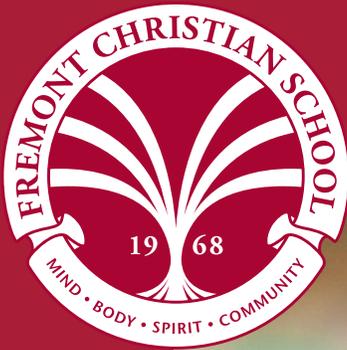


FCS

Early Education



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(510)744-2260

THE PROGRAM



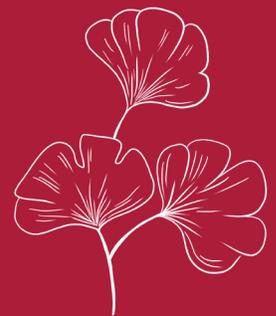
Fremont Christian School's Early Education Department offers a research-driven, play-based, emergent program that fosters academic excellence. Our dedicated early educators integrate social emotional practices and developmentally appropriate strategies that lead to kindergarten readiness, all within a Christian worldview.

We offer Toddler, Young Preschool, Preschool, and Junior Kindergarten classes, providing an education for children 18 months through five years old. The program is organized by age and development to ensure that children are engaging in developmentally appropriate learning practices that will set the foundation for early and sustained success. We use an engaging curriculum to give each child high-quality opportunities to develop physically, socially, academically, and spiritually.

Our Transitional Kindergarten (TK) provides a stimulating learning environment and a kindergarten-readiness curriculum that is specifically designed for students born between September 1 and December 31. Research has shown that children in this age group have particular developmental needs in the areas of Self and Social Development, Language and Literacy, Self-Regulation, and Mathematics. With a highly qualified master teacher and a full-time assistant teacher, FCS provides a rich transition for the experienced preschooler to the first of a two-year kindergarten program.

Looking Ahead

One benefit of choosing FCS for your child's early-education experience is that we are also a thriving elementary, junior high, and high school. The curriculum is delivered through the use of the research-based GLAD instructional model within a Christian worldview. Opportunities include leadership, vocal music, instrumental music, fine arts, drama, technology, competitive athletics, Advanced Placement®, college advising, and more. Social emotional skill-building remains a priority from early education through high school. Small class sizes, a customizable hot-lunch program, many specialized classrooms, science labs, performance spaces, and high-quality athletic facilities can all be found at FCS.



AREAS OF FOCUS



Emerging Language

The language domain develops listening and speaking skills, and is intentionally aligned with the California Department of Education's standards for kindergarten. We value linguistic and cultural diversity. Second-language learners quickly absorb words and phrases as they are supported by warm, experienced teachers and surrounded with visual and physical learning opportunities. Interactive stories and daily Bible time enrich listening skills, vocabulary, and grammar. Sing-alongs, rhymes, and fingerplays allow children to build rich, conversational language.

Emerging Literacy

The reading domain includes print and phonological awareness, alphabets and word/print recognition, and analysis of age-appropriate text. During independent reading time, children begin to display appropriate book-handling behaviors and understand that the printed word carries meaning. Teachers use Handwriting Without Tears® journals to develop writing strategies that include teaching proper posture and pencil grip for increased control when using drawing and writing tools. Students begin by learning to write the alphabet, advance quickly to phonetic writing, and later are able to use short sentences to journal personal stories. All these skills work together to build a foundation for literacy.



Emerging Mathematics

Mathematics covers five primary developmental areas: Number Sense, Classification, Patterning, Measurement, and Mathematical Reasoning. These are closely aligned with the California K-12 mathematics content standards. Children sing counting songs to reinforce their understanding of number relationships. Counting bears and other manipulatives are used to set a foundation for basic addition and subtraction. Brain pathways are expanded as teachers plan intentional hands-on play activities using puzzles, sand, water, and blocks. Fun patterning, sorting, and cooking activities also help to build competency in early math concepts.



Scientific Exploration

Children are encouraged to observe, describe, and investigate the world around them as they take part in scientific experimentation. Planned experiments (such as those that demonstrate sinking and floating or freezing and melting) and engineering activities that incorporate blocks, weights, and pulleys all lead to a growing appreciation for the sciences and life around us. Scientific curiosity is fostered through nature walks and discussions about living things that go through fascinating cycles and changes.



INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING



BIBLE

Daily Bible story time introduces children to the truth of God's word, deepening their understanding of our loving God, and instilling values of mutual love and respect in practical ways. Weekly chapels, favorite Bible songs, and daily prayer time all engage children in the joy of worship.



ART

Children draw inspiration from their environment to create and communicate through art.

MOVEMENT

Movement experiences are designed by teachers to support physical development.

HEALTH

Classroom activities shape wellness routines and daily health practices.

TEACHING PYRAMID MODEL: CENTER FOR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL FOUNDATIONS OF EARLY LEARNING

Social emotional development is the foundation for early learners to later access academic learning. The Teaching Pyramid Model provides a framework for teaching children how to identify, process, articulate, and problem-solve through their emotions. Teachers also focus on the child's ability to cooperate, take turns, negotiate, follow multi-step directions, and build all essential measures of development that create pathways in the brain for future learning. All these strategies promote skills that lead children to develop social competence, emotional literacy, and the intrinsic ability to regulate behavior.



SCHEDULE

Program Hours:
9:00am to 5:00pm

AM Extended Hours:
7:00am to 9:00am

PM Extended Hours:
5:00pm to 6:00pm