., Peachtree City and Fairburn (Fayette) (Fulton) landmarkchristianschool.org	5	770-306-0647	K4-12th	805	\$4,900-\$15,375/yr.	Christian
Loganville Christian Academy 2575 Hwy. 81, Loganville (Walton) lcalions.com	4	770-554-9888	PreK-12th	545	\$4,125-\$9,850/yr.	Christian
Lovett School 4075 Paces Ferry Rd. NW, Atlanta (Fulton) lovett.org	3	404-262-3032	K-12th	1678	\$22,520-\$26,650/yr.	
Marist School 3790 Ashford-Dunwoody Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) marist.com	3	770-457-7201	7th-12th	1095	\$18,650/yr.	Catholic
McGinnis Woods Country Day School 5380 Faircroft Drive., Alpharetta (Forsyth) mcginniswoods.org	2	770-664-7764	Infant-8th	400	\$9,150-\$12,600/yr.	
Midway Covenant Christian School 4635 Dallas Hwy., Powder Springs (Cobb) midwayschool.org	1	770-590-1866	K3-8th	300	\$1,600-\$6,500/yr.	Christian
Mill Springs Academy 13660 New Providence Rd., Alpharetta (Fulton) millsprings.org	2	770-360-1336	1st-12th	340	\$22,926/yr.	Learning disabilities
Montessori Academy at Sharon Springs 2830 Old Atlanta Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) montessoriacademygeorgia.com	2	770-205-6277	18mos.-15yrs.	220	\$8,000 - \$12,000/yr.	Montessori
Montessori Academy at Vickery 6285 Post Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) montessorivickery.com	2	770-777-9131	18mos. - 9yrs.	162	\$8,000 - \$12,000/yr.	Montessori
Montessori Children's House of North Forsyth 7395 Brown's Bridge Rd., Gainesville (Forsyth) mchnf.org	2	404-862-5437	2.5yrs.-3rd	50	\$7,340-\$8,750/yr.	Montessori
Montessori In Town 678 Moreland Ave., Atlanta (Fulton) montessoriiintown.com	2	404-784-1038	14mos.-12yrs.	103	\$9,000-\$11,800/yr.	Montessori
Montessori Scholars Academy 13100 Morris Rd., Milton (Fulton) montessorischolars.com	2	770-754-0777	6mos.-12yrs.	100	\$550-\$1,100/mo.	Montessori
Montessori School at Emory 3021 N. Decatur Rd., Decatur (DeKalb) montessorischoolofdecatur.com	4	404-634-5777	15mos.-14yrs.	190	\$920-\$1,540/mo.	Montessori
Montessori School of Cumming 4601 Post Rd., Cumming (Forsyth) montessorischoolofcumming.com	2	770-205-6773	15mos-12yrs.	60	\$4,450-\$10,700/yr.	Montessori
Mount Carmel Christian School 6015 Old Stone Mnt. Rd., Stone Mountain (DeKalb) mccsch.org	4	770-279-8443	K3-8th	140	\$6,900-\$7,950/yr.	Christian
Mount Paran Christian School 1275 Stanley Rd., Kennesaw (Cobb) mtparanschool.com	1	770-578-0182	K3-12th	1115	\$3,090-16,095/yr.	Christian

