

Trinity Nursery School

PHILOSOPHY

Trinity Nursery School is committed to being a Christian program with a developmentally appropriate approach.

Trinity's goal throughout each area of the center is to help establish the foundation for each child's relationship with Jesus Christ, the church, and the people of God. We want each child to experience at their own level the Christian life. We love each child and trust that they also will learn to love. We present ourselves to the children as trustworthy and dependable. We are committed to helping them learn to trust and grow in faith.

What does developmentally appropriate mean? Developmentally appropriate is defined in two parts: age appropriateness and individual appropriateness. Age appropriateness refers to the fact that predictable sequences of growth and change occur in the physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and cognitive development of children. This knowledge is used as a framework to prepare environments and learning experiences. It is essential to quality care.

Individual appropriateness takes into consideration that each child has an individual timing of growth and an individual personality, learning style, and family background. Quality care includes curriculum and adult interactions that are responsive to and supportive of these differences. At the same time, experiences offered need to match children's developing abilities, challenge their interest, and foster interaction with materials, ideas, and people.

We value a philosophy of child development that recognizes

a respect for the uniqueness of each child's growth patterns, a broad definition of a child's cognitive, social, spiritual and physical needs, the importance of constructive, supportive and honest feedback, the understanding of one's own strengths, weaknesses and preferences, the significance of a child's self-confidence and the courage to take different paths when Trinity Nursery School cannot meet a child's special needs.

We value a teaching environment that fosters

the kind of place where children want to be, a comfortable and nurturing atmosphere, the excitement, challenge and joy of learning aesthetics and beauty appropriate to children, and a willingness to assess and take risks.

We value a process of education that allows for

making connections and integration of knowledge, experimental learning, teacher-directed learning, the ability to think critically, the stimulation of new ideas, the setting of age appropriate standards and goals, and a balance between independent creativity and structured learning.

We value a curriculum that includes.

each child's learning of the core skills, an understanding of individual learning skills, the opportunity to maximize each child's potential, working and learning in groups, material that is meaningful to the child, context which utilizes the strengths and interest of teachers, flexibility of approach, resources, scheduling and content, time for creative and performing arts, and preparation for the future.

We value parents, faculty and staff who support

the integrity and acceptance of each individual, open communication between home and school, a partnership in learning, and the idea that all children and adults continue to learn.

We value a school community that believes in

respect, thoughtfulness and empathy for others, fostering of responsibilities for self and for others, a broad diversity of backgrounds among students and teachers, the concepts of democracy in the governance of the school, teachers as role models, working together cooperatively, and an awareness of our role in the larger community.

And above all, we value the love of God for all

men, and women, and most of all the children.