

# VILLAGE SCHOOL

Individual Achievement for  
all Students



# WHERE LAUGHTER AND LEARNING GO HAND IN HAND



ACES Village School provides collaborative educational, emotional, and physical services to children ages 3 to 14 years with a range of cognitive, physical, behavioral, language, and medical challenges. Village School celebrates the diversity of our student population through innovative and individualized instruction. We strive to increase student independence and welcome our community and parents as partners.

We provide a comprehensive program with inclusive services. Related services include speech, physical, occupational, and music therapies as well as social, nursing, and behavior services. The multi-disciplinary teams of educators, therapists, and medical personnel work collaboratively to provide empirically-based instruction in academics, behavior, speech/language development, and play/social skills.

A developmental curriculum was designed to meet the individual needs of students and to access the essence of the general K-12 curriculum. This curriculum, in conjunction with state standards, is used by faculty to design and implement instruction to address the wide range of learners within the Village School population. This gives us the ability to offer a continuum of services to children and their families. Objective, skill-based assessments are used together with other information to appropriately place students in the most suitable instructional context.

## Early Childhood

Our Early Childhood section provides quality educational and social experiences for all developmentally challenged students from 3 to 7 years. Emphasis is placed on fostering language and communication skills through a total communication approach. The learning process is facilitated through a variety of approaches, such as direct instruction, play-based context, inquiry based, or discovery learning opportunities.

Students within this program have the opportunity to participate in integrated activities with typical youngsters. The environment offers a full spectrum of learning experiences from teacher-directed to child-initiated activities. Such activities include field trips, classroom projects, special events and more. Specialized equipment is provided to offer students the opportunity to be full and active participants of their classrooms. The structure and variety of offerings helps to stimulate children's learning and serves to meet their physical, social, cognitive, and emotional needs.



*"When I approach a child, he inspires me in two sentiments; tenderness for what he is, and respect for what he may become."*

Louise Pasteur

## Village Elementary/Middle

This program services children between the ages of 7 – 14 years. In addition to its academic mission, the program focuses on fostering independence through authentic learning opportunities within the classroom environments and the community. Using the whole child approach, transdisciplinary teams of professionals provide collaborative services that emphasize the academic, linguistic, and social development of students to meet their individual needs. After objectively identifying students' strengths, individualized educational programs are designed, capitalizing on those strengths to produce optimal educational experiences.

Professionals use a wide range of curricular materials and designs to address our varied learners. Total communication approaches and assistive technology are integrated into the students' educational experiences. Instruction may be delivered individually or in small groups, depending on students' learning style.

Both formal and informal means are used to keep abreast of students' needs. For example, team meetings and scheduled casings are held so that staff can share ideas, resources, and techniques, as well as current medical, educational, and social histories. Parent conferences, daily communication notebooks, newsletters, and workshops are other ways through which staff communicate with families.

## Related Services

Transdisciplinary teams comprised of a full complement of therapists provide services to the students. Related services available include speech, physical, and occupational therapies, nursing, and behavioral services. The ACES Village School Social Work Department provides comprehensive school-based mental health services to students with a variety of disabilities. The Social Work Department offers social skills groups, typical peer integration and animal assisted therapy to students who can benefit from these types of services. A collaborative approach is utilized to develop skills in these areas, which allows students greater access and participation within their environments.

Service delivery models may range from individual to group work at the discretion of the therapists, educational team, and evaluation. Related services are integrated across educational environments.

## Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI)

ACES EIBI is a highly structured approach to teaching based on well-studied principals of human learning and designed primarily for young children (ranging from three to 14 years of age) whose clinical diagnoses fall along the autism spectrum and/or who present significant behavioral challenges.

The ACES EIBI program is based on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and staffed by a trans-disciplinary team working collaboratively to assess individual student needs and develop optimal individualized instructional programming. This comprehensive approach, together with a strong commitment to work with parents and families, provides the ACES EIBI students the best hope of developing to their fullest potential.

## Enhanced Programming

Additional opportunities to enrich the educational experiences of students include:

- Music Therapy
- Physical Education
- Equipment Design Clinic
- Aqua Therapy
- Assistive Technology
- Sibshops
- Family Fun Nights

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**[www.aces.org/schools/village](http://www.aces.org/schools/village)**

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