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Mount Pisgah Christian School 9820 Nesbit Ferry Rd., Johns Creek (Fulton) collegepreplifeready.org	2	678-336-3443	6wks.-12th	1000	\$14,750-\$19,600/yr.	Christian
Mount Vernon Presbyterian School 471 and 510 Mt. Vernon Hwy. NE, Atlanta (Fulton) mountvernonsschool.org	3	404-252-3448	6wks.-12th	945	\$7,920-\$21,010/yr.	Presbyterian
Mt. Bethel Christian Academy 4385 Lower Roswell Rd. and 2509 Post Oak Tritt Rd., Marietta (Cobb) mtbethelchristian.org	1	770-971-0245	PreK-12th	650	\$9,900-\$14,500/yr.	Methodist
Noble World Montessori School 2502 East Piedmont Rd., Marietta (Cobb) nobleworldmontessori.com	1	770-509-1775	6wks.-5th	75	\$6,000-\$9,000/yr.	Montessori
North Cobb Christian School 4500 Eagle Dr., Kennesaw (Cobb) ncchristian.org	1	770-975-0252	K3-12th	915	\$4,600-\$14,725/yr.	Christian
Northwoods Montessori 3340 Chestnut Dr., Doraville (DeKalb) northwoodsmontessori.com	3	770-457-7261	12mos.-12yrs.	100	\$8,330-\$12,285/yr.	Montessori
Notre Dame Academy 4635 River Green Pkwy., Duluth (Gwinnett) ndacademy.org	2	678-387-9385	PreK3-11th	580	\$3,940-\$15,005/yr.	Catholic
Oak Meadow Montessori School 2145 Collins Hill Rd., Lawrenceville (Gwinnett) oakmeadowmontessori.com	4	770-963-8303	15mos.-5th	130	\$6,000-\$9,500/yr.	Montessori
Old Peachtree Montessori 33 Hills Shop Rd., Hwy. 324, Auburn (Gwinnett) opmontessori.com	4	770-963-3052	8wks.-8th	100	\$2,925-\$9,800/yr.	Montessori
Old Suwanee Christian School 4118 Old Suwanee Rd., Buford (Gwinnett) oldsuwanee.org	4	770-945-5451	K4-12th	180	\$6,000-\$6,200/yr.	Baptist
Omni International School 3940 Cascade Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) omnischoolatl.com	3	404-865-1463	PreK2-6th	70	\$10,500-\$12,250/yr.	
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School 861 Hwy. 279, Fayetteville (Fayette) mercycatholic.org	5	770-461-2202	9th-12th	400	\$11,600/yr.	Catholic
Our Lady of the Assumption School 1320 Hearst Dr., Atlanta (DeKalb) olaschool.org	3	404-364-1902	PreK4-8th	500	\$8,500-\$10,000/yr.	Catholic
Our Lady of Victory Catholic School 211 Kirkley Rd., Tyrone (Fayette) olvcatholicsschoolk-8.org	5	770-306-9026	K-8th	225	\$8,423/yr.	Catholic
Pace Academy 966 W. Paces Ferry Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) paceacademy.org	3	404-262-1345	Pre1-12th	1102	\$21,800-\$25,100/yr.	
The Paideia School 1509 S. Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta (DeKalb) paideiaschool.org	3	404-377-3491	3yrs.-12th	1005	\$12,507-\$22,521/yr.	
Peachtree Academy Private School 1801 Ellington Rd. and 1760 Ebenezer Rd., Conyers (Rockdale); 14101 Hwy. 278, Covington (Newton) peachtreeacademy.com	4	770-860-8900	6 wks.-12th	700	\$5,500-\$7,500/yr.	
Peoples Baptist Academy 850 Mill Rd., McDonough (Henry) peoplesbaptistacademy.org	6	770-914-7388	K3-12th	215	\$5,300-\$6,050/yr.	Baptist
Perimeter Christian School 9500 Medlock Bridge Rd., Duluth (Fulton) perimeterschool.org	2	678-405-2300	K-8th	562	\$5,493-\$10,461/yr.	Christian

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
Piedmont Academy 126 Hwy. 212 West, Monticello (Jasper) piedmontacademy.com	6	706-468-8818	K3-12th	295	\$4,780-\$6,660/yr.	
Pinecrest Academy 955 Peachtree Pkwy., Cumming (Forsyth) pinecrestacademy.org	2	770-888-4477	PreK3-12th	825	\$6,580-\$15,950/yr.	Catholic
Porter Academy 200 Cox Rd., Roswell (Fulton) porteracademy.org	2	770-594-1313	4yr-14yr.	71	\$19,460/yr.	Speech and language, occupational therapy
Providence Christian Academy 4575 Lawrenceville Hwy., Lilburn (Gwinnett) providencechristianacademy.org	4	770-279-7200	K-12th	667	\$8,400-\$16,710/yr.	Christian
Queen of Angels Catholic School 11340 Woodstock Rd., Roswell (Fulton) qaschool.org	2	770-518-1804	K-8th	504	\$7,825/yr.	Catholic
Rising Star Montessori School 440 E Lanier Ave., Fayetteville (Fayette) risingstarmontessorischool.com	1	770-461-1595	18mos.-6th	75	\$5,050-\$9,900/yr.	Montessori
Rivers Academy 38 North Main St., and 1934 Cliff Valley Way, Alpharetta and Atlanta (Fulton) (DeKalb) riversacademy.com	3	Alph: 770-475-0081 Atl: 404-458-5160	4th-12th	300	\$8,900-\$9,500/yr.	
Riverstone Montessori 455 Casteel Rd., Marietta (Cobb) riverstonemontessori.com	1	770-422-9194	2.5yrs.-9th	120	\$8,716-\$15,265/yr.	Montessori
The SAE School 6688 Mableton Pkwy., Mableton (Cobb) SAEschool.org	1	678-239-3200	Preschool-11th	375	\$8,750 - \$10,500/yr.	
Saint Francis Schools 13440 Cogburn Rd., and 9375 Willeo Rd., Alpharetta and Roswell (Fulton) saintfrancisschools.com	2	678-339-9989	K-12th	800	\$14,000-\$21,000/yr.	
The Schenck School 282 Mt. Paran Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) schenck.org	3	404-252-2591	K-6th	250	\$31,150/yr.	Dyslexia
Shiloh Hills Christian School 260 Hawkins Store Rd. NE, Kennesaw (Cobb) shilohhills.com	1	770-926-7729	K3-12th	175	\$3,695-\$8,595/yr.	Baptist
Sophia Academy 2880 Dresden Dr., Atlanta (DeKalb) sophiaacademy.org	3	404-303-8722	K-12th	100	\$15,000-\$23,500/yr.	Learning differences/ Christian
Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy 3911 Campbellton Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) sacanet.com	3	404-346-2080	Preschool-12th	200	\$6,850-\$10,000/yr.	Christian
Springmont 5750 Long Island Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) springmont.com	3	404-252-3910	18mos.-14yrs.	250	\$9,500-22,600/yr.	Montessori
St. Benedict's Episcopal Day School 2160 Cooper Lake Rd., Smyrna (Cobb) stbs.org	1	678-279-4300	Preschool-8th	440	\$6,800-\$10,300/yr.	Episcopalian
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic School 1618 Ben King Rd., Kennesaw (Cobb) scsiena.org	1	770-419-8601	K-8th	385	\$7,550/yr.	Catholic
St. John Neumann Regional Catholic School 791 Tom Smith Rd., Lilburn (Gwinnett) sjnracs.org	4	770-381-0557	K-8th	305	\$7,700-\$10,000/yr.	Catholic
St. John the Evangelist Catholic School 240 Arnold St., Hapeville (Fulton) sjecs.org	4	404-767-4312	PreK-8th	315	\$7,200-\$8,600/yr.	Catholic
St. Joseph Catholic School 81 Lacy St., Marietta (Cobb) stjosephschool.org	1	770-428-3328	K-8th	480	\$6,519-\$8,476/yr.	Catholic

