

The mission of TLS is to provide a challenging internationally-focused education within a Christian environment that nurtures the development of the whole child.

Trinity Lutheran School, founded on February 1, 1960, by Pastor and Mrs. Elmer Bosserman of Trinity Lutheran Church, emphasizes the lifelong learning process, the development of the whole child, and the growth of worldwide intercultural awareness and understanding, all within the framework provided by a values-based moral compass. The school is currently Hampton Roads' only private International Baccalaureate World School, offering the Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP) and is accredited by AdvancED.

Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Trinity Lutheran School operates under a board of directors and a head of school. The Board of Directors, comprised of members from the school community, active members of Trinity Lutheran Church, and the community at large, is responsible for the direction of the school by establishing policies, creating a long range plan and maintaining Trinity Lutheran School's mission. The head of school's responsibilities include supervising daily operations, implementing policies, and upholding Trinity's academic standards.

Trinity Lutheran School is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, which admits academically qualified students without regard to gender, race, color, religion, and national or ethnic origin.

Trinity Lutheran School
6812 River Road
Newport News, Virginia 23607
www.trinitynn.com

Preschool

Phone: 757.247.0814

School Hours

8:15 AM – 12:00 PM
Monday through Friday

Extended Care

Available 6:30 AM – 7:55 AM;
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Dress Code Optional

Kindergarten – Eighth Grade

Phone: 757.245.2576

Fax: 757.245.4111

School Hours

8:15 AM – 2:45 PM
Monday through Friday

Extended Care

Available 6:30 AM – 7:55 AM;
2:45 PM – 6:00 PM

Dress Code Compulsory

Accredited by AdvancED.

Hampton Roads' only private International Baccalaureate World School offering the Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP).

Affiliated with Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Social Services licenses Trinity Lutheran's Preschool and Extended Care programs.

Trinity Lutheran School has a Four-Star rating from Preschool Partners of the Virginia Peninsula.

Trinity Lutheran School offers admission to academically qualified students without regard to gender, race, color, religion, and national or ethnic origin.

Trinity Lutheran School welcomes inquiries at any time during the school year. For families interested in enrolling for the following school year, winter and spring are the ideal times to send applications and visit the school.

Preschool Criteria

The admissions process begins with submitting an application and a non-refundable application fee. An admissions test is not required. All three-year-old preschool students must be toilet trained and turn three by September 30. All four-year-old pre-kindergarten students must be four years of age by September 30. Each family must provide a copy of their child's current immunization record and physical examination.

Kindergarten Criteria

The admissions process begins with submitting an application and a non-refundable application fee. Successful completion and score on a nationally recognized assessment is required. Students must be five years of age by September 30. Each family must provide a copy of their child's current immunization record and physical examination.

Grades 1 – 8 Criteria

The admissions process begins with submitting an application and a non-refundable application fee. Successful completion and score on a nationally recognized assessment is required. A copy of the student's transcript(s) and standardized test scores are also required. In addition, a student interview and/or references may be required. Each family must provide a copy of their child's current immunization record and physical examination.

Enrollment Process

Upon completion of the application and entrance requirements, necessary enrollment forms, and payment of fees, prospective students will be officially enrolled for the upcoming school year. Decisions are not final for any student until all of the required documents are received and reviewed by the school. Enrollment is based on a first come, first serve basis. Waiting lists will be maintained once classroom numbers have been reached until there are sufficient numbers to open a new section.

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes.”

—Marcel Proust

INTRODUCTION

Trinity Lutheran School is currently Hampton Roads’ only private International Baccalaureate World School offering the Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP). An IBPYP school strives to develop internationally minded people through teaching and modeling the Learner Profile. Students are taught *why* they should know something and *how* it connects to other subjects and the real world. This is achieved through high quality instruction and learning.

LEARNER PROFILE

The cornerstone of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program® is the Learner Profile. The learner profile are qualities determined to be the most important in creating positive productive citizens of the world—inquirers, thinkers, communicators, courageous, knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, balanced, and reflective.

IB ATTITUDES

The IB Attitudes are the daily expressions of the Learner Profile, used by teachers in their teaching and by students in their learning. They include—appreciation, commitment, confidence, cooperation, creativity, curiosity, empathy, enthusiasm, independence, integrity, respect, and tolerance.

TRANSDISCIPLINARY THEMES

The term *transdisciplinary* is used to describe a concept that is interconnected and can be applied across all subjects and applied to real life; it stretches across math, science, language arts, and social studies and ties it together. Six transdisciplinary themes provide the framework for exploration and construction of knowledge: *Who We Are, Where We Are in Place and Time, How We Express Ourselves, How the World Works, How We Organize Ourselves, and Sharing the Planet.*

CONCEPTS

There are eight fundamental concepts that drive the inquiry process of learning. They are FORM (What is it like?); FUNCTION (How does it work?); CAUSATION (Why is it like it is?); CHANGE (How is it changing?); CONNECTION (How is it connected to other things?); PERSPECTIVE (What are the points of view?); REFLECTION (How do we know?); and RESPONSIBILITY (What is our responsibility?).

