



## Prestonwood Christian Academy

### Application Information

Kingdom education, the philosophy at Prestonwood Christian Academy, focuses on bringing the home, church and school into a partnership for the purpose of training the next generation. Kingdom Education is defined as the life-long, Bible-based, Christ-centered process of leading that child to a new identity in Christ and developing the child according to the specific abilities given to him/her by Christ, so that a child is empowered to live a life characterized by love, trust and obedience to Christ. In keeping with that philosophy, PCA considers the following:

- Families who are growing in their personal Christian walk and are involved in a local, Bible-believing church. Prestonwood Christian Academy requires that at least one parent have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Families who provide a home environment that does not conflict with the biblical understanding of sexuality (such as unmarried partners living together or same sex couples). Please refer to the *Prestonwood Christian Academy Sexual Ethics Policy* for further information.
- Students whose academic records demonstrate proven capabilities to succeed at Prestonwood Christian Academy. Student records are carefully evaluated during the application process. Students should be performing at or above grade level. Students who are making failing grades in their current school should not apply until they have successfully completed a year of passing grades in another school.
- Students whose recommendations show a behavioral history that matches the behavioral expectations of Prestonwood Christian Academy. Students who have been expelled should not apply until they have completed a year free of behavioral concerns in another school.
- A child must be 3 years old by Sept. 1 in order to start Pre-Kindergarten. A child must be 5 years old by Sept. 1 in order to start Kindergarten. No exceptions. All applicants must be able to care for restroom needs independently.

#### APPLICATION TIMELINE

- Applications are accepted beginning Sept. 1 of the year preceding the year for which the application is being made.
- Admission testing occurs in January and February.
- Once the application file is complete, parents are contacted to schedule the admission interview. Applicants for grades 5-12 accompany the parents to the interview.
- Current PCA families re-enroll in January. Admission Committees meet in late February. Letters notifying applicants of admissions decisions are sent in early March. While PCA continues to accept applications all year, many classes are full following the first round of acceptances in March. To be considered in that group of applicants, the application file and interview must be completed by mid-February.
- If an applicant is qualified to attend Prestonwood Christian Academy, but there are no spaces available in that grade, the applicant's name is placed in a wait pool. Wait pools are not prioritized lists. When and if an opening becomes available, the Admission Committee convenes and selects the most appropriate candidate for the opening. As openings occur new students are added to the grades where space is available.
- In a desire to keep current families together, Prestonwood Christian Academy gives priority to qualified siblings of current PCA students.

#### ADMISSIONS TESTING

- **PK3 Applicants** are not given an entrance test.
- **PK4 – Grade 1 Applicants:** Applicants entering grades PK-1 will take the Admission Assessment for Beginning Learners (AABL) test. Please make an appointment with our admissions office for a testing date, and you will be directed how to register at [www.erblearn.org](http://www.erblearn.org). The code for PCA is 447563. The cost for AABL is \$65.
- **Grade 2 – 4 Applicants:** Applicants entering grades 2-4 will take the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) at our admissions office. Please contact us at 972-930-4010 to schedule a testing date. The cost for the ISEE taken at a school location is \$125.
- **Grades 5-12 Applicants:** For students entering grades 5-10, please register for the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) through the Educational Records Bureau at [www.erblearn.org](http://www.erblearn.org). If an Upper School applicant has taken standardized testing such as the SAT, ACT, PLAN, or PSAT within 6 months of the application date, PCA can accept those scores for admission consideration. The cost for the ISEE ranges from \$125 to \$185 depending on the testing location. Please call PCA at 972-930-4010 if you have any questions.

#### EARLY DECISION OPTION

With many grade levels nearing capacity at PCA, the **Early Decision Option** is a wonderful way to secure your student's place at Prestonwood Christian Academy.

The requirements for consideration for **Early Decision Option** are:

- Applicants whose application files and admissions testing are complete by December 1 of the year preceding the year for which the application is being made
- Applicants for lower school must have academic performance on or above grade level (based on the information in that applicant's file)

- Applicants for middle and upper school (grades 5-12) must have a Core GPA of 3.8 or higher as reflected in their school academic record
- Teacher and principal recommendation ratings must be above average indicating academic and social readiness

Letters of acceptance and enrollment contracts will be offered by January 20 of the calendar year for which the application is being made. Enrollment contracts must be returned by January 31.

#### **SIBLING ADMISSION POLICY**

All sibling applicants follow the same admission process as any other student. Priority is given to sibling applications that are submitted by the Early Decision Option deadline of December 1. Siblings who apply after December 1 will be included in the open enrollment with all other applicants.

#### **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Parents apply for tuition assistance with a third party, FACTS (<http://www.factstuitionaid.com>), no later than March 1st of the spring prior to the academic school year assistance is needed. FACTS require that a family submit:

- Completed tax return for the prior year
- Copies of each parent's W-2 forms

In addition to the online assessment, a Tuition Assistance Church Reference Form must be submitted to the PCA Business Office by March 1.

Applications for admission and Tuition Assistance are submitted simultaneously even though admission decisions are made in March and Tuition Assistance decisions are not available until April.

#### **EXTENDED CARE**

Extended Care is available for grades Pre-Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> for an additional fee until 6:00 pm.