Schools At-A-Glance

2017 Directory

School Information	Zone	Phone	Ages/Grades	Students	Annual Tuition	Affiliation
St. Jude the Apostle Catholic School 7171 Glenridge Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) saintjude.net	3	770-394-2880	K-8th	503	\$8,345/yr.	Catholic
St. Martin's Episcopal School 3110-A Ashford-Dunwoody Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) stmartinschool.org	3	404-237-4260	PreK3-8th	635	\$11,250-\$18,900/yr.	Episcopalian
St. Paul Lutheran School 700 Ardenlee Pkwy., Peachtree City (Fayette) stpaulptc.com	5	770-486-3545	12mos.-8th	190	\$1,525-\$6,600/yr.	Lutheran
St. Pius X Catholic High School 2674 Johnson Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) spx.org	3	404-636-3023	9th-12th	1100	\$12,670/yr.	Catholic
St. Thomas Moore Catholic School 630 W. Ponce de Leon Ave., Decatur (DeKalb) stmga.org	4	404-373-8456	K-8th	482	\$7,560-\$10,403/yr.	Catholic
Strong Rock Christian School 4200 Strong Rock Pkwy., Locust Grove (Henry) strongrockchristianschool.com	6	678-833-1200	PreK3-12th	870	\$5,746-\$11,719/yr.	Christian
Sugar Hill Christian Academy 4600 Nelson Brogdon Blvd., Sugar Hill (Gwinnett) sugarhillchristian.org	4	678-745-4121	K4-8th	300	\$2,400-\$8,032/yr.	Christian
The Swift School 300 Grimes Bridge Rd., Roswell (Fulton) theswiftschool.org	2	678-205-4988	1st-8th	270	\$24,790-\$25,215/yr.	Dyslexia and language based learning differences
Tabula Rasa Language Academy 5855 Riverside Dr., Atlanta (Fulton) and 1430 Riverside Pkwy., Lawrenceville (Gwinnett) trlanguages.com	3 4	404-409-0827	Preschool-5th	200	\$7,000-\$15,000/yr.	
Torah Day School of Atlanta 1985 Lavista Rd., Atlanta (DeKalb) torahday.org	3	404-982-0800	K-8th	325	\$12,000-\$14,000/yr.	Jewish
Trinity School 4301 Northside Pkwy., Atlanta (Fulton) trinityatl.org	3	404-231-8100	3yrs.-6th	606	\$17,250-\$23,500/yr.	
Village Montessori 1610 Woodstock Rd., Roswell (Fulton) vmschool.com	2	770-552-0834	18mos.-8th	150	\$5,100-\$14,000/yr.	Montessori
The Waldorf School of Atlanta 827 Kirk Rd., Decatur (DeKalb) waldorfatlanta.org	4	404-377-1315	2yrs.-8th	240	\$3,500-\$15,760/yr.	
The Walker School 700 Cobb Pkwy., Marietta (Cobb) thewalkerschool.org	1	770-427-2689	3yrs.-12th	925	\$12,000-\$21,790/yr.	
The Weber School 6751 Roswell Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) weberschool.org	3	404-917-2500	9th-12th	238	\$26,700/yr.	Transdenominational/ Jewish
Wesleyan School 5405 Spalding Dr., Peachtree Corners (Gwinnett) wesleyanschool.org	4	770-448-7640	K-12th	1146	\$16,455-\$22,425/yr.	Christian
Westminster Schools 1424 W. Paces Ferry Rd., Atlanta (Fulton) westminster.net	3	404-609-6202	Pre 1st-12th	1862	\$23,120-\$26,815/yr.	Christian
Whitefield Academy 1 Whitefield Dr., Mableton (Cobb) whitefieldacademy.com	1	678-305-3000	PreK4-12th	808	\$9,950-\$21,750/yr.	Christian
The Wood Acres School 1772 Johnson Ferry Rd., Marietta (Cobb) woodacresschool.org	1	770-971-1880	2yrs.-8th	500	\$3,850-\$11,400/yr.	
Woodward Academy 1662 Rugby Ave., College Park (Fulton) and 6565 Boles Rd., Johns Creek (Gwinnett) woodward.edu	2 5	404-765-4001	PreK-12th	2703	\$16,000-\$25,800/yr.	

