

St. Andrew's School

2023 MEDIA KIT



St. Andrew's
School

EST. 1894

For media inquiries, please contact:
Katelyn Turner, Director of Community Relations
(804) 648-4952
kturner@st-andrews-school.org



Thank you so much for your consideration and interest in highlighting our students and St. Andrew's School.

St. Andrew's is a tuition-free school focused on the whole child. We are an independent, K-5 elementary school located in Richmond's Oregon Hill neighborhood. Most families attending St. Andrew's live in the greater Richmond area. All students receive a full scholarship. A qualification in the application process is that families must live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

When publishing stories about our students and school, there is a tendency in the media to only focus on the income level of our families. We feel that this is a grave injustice to our students. It does not define them, and it is usually irrelevant to the content of the story being told.

At St. Andrew's, we create access and opportunity through education. Our students write our story. Their success is our story. We believe this should be the focus of any story published about our students and school.

As a member of the media, you know how important language and words are. We take that to heart at St. Andrew's.

We have a deep commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) – and invite you to join us in this effort when you publish your story.

We are excited to partner with you in our DEIJ journey that promotes our students as the whole individuals that they are.

Thank you for your interest, collaboration, and partnership.

With gratitude,

Katelyn Iurner

Director of Community Relations

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Andrew's is a tuition-free school focused on the whole child.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND JUSTICE (DEIJ)

We believe that there is a long-standing equity gap in education in the U.S.

We believe that every child deserves access to exceptional education.

We believe that our whole child programming, including a full scholarship for every student, helps to eliminate barriers to accessing quality education for families from historically marginalized communities.

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE IN THIS WORK.

FAST FACTS

- Established in 1894
- Enrolls 96 students
- Grades K-5 (16 students per grade)
- Extended Day/Extended Year Learning Model (1,400 hours annually)
- Whole Child Programming
 - Academics
 - Visual and Performing Arts
 - Social and Emotional Learning
 - Wellness and Nutrition
 - Family Engagement
 - Graduate Support
- Full scholarship for each student
- Accreditation: Virginia Association for Independent Schools

DEFINITIONS

DIVERSITY Many people, many identities

EQUITY Everyone has a path

INCLUSION Culture where everyone feels authentically welcome and included

JUSTICE Systems work and support all

WHY LANGUAGE MATTERS TO US

It's essential to have a common foundation and understanding for language at St. Andrew's School, because it defines everything.

How we talk about ourselves, one another, our community. How our community talks about us. It all matters.

Word choice is essential. Referring to people as "disadvantaged," "needy," or "poor," flattens them into a one-characteristic person.

Clearly, individuals are comprised of more than one adjective. What makes them a whole person?

We never want to reduce anyone to one (negative) idea or thought.

Focusing on language that centers our students and families allows us, as a school and a community, to be accountable AND to create a culture of belonging.

Language is a continuous exercise and opportunity in learning -- about ourselves, one another, and our community.

Find common threads of humanity when telling stories.

Raising children, sitting in traffic, learning how to garden -- these are all simple, yet authentic, ways we all can connect, engage, and learn about one another, WITHOUT reducing individuals to one dimension.

THE ST. ANDREW'S STORY IS WRITTEN BY OUR STUDENTS

We work with students and families when crafting our messages, because who better to tell the St. Andrew's story than those who live it?

We feature Imir, who loves going to Chapel.

We feature Kameron and his mom, who love being a part of the St. Andrew's School family.

We feature John, who is a current grandparent and a board member.

In the end, our stories are authentic, real, and whole.