

Our winning combination: Involved parents, caring teachers and energetic students. Good Shepherd Episcopal School provides opportunities for every child to achieve academic excellence while developing his or her personal talents, self-discipline and character. If you are looking for an affordable, quality education in an environment that supports Christian values, this is the school for you! Good Shepherd Episcopal School offers the following attributes:

- Virginia Association of Independent School (VAIS) accreditation
- Small class sizes; low teacher-student ratio
- Weekly chapel services
- Curriculum enhanced by Spanish, art, music, library, science lab and computer technology programs
- Strong community service focus
- Before and after school care program with study hall and special extra curricular activities

Building Character...One Child at a Time

Good Shepherd Episcopal School (GSES) provides excellent preparation for your child in a fully accredited school with high standards and common values.

GSES is...

Early Childhood (Pre-K, JK)

- A caring, loving family atmosphere
- Nurtures both child and parent through language acquisition and pre-reading skills

Lower School (K–5th)

- Small community where everyone is known
- Develops the character to know and act upon right and wrong
- Extend sharing through high academic expectations
- Receive individualized attention to learning

Middle School (6th–8th)

- Extend character education into interactions with the broader community
- Investigate and make one's personal commitment to life-long intellectual endeavors
- Gain personal accountability, independence, and interdependence for future success in high school, college and beyond

Applications for the 2009-2010 school year are due January 15, 2009. After January 15th, we have a rolling admissions process based on qualified applicants and availability. Enrollment during the current school year is available based on qualified applicants and availability.

The enrollment process begins once a completed student application is submitted with the \$50 (non-refundable) application fee. Upon receipt of the application, transcripts and teacher recommendations from former schools applicants are invited to visit GSES. During the school visits, applicants will participate in regular school activities and complete academic assessments. (All assessment fees are included in the application fee.)

Good Shepherd Episcopal School offers a quality education to students regardless of race, color and national or ethnic origin.

TUITION AND FEES FOR 2009-2010

Pre-Kindergarten (Age 3+) and Junior Kindergarten (Age 4*) – \$3,950

- Five (5) days per week
- 8:15 A.M.–12:00 Noon

Full-Day Junior Kindergarten (Age 5*) – \$5,950

- 8:15 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

+Must meet age requirement by June 30th.

**Must meet age requirement by September 30th.*

Lower School (Grades K–5th) – \$6,950

- 8:15 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Middle School (Grades 6th–8th) – \$7,450

- 8:15 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Financial Aid

Applications for financial aid may be requested from the Admissions Director and are due April 1st. Financial aid is awarded by need and is only offered for Kindergarten thru 8th grade. A student may qualify for a discount or financial aid, whichever is greater.

Fees

- A \$50 application fee is charged for each prospective student. This fee is non-refundable and does not ensure acceptance.
- A \$500 non-refundable deposit, per child, will be expected to accompany the signed contract(s). This is credited toward the cost of tuition.
- An instructional support fee of \$325, per child, will be assessed; \$162.30 for Pre-K and JK(4) families.

Discounts

A sibling discount is available for families with more than one child enrolled in Kindergarten–8th grade:
\$750 – 2nd child \$750 – 3rd child \$750 – 4th child

Discounts do not apply to Pre-K or Junior Kindergarten. A parishioner discount is available for members of The Church of the Good Shepherd (15%).

Payment Options

Pay in Full: Pay tuition in full by June 1, 2009 or within 30 days of receipt of contract, and receive a 3% discount.

FACTS Payment Plan: Pay in three (3) installments (\$50 enrollment fee will apply) or make ten (10) monthly payments beginning June 1, 2009 (\$120 enrollment fee will apply).

Uniforms

Good Shepherd's dress code requires K-8th grade students to wear a collared shirt Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. On Wednesday, which is chapel day, students wear the official GSES white shirt with the school emblem on the front, and a navy blue or plaid bottom. Casual attire is permitted on Friday.

Report Cards

The school year is divided into two semesters with report cards received every nine (9) weeks. Interim reports are prepared in the middle of each grading period.

Faculty and Staff

Good Shepherd Episcopal School takes great pride in its dedicated and distinguished faculty:

- 86% of the faculty/staff hold a Bachelor's degree
- 45% have earned either a Master's degree
- Many possess professional certificates or certifications

Directions to GSES...

