

# **Early Learners Program**

(Age 3 before September 1)

Our Early Learners Program is designed to foster wonder, exploration, and discovery while integrating more structured learning time focused on developing the habits necessary for school readiness and life. Nature exploration and play are central components to our program, influenced by Charlotte Mason's approach to classical education and emphasizing a love of learning and engaging both mind and heart.

The environment is critical to our students' learning, and we strive to build a harmonious and beautiful classroom in which children can thrive. Students learn the building blocks of both math and literacy as they explore patterns, numbers and shapes in the area of mathematics and learn the pre-reading skills and initial letter sound correspondence in the area of literacy. Story, rhymes, Bible stories and songs are threaded throughout the day and students spend time outdoors on our beautiful property engaging in nature studies and enjoying the created world.

## Habits:

We emphasize the importance of building habits within our academic setting in order to equip students both for their studies and for their lives. Students work on embodying different habits, including the "habit of attention" by providing

them with the opportunity to listen attentively without interrupting. We instruct students on the "habit of orderliness" by teaching how to practice self-control, and how to take care of their belongings. We train our students in "the habit of courtesy" by teaching classroom manners, eye contact, taking-turns and modeling how to work with others.

List of Habits		
Truthfulness Attention	Joy Thankfulness	
Respect for persons	Kindness	
and property  Good humor	Making way for elders Cleanliness	
Patience	Unselfishness	
Humility Helpfulness	Manners	
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# **Multiage Experiences:**

Our Early Learning program exists within Saint George Classical Academy, a K-10 classical school in Boxford. Our early learners benefit from the multiage model where they begin their day in morning assembly with students of all ages, as well as eat, read, and play outdoors with older students. Such multi-age experiences build confidence, social sophistication, and communication skills that are incredibly important to their development.

### Community Outreach:

Located in the heart of Boxford, our students are part of their larger community. Visits to the post office, the fire station, and the Council on Aging have all been incorporated into the lives of our students here at Saint George. Students also learn sign-language in partnership with the Council on Aging.

#### Modern Greek:

Through song, poetry, and games, students begin their foundational learning of Greek. Our students receive instruction in foundational speaking skills from a native Greek speaker twice each week. As students progress beyond our Early Learning program, they continue to receive language instruction in Greek throughout their elementary and secondary education.

#### Music:

Music is woven into the fabric of the school at every level. Our students begin their days in song during morning assembly, they continue singing as they learn nursery rhymes and early literacy skills, and they also receive formal music instruction from our wonderful music teacher, Mr. Hartford, twice each week. Not only does music bring joy to their lives, our music education sets the habits and rhythms for students to develop their musical capacities through rhythm, audiation, musical instruments, and movement. Our students begin playing violin in kindergarten with lessons built into the school day.

### **Physical Education:**

In addition to going on nature walks, exploring the woods, and playing in the snow, our Early Learners have a weekly gymnastics class. Through movement, stretching, and dance, students develop foundational coordination, agility, strength, balance, and confidence that they will be able to apply within their lives as they physically develop and begin to explore games and sports.

#### Our Christian Faith:

The ancient Orthodox Christian faith sets the rhythms for the life of our school. Students pray during morning meetings and throughout the day,

read bible stories, learn about saints who demonstrate important virtues, and celebrate the feast days of the church calendar. The liturgical calendar brings a rhythm to the life of our school and our Early Learning program that is beautiful and elevating, while providing both structure and variety to their school experience.

## Parent Partnership:

The education of a child is truly the work of the family. When you send your child to school, you make a decision to choose a school that embodies the faith, values, and experiences that you are nurturing within your home. When the school and the family partner in the formation of a child, the child's daily experiences are in harmony and they develop an integrated sense of self. We value the relationships we establish with our families and reinforce these relationships through transparency, regular communication, including multiple parent conferences, and community events. We work with parents as collaborators as we develop the habits, skills, and virtues of each and every child.

We welcome you and your family to visit Saint George Classical Academy and learn more about our Early Learning program. Schedule a tour with Head of School, Juliana Joyce. juliana.joyce@stgca.org

# Saint George Classical Academy

Located on the property of
First Church Congregational Boxford
4 Georgetown Rd.
Boxford, MA 01921
(978)- 209- 6890
www.stgca.org

Early Learners: Age 3 before Sept 1	Tuition
5 Full Days	\$15,000
5 Half Days	\$11,000
4 Full Days	\$13,500
4 Half Days	\$10,000
3 Full Days	\$11,800
3 Half Days	\$9,000
2 Full Days	\$9,200
2 Half Days	\$6,500
Half Day extension daily rate	\$30 per day

# **Tuition Payment Options:**

- 2 payment option: July 1 and December 1
- 10 payment option: due July 1- April 1 (\$55 fee per student)

## Financial Aid and Tuition:

Tuition levels are set to create a healthy school environment that nurtures a rich experience for children. We desire to admit students and families whose commitments align with the educational commitments of the school regardless of financial situation. We encourage you to apply for financial assistance, should tuition rates be an inhibiting factor.

# Extended Day: 3:00- 5:00 daily

All students may access our Extended Day program available from 3:00 until 5:00pm. Families may pick-up any time during this window. Prices listed are per child for the academic year.

5-Days: \$3,750 4-Days: \$2,400 3-Days: \$2,250 2-Days: \$1,500 1-day: \$750

Drop-in fee: \$30/day