While every effort has been made to provide accurate, up-to-date data, please confirm information when contacting schools.

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Public School Profiles

A snapshot of school districts in metro Atlanta

Atlanta Public Schools

404-802-3500

www.atlanta.k12.ga.us

Atlanta Public Schools is the sixth largest school system in Georgia with 51,927 students. There are 3,674 teachers, of which 34 percent have advanced degrees.

■ **Number of Schools:**

98 learning sites and programs; 47 elementary; 10 middle; 1 high schools; 2 non-traditional; 16 charter schools.

■ **Pupil to teacher ratios:** Kindergarten, 25 to 1; Grades 1-3, 26 to 1; Grades 4-5, 33 to 1; Middle, 33 to 1; High, 33 to 1

■ **Per pupil expenditure:** \$12,585

Bartow County School System

770-606-5800

www.bartow.k12.ga.us

There are 14,000 students attending Bartow County's 20 schools, with 67 percent of 1,069 teachers holding advanced degrees.

■ **Number of Schools:** 12 elementary; 4 middle; 3 high schools; 1 college and career academy

■ **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 18 to 1

■ **Per pupil expenditure:** \$7,650

Buford City Schools

770-945-5035

www.bufordcityschools.org

There are 4,800 students enrolled in Buford City Schools. 80 percent of the 297 teachers have advanced degrees.

■ **Number of Schools:** 2 elementary; 1 middle; 1 high school.

■ **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 16 to 1

■ **Per pupil expenditure:** \$10,124

Cherokee County School District

770-479-1871

www.cherokeek12.net

CCSD has 41,800 students attending 41 schools and centers. There are 2,600 teachers in CCSD, of which 73 percent have advanced degrees.

■ **Number of Schools:** 24 elementary; 7 middle; 6 high schools; 3 alternative centers; 1 pre-K center

■ **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 16 to 1

■ **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,177



Cobb County School District

Clayton County Public Schools

770-473-2700

www.clayton.k12.ga.us

Clayton County has the fifth largest school system in Georgia with approximately 54,400 students. Of the district's 3,121 teachers, 63 percent have advanced degrees.

■ **Number of Schools:** 2 primary; 33 elementary; 14 middle; 9 high schools; 2 K-8 schools; 1 6-12 school; alternative education center; 3 psychological education centers; 1 multi-purpose education center; 3 magnet schools; 2 magnet programs; 1 state-certified STEM program.

■ **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 14.8 to 1

■ **Per pupil expenditure:** \$7,894 (FY 2016)

Cont'd on page 46

Public School Profiles

Cobb County School District

770-426-3300

www.cobbk12.org

Cobb County has more than 113,151 students attending 114 schools. There are 10,257 certified employees with 62 percent having advanced degrees. There are also 27 National Board Certified teachers.

- **Number of Schools:** 67 elementary; 25 middle; 16 high schools; 11 special education center; 1 adult education center; 2 virtual academies; 1 performance learning center, 1 international welcome center, 2 independent charter schools.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** Varies by school. Meets or is lower than state mandated numbers.
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,679

Coweta County School System

770-254-2800

www.cowetaschools.net

Coweta County has 22,350 students and about 2,955 employees, 55 percent of whom are certified teaching employees. 60 percent of Coweta's teachers hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 19 elementary, 6 middle, 3 high schools; 1 College and Career Academy charter school (serving grades 8-12 with a traditional and non-traditional learning models); and the school system's Donald W. Nixon Centre for the Performing and Visual Arts.
- **Pupil to teacher ratios:** Kindergarten: 20 to 1 with paraprofessional; Grades 1-3: 21 to 1; Grades 4-5: 24 to 1; Grades 6-8: 29 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,149 (FY 2015)

City Schools of Decatur

404-371-3601

www.csdecatur.net

City Schools of Decatur have 5,040 students attending nine schools. Of the district's 436 certified teachers, over 84 percent hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 9 total; 1 Pre-K; 5 Kindergarten-third; 1 fourth-fifth; 1 middle; 1 high school.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** Meets or is lower than state mandated standards.
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$11,807