From North of Richmond

Take 95 South to 195 and follow the signs to Powhite Parkway (Route 76). Take the Forest Hill Avenue exit off of Powhite Parkway. After passing through the tollbooth, turn left onto Forest Hill Avenue. Travel along Forest Hill Avenue for 2 miles. GSES is located at the corner of 43rd Street and Forest Hill Avenue. 43rd Street is the fourth left after you cross over Westover Hills Boulevard.

From South of Richmond

Take Chippenham Parkway (Route 150) to the Forest Hill Avenue East exit. Travel along Forest Hill Avenue for 3.2 miles. GSES is located at the corner of 43rd Street and Forest Hill Avenue. 43rd Street is the fourth left after you cross over Westover Hills Boulevard.

From West of Richmond

Take 64 East to 195 and follow the signs to Powhite Parkway (Route 76). Take the Forest Hill Avenue exit off of Powhite Parkway. After passing through the tollbooth, turn left onto Forest Hill Avenue. Travel along Forest Hill Avenue for 2 miles. GSES is located at the corner of 43rd Street and Forest Hill Avenue. 43rd Street is the fourth left after you cross over Westover Hills Boulevard.

From Parham and Patterson

Take Parham to Willie Bridge. Parham becomes Chippenham Parkway after you cross the Willie Bridge. Take the Forest Hill Avenue East Exit. Travel along Forest Hill Avenue for 3 miles. GSES is located at the corner of 43rd Street and Forest Hill Avenue. 43rd Street is the fourth left after you cross over Westover Hills Boulevard.

EXTENDED DAY CARE (EDC)

Childcare is available for all students on a daily basis until 6:00 P.M. Before-school care is offered from 7:00 A.M.–8:00 A.M. Extended Day Care (EDC) is designed to involve students in community service, art and structured and independent games and activities. EDC also offers a supervised study hall.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Pre-Kindergarten – 8th Grade

7:00 A.M.–8:00 A.M. – \$75 per month

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Pre-Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten

12:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M. – \$240 per month

12:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. – \$290 per month

12:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. – \$350 per month

12:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M. – \$425 per month

Kindergarten, Lower and Middle School

3:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. – \$90 per month

3:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. – \$170 per month

3:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M. – \$240 per month

Regular Part-Time (\$6) and Drop-In (\$7.50) rates available.

Small classes, wonderful teachers and a dynamic curriculum create an environment to help students achieve at their maximum level. Our curriculum meets or exceeds the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOLs). Teachers creatively build and enhance the curriculum with innovative, engaging activities; multi-age interactions; games and exciting field trips.

Enrichment classes are an important hallmark of our school. In addition to the core academic subjects of language arts, math, social studies and science, students have the following weekly enrichments:

ART

Kindergarten-8th graders learn how to use a variety of art materials and methods such as painting, drawing and sculpture. Students use their creativity to develop truly unique art projects.

COMPUTER

Kindergarten-8th graders develop a basic understanding of technology resources and how to utilize them in various aspects of daily life. Students learn a variety of computer programs including KidPix and Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint and Publisher.

SPANISH

All students learn the sounds, grammar and vocabulary of the Spanish language. They explore the culture, traditions and history of Spanish-speaking countries. Students develop simple phrases which they can use in everyday life. They prepare for further study of Spanish or other foreign languages.

CHAPEL

Students worship together in weekly chapel services which follow the liturgical year. The Church of the Good Shepherd Chaplain leads the services.

LIBRARY

During weekly library classes, the librarian reads stories to the younger students and assists students in selecting books to match their interest and reading levels. Our 7,000+ volume collection is a great resource for student research and enjoyment.

CURRICULUM *(continued)*

MUSIC

Weekly music classes provide an opportunity for students to explore written music, various composers and music. Public speaking and vocal performance skills are also taught.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Kindergarten through 8th graders have weekly PE classes which are divided into six-week sessions, which include soccer, football, basketball, volleyball, and baseball. Four weeks are devoted to Presidential Physical Fitness testing.

SCIENCE LAB

Every student participates in weekly hands-on science experiments and activities. Everyday items are used to teach concepts and instill an enthusiasm for science.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Pre-Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten

Good Shepherd Episcopal School is proud to offer an excellent early childhood program. Our main objective is to expose each child to a wide variety of activities that will enhance growth in the five major areas of development: cognitive, language, motor, social and emotional. Skills and concepts are introduced through centers, stories, songs, art projects, hands-on activities and manipulatives.