SKILLS

Correlating with the six themes, there are five fundamental transdisciplinary skills acquired in the process of structured inquiry: *Thinking, communication, social, research, and self-management.*

ACTION

Trinity Lutheran School students demonstrate a deeper sense of understanding by applying their knowledge to *reflect, to make informed decisions, and to take positive action.*

“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”

—Mark Van Doren

Trinity Lutheran Preschool incorporates valuable lessons into every experience. Every experience is an opportunity to acquire skills—mathematical, logic, communication, artistic, musical, and social. Trinity Lutheran Preschool’s curriculum is designed to meet the needs of the whole child in an environment that promotes self-confidence, independence, creative thinking, and social interaction. Through the Preschool Partners of the Virginia Peninsula, Trinity Lutheran Preschool has earned a four-star rating from the Virginia Star Quality Initiative. The Virginia Star Quality Initiative defines standards for early childhood education and creates a framework for accountability. Trinity Lutheran Preschool is also an integral part of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP) initiative.

The Three-year-old Program utilizes a curriculum that focuses on exploration, discovery and exciting adventures; children are prepared to learn as they learn best—through the joy of experience itself. There is a low teacher-student ratio. All three-year-old preschool students must be toilet trained and turn three by September 30. There is an option of 3 or 5 day program.

The Four-year-old Program, known as pre-kindergarten, is a five-day-a-week morning program, designed to prepare students for the academic and social requirements of Trinity Lutheran School’s kindergarten program. Kindergarten math and modern manuscript writing are taught. A language-enriched environment emphasizes pre-reading skills. There is a low teacher-student ratio. All four-year-old pre-kindergarten students must be four years of age by September 30.

Classroom Activities include learning centers, resource classes (music, physical education, foreign language, and library), weekly chapel, guest speakers, community service projects, and multi-cultural holiday celebrations. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in preschool activities.

Student Evaluation

Academic and developmental progress is evaluated twice during the school year for three-year-olds and three times during the school year for four-year-olds using the Pre-Kindergarten Skills Checklist. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Social and Emotional (ASQ-SE) is used to screen the cognitive and emotional growth of the preschool learner.

Facilities

The Preschool occupies an independent building that provides a home-like atmosphere featuring four classrooms, a fully equipped kitchen, and an age appropriate playground for our students.

The Dress Code is optional for Trinity Lutheran Preschool students.

“The purpose of ... kindergarten is to teach children a rich, meaningful, and balanced curriculum of skills and information through age-appropriate activities that encourage the children to want to learn more.”

--Jean Marzollo

Trinity Lutheran School's kindergarten program is designed as a bridge between preschool and Trinity Lutheran School's lower school. The kindergarten program nurtures and supports each child's natural desire to learn and succeed by creating individual goals for each learner as well as having broader goals for all kindergarten learners. These goals focus on children building strong pre-reading skills, practicing letter formation, enhancing listening and communication skills, getting an introduction to basic math concepts, and acquiring an active interest in the world.

The kindergarten curriculum includes seven main subject areas: language arts (oral language, listening, writing, and reading), social studies, science, math, art, music, and physical education. These subject areas are integrated through the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP). Singapore Math, the #1 math program internationally for the past 3 decades is offered in K – 5 at Trinity. *SuperKids* is a comprehensive core reading program that is research-based, built on systematic phonics; the program balances essential elements of reading and integrates writing, spelling, and grammar.

Other Classroom Activities include learning centers, resource classes (music, physical education, foreign language, and library), weekly chapel, guest speakers, community service projects, and multi-cultural holiday celebrations. The kindergarten and third grade classes collaborate in a “Reading Buddy” mentorship program.

Admission Requirements

Prospective students enrolling in kindergarten must be five by September 30 of the upcoming school year and score satisfactorily on the Slosson Kindergarten Readiness Test (KRT).

Student Evaluation

Academic and developmental progress is evaluated using the Kindergarten Skills Checklist, Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS), scoring rubrics, formative assessments, and summative assessment such as Stanford Achievement Test.

Facilities

The Kindergarten is located in the newest wing of our school offering bright, airy classroom spaces.

The Dress Code is compulsory for Kindergarten students.

“Education is not filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

—William Butler Yeats

The Lower School comprises grades first through fifth. The development of essential skills for academic excellence lies at the foundation of the curriculum in the formative elementary grades. The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP) provides a framework for instruction through Units of Inquiry (please see the IBPYP insert). The **core curriculum** includes language arts, mathematics, science, reading, spelling, and social studies.