DeKalb County School System

678-676-1200

www.dekalb.k12.ga.us

DeKalb County School District is the third largest school system with 102,000 students. More than 6,000 teachers in the system, about 65 percent hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 77 elementary; 19 middle; 22 high schools; 1 alternative school; 9 centers, special education and alternative schools; 10 start-up charters; 5 conversion charters.
- **Pupil to teacher ratios:** General: 27 to 1; Gifted: 16 to 1; CTAE: 24 to 1.
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,500



Cherokee County School District

Douglas County School System

770-651-2000

www.douglas.k12.ga.us

There are approximately 26,082 students attending Douglas County's 33 schools. 68 percent of the 1,938 certified employees have advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 20 elementary, 8 middle, 5 high schools; 1 performance learning center; 1 college and career institute.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** Meets or is lower than state mandated standards.
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,419

Fayette County Public Schools

770-460-3535

www.fcboe.org

Fayette County School System has 20,095 students. More than half of the 1,346 teachers have advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 14 elementary; 5 middle; 5 high schools; 1 alternative school; 1 open campus high school.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 13 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$9,145 (FY 2016)

Forsyth County Schools

770-887-2461

www.forsyth.k12.ga.us

Over 46,300 students attend Forsyth County's 37 schools. There are over 3,000 certified employees in the system, of which 75 percent have advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 21 elementary; 10 middle; 5 high schools and 1 6-12 virtual school (open to out-of-county students).
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** :20 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$7,597

Fulton County Schools

470-254-3600

www.fultonschools.org

Fulton County has more than 96,500 students and 7,000 certified staff members at 105 schools. Approximately 37 percent of the teachers hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 59 elementary (with Pre-K programs); 19 middle; 17 high schools (2 with open campuses); 10 charter schools.
- **Pupil to teacher ratios:** Kindergarten, 22 to 1; with paraprofessional; Grades 1-3, 23 to 1; Grades 4-5, 30 to 1; Middle, 30 to 1; High, 32 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$9,842

Gainesville City Schools

770-536-5275

www.gcस्क12.net

7,993 students attend Gainesville City's 7 schools. 522 teachers are employed by the system, and 58 percent of them have advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 5 elementary; 1 middle school; 1 high school
- **Pupil to teacher ratios:** Pre-K: 28 to 1; Grades K-5: 14 to 1; Grades 6-8: 16 to 1; Grades 9-12: 16 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,129

Gwinnett County Public Schools

678-301-6000

www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

With more than 179,000 students attending 139 educational facilities, Gwinnett County is the largest school system in Georgia. The average GCPS teacher holds a Master's degree and has 14 years of experience.

- **Number of Schools:** 80 elementary; 29 middle; 21 high schools; 9 other educational facilities.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** Varies by classroom, per Investing in Education (IE2) contract.
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,466

Public School Profiles

Hall County Schools

770-534-1080

www.hallco.org

There are 27,357 students and 1,980 certified staff at Hall County's 34 schools. 69 percent of the teachers have obtained advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 20 elementary; 7 middle; 7 high schools.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 18 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$7,866

Henry County Schools

770-957-6601

www.henry.k12.ga.us

There are 42,000 students and 2,960 certified teachers in Henry County Schools. 75 percent of the certified employees have advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 26 elementary; 2 conversion charter elementary schools; 11 middle; 10 high schools; 1 alternative school; 1 charter college and career academy; 1 6-12 online school (Impact Academy).
- **Pupil to teacher ratios:** Kindergarten, 24 to 1; Grades 1-3, 25 to 1; Grades 4-8, 32 to 1; Grades 9-12, 34 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$7,547

Marietta City Schools

770-422-3500

www.marietta-city.org

Some 8,900 students attend Marietta City's 11 schools, 1,200 certified employees with 75 percent of certified staff holding a Master's degree or higher.

- **Number of Schools:** 8 elementary (one is grades 3-5 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Magnet school); 1 6th grade academy; 1 middle; 1 high school.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 20 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$10,452



Gainesville City Schools

Paulding County School District

770-443-8000

www.paulding.k12.ga.us

The Paulding County School District has 34 schools, 28,902 students and 1,814 teachers. 70 percent of the teachers hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 19 elementary; 9 middle; 5 high schools; 1 alternative learning center.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 22 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,506

Rockdale County Public Schools

770-483-4713

www.rockdaleschools.org

There are 16,575 students attending Rockdale County Public Schools. Approximately 71 percent of the 1,392 certified personnel hold advanced degrees.

- **Number of Schools:** 11 elementary; 4 middle; 3 high schools; 1 career/vocational academy; 1 alpha school; 1 open campus; 1 magnet school; 11 school choice programs.
- **Pupil to teacher ratio:** 14 to 1
- **Per pupil expenditure:** \$8,863



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Special Education: Know Your Rights

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act gives all children the right to a free, public education, no matter what their disability. Knowing your rights as a parent of a child with special needs can make school a better experience for your child, his school and your family.

Parents have the right to ...