Pre-Kindergarten has weekly themes to coordinate art, songs and fun activities. Our Junior Kindergarten program has an academic focus on language arts and math to develop kindergarten readiness skills. Students study a special letter each week, complemented by fun activities. Our preschoolers also take field trips and have frequent special events and visitors. In the GSES Preschool Program, every day is a day to celebrate!

Weekly Enrichment Classes

- Spanish
- Musikgarten
- Library
- Science Lab
- Chapel

LOWER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Kindergarten–5th Grade

The early grades focus on language arts and math. Language Arts are emphasized by teaching phonics, sight words, reading and writing along with the Signatures series of stories and spelling lists. We use Saxon math and other math manipulatives in each class. Students are given many opportunities to work in small groups and one-on-one with their teachers. Work is kept fun with plenty of games, puzzles and brainteasers!

Each teacher enhances the academic curriculum and makes learning fun. Classes attend Theatre IV productions, perform for Grandparents` Day, and enjoy field trips. Our older children mentor younger book buddies as they read together each week. All ages love participating in our annual “Invention Convention.”

Kindergarten builds strong reading and writing fundamentals. Small learning groups and exposure to a variety of reading methods ensure each child is reading by the end of the year. Beginning in First grade, students develop study skills, report writing skills and organizational skills using planners. Second grade expands the creative writing process and introduces cursive writing and multiplication tables. Third graders rise to the challenges of division.

Grades four and five move from the shelter of the early grades toward independence in middle school. Skills in math and reading are creatively reinforced. Writing and research are both an emphasis in these grades. Block schedules and team teaching prepare students for the upcoming middle school experience.

Enrichment Classes

Twice a week:

- Spanish
- Physical Education
- Music

Once a week:

- Library
- Computer Lab
- Science Lab
- Chapel
- Art

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

6th–8th Grade

Our Middle School emphasizes being and becoming one's personal best, taking responsibility and preparing for high school and beyond. Students develop independence by changing classes for each subject, utilizing lockers and adapting to different teachers. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for the rigors of high school with study skills classes, mid-term and final exams as well as expanded projects. Students develop social skills and moral awareness within a safe environment during this time of rapid physical, mental and social development.

The middle school day consists of a block schedule with longer class periods for the core academic subjects. The integrated academic curriculum and activities are enhanced with foreign language, art, music, and physical education classes. An advanced math track allows students to move at a more challenging pace. Foreign language skills are further developed through Spanish classes in all grades. Eighth grade students have the opportunity to receive high school credit for their Spanish I and Algebra I classes. They also have leadership and current events classes.

Special middle school activities include the Science Fair, sports, retreats, field trips and leadership opportunities. Middle school students can participate on co-ed soccer and basketball teams. We are especially proud of our annual mission work which has included trips to build a playground for a camp serving underprivileged children and teens, working with Habitat for Humanity, and visiting nursing homes. Community service is a core element in middle school.

Weekly Enrichment Classes

- Art
- Music
- Physical Education
- Chapel
- Library
- Computer Lab

Mission Statement

Good Shepherd Episcopal School challenges each child to achieve academic excellence within a nurturing, Christian environment that builds character and respect for all God's creation.

Principles/Values

Good Shepherd Episcopal School:

- Challenges students with an academically rigorous integrated curriculum that enhances core subjects with art, music, foreign language, technology and extracurricular activities.
- Welcomes students with a neighborhood feel and a small student/teacher ratio that encourages multi-age interaction and teamwork.
- Provides a Christian community that honors, celebrates and worships God within the Episcopal tradition in cooperation with the Church of the Good Shepherd's mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known."
- Develops intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and a lifelong love of learning.
- Supports dynamic and talented teachers who shape the curriculum and encourage all students to perform at their best.
- Fosters spiritual, physical, cultural and social development within a nurturing and loving environment.
- Values a diverse community inclusive of students from different social and cultural backgrounds instilling respect for and awareness of, self, others and nature.
- Cultivates the spiritual values of love, patience, joy, peace, goodness, kindness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Encourages community service and giving to others, particularly through team efforts.
- Seeks to develop student citizens, balancing self confidence with responsibility and compassion, leadership with cooperation, intellectual challenge with social acceptance and tolerance.