

ANNUNCIATION

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Annunciation Catholic School Admissions and Inclusion Policy

Philosophy

Annunciation Catholic School fosters each child's potential to create a better world through faith, virtue, knowledge and service to others. We are devoted to nurturing the development of the whole child in an open, inquisitive and respectful learning environment. We aim to affirm and respect the diversity and uniqueness of each individual. Inclusion is an ongoing, whole school process that aims to remove the barriers to learning and is fostered by a "culture of collaboration, mutual respect, support and problem solving."

It is the policy of Annunciation school to comply with federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination. Annunciation strives to provide an environment in which students are able to realize their full potential. Sexual/racial/religious harassment, in any form or degree, is destructive of such a favorable environment and will not be tolerated.

Modifications and Interventions

Annunciation school recognizes that a variety of learning styles exist within its student body. To effectively meet the academic and social emotional needs of our students, Annunciation utilizes a variety of researched based educational strategies. These include, but are not limited to: differentiated instruction, mini-lessons, small group work, group projects, one-to-one teacher instruction, math manipulatives, hands-on lessons, leveled reading, and supplemental software programs. Our phonics program used in K-3 is based on the science of reading and includes progress monitoring and intervention for students based on need.

Annunciation middle school offers accelerated math pathways and a semester long STEM class for students. Elementary students are offered a Math-in-Action problem solving program. First through 5th graders are encouraged to use Dreambox Math to accelerate and support math growth.

Annunciation School provides a system to support students in need of mild to moderate interventions. The additional support that students need may be provided by classroom teachers, support staff, public school district services, family-provided private services or a combination of supports.

Technology

Annunciation emphasizes technology across the curriculum and grade levels-including one to one chromebook program in middle school, chromebook and ipad carts available to our elementary students and access to a STEM lending library. Each year we add additional STEM resources.

Other Services

A learning specialist is the main point of contact with Minneapolis Public Schools Special Education. The learning specialist also writes learning plans and provides reading intervention. Additional staff provide assistance with reading intervention and supervising special education sessions currently provided remotely.

Annunciation contracts with Phoenix Counseling to provide counseling services for students who need additional support. Teachers can refer students to the counselor based on needs observed in the classroom or at the request of parents.

Annunciation has a sensory room for students who may need an occasional break from the classroom environment.

Reasonable Adjustments

Annunciation Catholic School strives to address and make appropriate adjustments for diverse learning needs, but in some cases it may not be feasible. If the system does not have the resources to address the need, if an appropriate education requires more than the minimal adjustments, if the student seriously disrupts other students' learning, or if the student puts the safety of staff or other students at risk, enrollment may be terminated. In such cases, we will try to assist families in finding appropriate alternatives so that the student's needs are ultimately met.

Parents as Partners

We recognize that parents and guardians are the primary educators of their children. With that in mind, we are committed to frequent communication including progress reports, report cards, emails and conferences.

Admissions

Annunciation School uses a continual enrollment model. Current students will be automatically re-enrolled unless a family contacts us by the end of January for the following school year. There will be a \$200 non-refundable registration fee per family. Families will still need to complete registration each year in TADS to confirm their enrollment and set up their tuition agreement.

During open enrollment (November 1st-January 10th) priority is given to returning students. Following open enrollment, registration will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Annunciation School administration will make the final determination regarding the enrollment of new students. Enrollment projections will be reviewed by the Annunciation School Council.

In Minnesota, children will be eligible to attend Kindergarten when they are five years old on or before September 1st of the calendar year that school starts. We feel that a child must be ready academically, socially and emotionally to have a positive first experience in school.

Annunciation assists families in providing a Catholic education for their children by means of need-based tuition grants through the Help-A-Student Fund.

Bibliography

1. Annunciation School Handbook, 2021.
2. Lakewood Catholic Academy Inclusion Policy.
3. *What is Inclusion?* The IB Community Blog, August 26, 2016.