

Is Private School Right for Your Child?

The question of “how to educate your child” is one of the most important that any parent may ask. No two children are the same, and everyone learns a bit differently. However, as public schools continue to work through new and evolving testing standards, uncertain annual budgets, larger class sizes and other challenges, parents may be finding themselves wondering what alternatives may be available for their children.

Taking on the expense of a private school education is not something everyone can do. While many public schools do an excellent job of educating students, the benefits of a private education can still far outweigh the costs. **St. John's Lutheran School in Winston-Salem** is sensitive to the budget dilemmas that families face, and has made a private school education more accessible as a result.



Tuition is Affordable

Tuition costs are often the biggest barrier for parents when considering private school. The national average for a private school education in the U.S. is somewhere between \$12,000 and \$14,000 per year. And while tuition in this range may not be an option for many, there are more affordable alternatives, such as St. John's Lutheran School.

“St. John's is really an incredible value,” Baldwin says. “Our yearly tiered tuition structure is pretty simple . . . kindergarten is \$3,000, first grade is \$4,000, second grade is \$4,500, and third grade through eighth grade is \$5,000. That's it. And if, after you're here, you refer people who enroll, we take \$500 off your tuition payment for every child that enrolls from your referrals.”

Advantages of a St. John's Education

“A major advantage to private education is that your child will likely be challenged to a higher academic standard, and that is certainly true at our school,” says Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations for St. John's Lutheran School in Winston-Salem. “And with smaller class sizes, students get more focused attention from their teachers.” In addition to the quality of academics at St. John's, many activities, such as community services projects and the arts, are not extracurricular, but are required as part of the curriculum.

“While academics are the most critical part of our day, to make the best learners and leaders, our goal is to expose our students to experiences that also develop critical-thinking skills,” Baldwin says. “Just having knowledge isn't enough. Putting learning into action makes it stick.”



In the interest of giving students the most advantages, private school can be an attractive option. Private schools can reduce worries about safety, increase a child's exposure to taking more responsibility for their actions, offer reduced class sizes, and offer a challenging and creative environment for high academic achievement. In many cases, a private school can prove to be much more than that, providing a community environment for the family and special opportunities that a child would not have otherwise. And when it is time for high school and higher education, students with private school backgrounds may feel better prepared to handle the increased rigors that are ahead of them. At St. John's Lutheran School, many unique opportunities are available – participation in community service projects, sports programs, visual arts, theater productions, chorus and chapel services.

“At St. John's our mission is simple, but it has a huge impact on our students. Our goal is to create life-long learners by helping students discover their God-given potential, by working to develop integrity of character and strength of body, and by generating service opportunities that put faith into action. It's not something you can get just anywhere,” Baldwin says.

St. John's Lutheran School is conveniently located at 2415 Silas Creek Parkway in Winston-Salem. Call (336) 725-1651, or visit StJohnsFalcons.org.



St. John's
Lutheran School

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Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade School & Middle School

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