- **Request an evaluation** by the school for an educationally disabled child, and the right to view the results.
- **Decide whether** to have a child evaluated privately. This evaluation could be at the school's expense if a parent disagrees with the school's initial evaluation.
- **Refuse** to have a child evaluated by the school.
- **View all records** concerning the child and have them explained.
- **Help develop** the child's Individualized Education Plan or IEP. Someone may accompany parents to school meetings about the IEP.
- **Observe the child** in the classroom in compliance with school policy.
- **Decide to no longer** have a child receive special education services.
- **Participate in dispute resolution** through the Georgia Department of Education at no cost to resolve differences or concerns about a child's special education services.

Find a complete set of parents rights related to special education at gdoe.org/ci_exceptional.aspx

The school district is required to ...

- **Provide a free** and public education to all students, ages 3-21, with educational disabilities.
- **Evaluate a child** and hold all meetings concerning the child in the parents' native language.
- **Develop and implement an IEP** for the child if the child has an educational disability that requires specialized instruction.
- **Consult with parents** before changing the child's IEP. Parents must be informed in writing.
- **Review the child's progress** annually and re-evaluate the child's special education eligibility every three years.



Scholarships Can Help Students with Special Needs

Parents of children with disabilities should consider the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship (GSNS) Program, a school choice program available for students served under an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

If a student is eligible for the GSNS Program, a parent or guardian has the right to request a transfer from a student's current public school to another public school within or outside their school district, to one of the three state schools for the blind or deaf or to a private school.

To qualify, families must meet all of these requirements:

- **A student must have** a parent/guardian who lives in Georgia and has been a resident for at least one calendar year.
- **A student was enrolled** and completed the previous school year in a Georgia public school in grades kindergarten through 12.
- **A student was reported** as attending a Georgia public school by a school district during mandatory student counts in October and March.
- **A student must have received** special education services at some point during the previous school year through an IEP. A student must be reported by a school district in either the October or March student counts or in the final student record as a student receiving special education services.

Find out more from the Georgia Department of Education, at gdoe.org.

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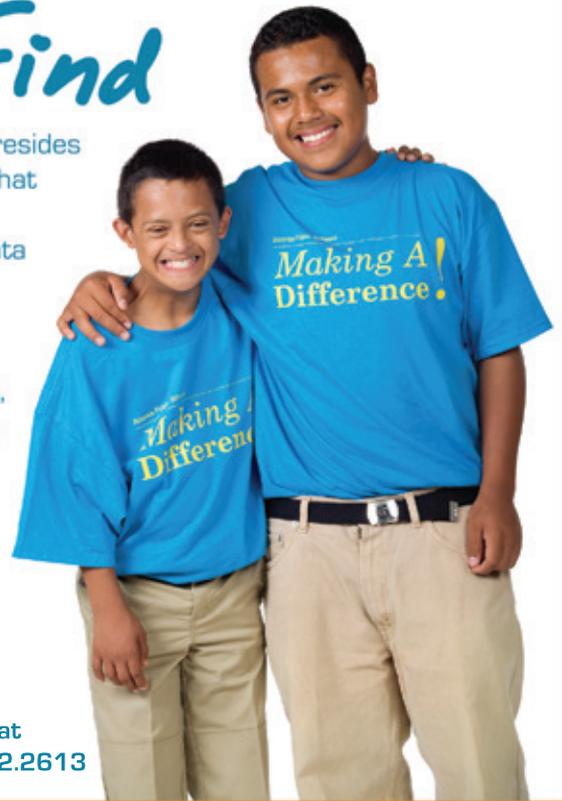
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Atlanta Public Schools Child Find

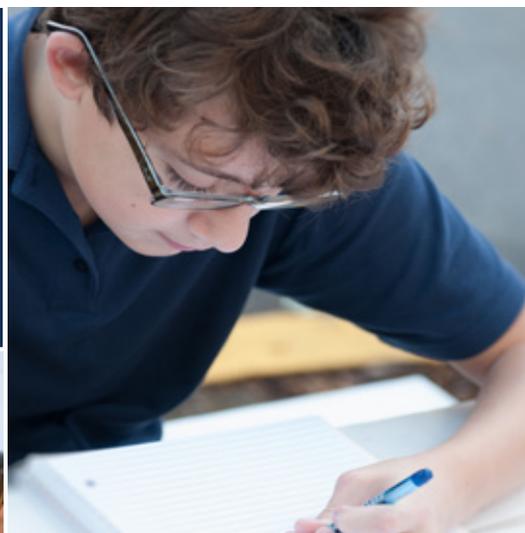
Do you know a child who resides within the city of Atlanta that may be in need of special education services? Atlanta Public Schools Child Find services can open a window of hope for a brighter future for infants, children and young adults identified with a disability or developmental delay.