Teachers adapt instruction to the specific needs of each class and find many opportunities for interdisciplinary study. Singapore Math, the #1 math program internationally for the past 3 decades is offered in K – 5 at Trinity. *SuperKids* is a research-based comprehensive core reading program built on systematic phonics; the program balances essential elements of reading and integrates writing, spelling, and grammar. Field trips, guest speakers, and special programs are frequent additions to the Lower School program. Curriculum-related trips utilize the academic, cultural, and natural resources available in our region.

The nurturing environment at the core of our preschool and kindergarten continues in the Lower School.

Resources

Students broaden their academic experience through various scheduled resource classes. They include art, Spanish, music, technology, library, health, and physical education.

Student Evaluation

Homework notebooks, weekly folders, report cards, and conferences are some of the means used to keep parents apprised of a student’s overall success. Portfolios and rubrics reflect the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme® (IBPYP) philosophy of student assessment. Academic performance is assessed on a nine-week grading schedule with interim reports issued where academic concerns exist during each grading period. All Lower School grades take the Stanford Achievement Test Series, 10th Edition.

The Dress Code is compulsory for Lower School students.

A variety of organized student activities provide students the opportunity to further their academic, emotional, social, and cultural development. They include Student Council Association (SCA), Safety Patrol, class plays, Reading Buddies, and other community service projects.

Athletics

Beginning in fifth grade, students are eligible to participate on sports teams. Fall sports include girls’ volleyball, co-ed soccer, boys’ and girls’ cross country, and cheerleading. Winter sports include boys’ and girls’ basketball and cheerleading. Spring sports include boys’ baseball and girls’ softball. Trinity Lutheran School is a member of the Peninsula Independent Athletic League (PIAL).

Chapel

Students attend chapel each Wednesday. There are monthly recognitions for Values of the Month and Birthday Blessings. *Lessons and Carols*, a long-standing Trinity tradition, is presented by the students each Christmas season.

“Our species is young and curious and brave and shows much promise.”

—Carl Sagan

The middle school years are a period of important and exciting transitions in a child’s life. Trinity Lutheran School’s Middle School offers a curriculum designed to prepare students for continued academic success in both private and public secondary schools. Trinity’s middle school students acquire a strong base of cross-curricular knowledge while benefitting from a nurturing Christian environment. Using critical thinking, analysis, and appropriate problem solving techniques, students communicate effectively in both oral and written expression, using insight, reason, and technical proficiency; they read, understand, and interpret information effectively from a variety of sources and mediums.

Students are encouraged to work both independently and collaboratively in order to complete tasks in a timely manner. They use technology to find, sort, and select data, to create, revise and present written and graphic documents, and to analyze and process numerical data. Students develop positive personal attitudes and experience a variety of physical activities for lifelong wellness. They demonstrate awareness and sensitivity to those of other cultures and ethnic backgrounds.

Middle School students move toward increased independence by setting and achieving meaningful goals, keeping track of their assignments, and studying independently. The Middle School program provides students with opportunities to explore and expand interests and talents, with organized sports teams, outdoor programs, and an array of extra-curricular opportunities.

Student Evaluation

Academic performance is assessed on a nine-week grading schedule, with interim reports issued where academic concerns exist during each grading period. Cumulative examinations are given at the end of each semester for high school credited courses. Students in all middle school grades take the Stanford Achievement Test Series, 10th Edition.

The Dress Code is compulsory for Middle School students.

Student activities are a vital aspect of Trinity student life. The TLS National Junior Honor Society, chartered in 2002, recognizes students for academic achievement and community service. Eighth graders participate in programs to fulfill required community service hours. Student-driven service organizations, such as Middle School Student Council Association and NJHS, designate a variety of service projects. Projects include canned food drives, Coats for Kids, PORT, Toys for Tots, and Relay for Life are cornerstones supporting Trinity’s mission to the community. School dances, field trips, plays, spirit days, and sports clinics, are some of the highlights of student life. The graduating eighth grade class takes part in an annual spring trip.

Athletics

Middle school students are eligible to participate on sports teams. Fall sports include girls’ volleyball, co-ed soccer, boys’ and girls’ cross country, and cheerleading. Winter sports include boys’ and girls’ basketball and cheerleading. Spring sports include boys’ baseball and girls’ softball. Trinity Lutheran School is a member of the Peninsula Independent Athletic League (PIAL).

Chapel

Students attend chapel each Wednesday. There are monthly recognitions for Values of the Month and Birthday Blessings. *Lessons and Carols*, a long-standing tradition, is presented by the students each Christmas season.