For more information, call
Dept. of Special Education at
404.802.1690 or 404.802.2613



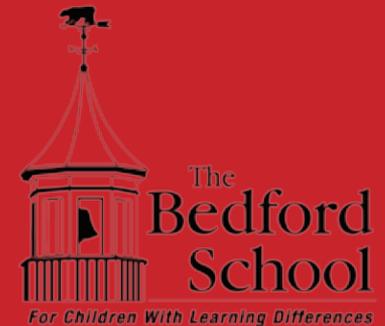
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It is the policy of the Fulton County School System not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability in any employment practice, educational program, or any other program, activity, or service.

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Spotlight on Special Needs



The Bedford School

The Bedford School is located on Milam Road in Fairburn, Georgia. The school serves children with learning disabilities in grades 1-9. Students are grouped by skill levels in classes of 12 or less. At Bedford, students receive the proper academic remediation, as well as specific remedial help with physical skills, peer interaction and self-esteem. Students must be diagnosed professionally as having specific learning disabilities. The Bedford School is based on the idea that every human being should have the opportunity to become the very best person possible. For the child with the learning disability, this is difficult without proper intervention. The goal of the school is to help each child maximize his potential through a combination of teamwork, structured materials, organized activities and a dedicated staff. Extracurricular activities include basketball, soccer, volleyball and track and field. A four-week summer program is available through Squirrel Hollow, where children can receive tutoring in the areas of Language Arts, Math and written expression in a camp-like setting. The summer program is open to students in grades 1-9 who need an academic boost. For more information, call Betsy Box at 770-774-8001 or visit the website at www.thebedfordschool.org.



Porter Academy

"We are so pleased with the progress he has made so far this year. He is beaming when he reads aloud and his confidence is soaring. He is no longer too timid to take chances and try something new. We couldn't be happier!" - Porter Academy Parent

When parents first come tour Porter Academy, many of them feel heavy with frustration, anxiety, and sadness because they have fought hard for their children, but with little success to show for their efforts. These same families, within a few months of enrollment, are able to relax and feel hopeful, knowing that their children are finally happy and learning.

The school's founder, Claudia Porter, didn't teach a curriculum, she taught a child. She knew each child's passions, strengths, and stumbling blocks. She knew that their past struggles had made them feel less...less capable, less important... and that these feelings had led many of them to resist trying. They had learned to slip through the cracks or to distract from the real problems by acting out behaviorally. Mrs. Porter knew that the first step to getting children to learn was to rebuild their self confidence and self respect. The school has grown, but the child-centered care and teaching persists, enabling each child to find joy and success in learning.

For more information, visit www.porteracademy.org or call 770-594-1313.



Children's Special Services

Since 1990 Children's Special Services, LLC has been serving children with developmental needs. Complete evaluations and screening services, seminars, consultations and IEP assistance are available.

Children's Special Services, LLC works with children experiencing Autism, PDD, ADD, ADHD, Dysgraphia, motor and sensory integrative issues, behavioral concerns, academic performance issues and more.

Susan is honored to be celebrating over 10+ years affiliation with the Goddard Crabapple School and with Learning on the Log Developmental Programs.

Her summer therapy camps are renown, having children come from as far away as Singapore, The UAE,

and Curacao. The camps are held throughout greater Atlanta. They specialize in motor, sensory, social and academic skills in a fun non-competitive environment. Her US Trademarked programs include WIN™

(Write Incredibly Now™) Handwriting Program is used in over 15 states and her social skills program POP™ (Personal Options and Preferences™) utilizes Music Therapy to help children interact and respond in novel situations.

Susan N. Schriber Orloff, OTR/L, FAOTA, Director, a former resource teacher has been an OTR for over 39 years and is the author of the book, "Learning Re-Enabled".

Visit www.childrens-services.com or call 770-394-9791.



Field Trip!

Kids often wind up at the head of their class when they explore outside the classroom. Here's how to spark their imaginations.

Plan, Plan, Plan

- **Pick a destination** that fits the area of interest you plan to explore.

Schedule the trip as far in advance as you can. Some venues offer group discounts, so ask how many you need in a group to qualify. For popular destinations, visits made early in the week will be less crowded.

- **If you're taking a group**, talk with your guide in advance to tailor the visit to your group's interests.

- **Make sure you have enough chaperones** for your group – a good ratio is one adult per five children – and make sure the chaperones know the itinerary. Have a list of each child's name and a list of the items each child should see, and they know where and when to meet if the group splits up.

- **If taking a large group**, outfitting the kids in their school shirts or fluorescent T-shirts will help chaperones keep track.

- **Before the field trip**, gather information from the destination's website, read books, watch videos or take virtual field trips. Make sure the kids have a basic knowledge of the place they'll be visiting and why they'll be there.

- **Follow the visit** with a discussion that reinforces what they saw first-hand.



One Week Ahead

- **Call the location and confirm the trip.** Make sure the directions are correct, and ask if there are routes that will avoid traffic snarls. Be sure you know where to park, particularly if you'll be arriving by bus. Set some ground rules for behavior for your group, and make sure everyone knows them – and the consequences of acting out. Decide how you'll do lunch – you'll need to make reservations in advance with the venue or a restaurant for a large group, or you might ask each child to pack a sack lunch.

– Sue Price and Amanda Miller Allen

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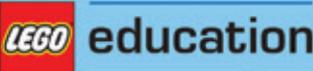
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Field Trips

A Learning Adventure

Take the family on a learning adventure in metro Atlanta to reinforce what your kids are studying in school. Here are some ideas.

Leave your neighborhood and visit different restaurants, playgrounds and malls. If you live intown, head for an unexplored suburban city, and vice-versa.

Look at the city from a different perspective – ride SkyView Atlanta’s 20-story Ferris wheel or hop on Atlanta’s Streetcar.

See the city at night instead of during the day. City lights give familiar places a new look and feel.

Visit Krispy Kreme and watch the doughnuts move on conveyor belts.

See how CNN gathers news with a behind-the-scenes tour.

Go to Zoo Atlanta with a mission.

If your child is studying Africa, for instance, identify animals that are natives, and learn one fun fact about each of them, or pick one animal and learn how it fits into Africa’s ecology.

Visit Tellus Science Museum or Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Focus on concepts such as fossils or astronomy depending on what your kids are studying. Don’t miss the traveling exhibits!

Go to a restaurant that serves ethnic food and spend the meal talking about the country that originated that style of cooking; be ready with a map and facts about the country.

Visit one of these places to learn about Atlanta’s history: Atlanta History Center, Oakland Cemetery, Cyclorama and Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site.

Tour some landmarks in your suburban city – you might be surprised at what you’ll learn about your hometown’s contribution to the growth of the metropolitan area.



Fernbank Museum



CNN



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Spotlight on Field Trips



Interactive Neighborhood for Kids!

Interactive Neighborhood for Kids is one of the best places in Northeast Georgia for a child's educational experience or event! There are several different opportunities offered to fit everyone's needs. Call today for field trip or birthday party needs.



What better place to learn and celebrate than at INK where guests can truly become the figments of their imagination. Children can role play and learn through practical experiences about being a banker, grocery store clerk, doctor, pilot and much more. All exhibits are designed to provide a unique hands-on learning environment, to actively engage young minds while having lots of fun. Everyone is a kid at INK as adults are encouraged to join in the fun for inter-generational learning.

INK is open to the general public 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. on Sundays. There is also a gift shop, annual family memberships and Paint Your Own Pottery Studio available. Group rates are available with advance reservations.

Call 770-536-1900 or visit the website www.inkfun.org to book your next event!

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Groups will be swept up in the spirit of college football with a chance to paint their faces (virtually!), show their school spirit through song, play the role of an on-camera sports broadcaster, listen to player interviews, and build their own college football program. This will be THE field trip of the year! Schedule your group today. cbfhall.com; 404-880-4841.

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It's a Match: The Right Activity for Your Child

Kids who participate in extracurricular activities gain confidence and are more likely to succeed in school, but finding the right fit for your child can be daunting. Here's how to get started.

■ **Determine your child's interests.** Younger children should be exposed to a variety of activities to see what appeals to them, while older kids can be given options such as sports, dance, music or art. Be careful not to push your own hobbies and hamper discovery of the child's talents and interests.

■ **Start the search.** Once you have narrowed down your child's interests, investigate the possibilities. Look into instructors' qualifications and history of working with children, and note whether they are licensed or certified. Look at how long the school has been in operation, how many kids are enrolled in each class, and what the student-teacher ratio is. Ask for references.

■ **Check the costs.** Make sure you understand costs up front. Determine the length and cost of each class, and what is covered by the fee. Before enrolling, you may want to ask whether the teacher has a cancellation or withdrawal fee. Consider extra expenses such as costumes and gear – are they provided or available to rent?

■ **Attend a class.** One of the best ways to determine whether a program is a good fit is to watch a class. Notice whether the teacher gives individual attention to each student, whether he communicates clearly, and whether he offers both positive and constructive remarks. Make sure you know what level of involvement is required for parents and ask how students are evaluated.

■ **Be thorough.** Don't choose a program just because it's closest to your home. Classes are more than just fun for your child – they stimulate creativity, build self esteem and provide educational benefits.

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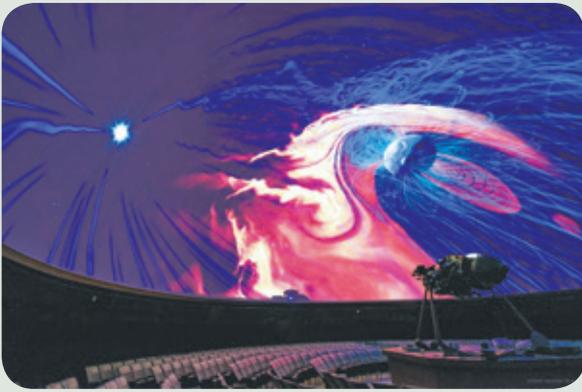
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