

# Kennedy Krieger School: Fairmount Campus

## Overview

The Kennedy Krieger School: Fairmount Campus is a nonpublic special education day program serving students in kindergarten through the eighth grade who have a variety of special needs, ranging from mild to severe. The school addresses its students' unique needs through integrated, evidence-based instructional and therapeutic practices. Instruction aligns with the Maryland State Curriculum, and subjects include reading/language arts, mathematics, social studies, art, music, health, physical education, library science and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Local school systems typically refer students to the school, but international students may also enroll.

## Who We Serve

The Fairmount Campus school provides special education and related services for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including:

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Emotional disability
- Intellectual disability
- Multiple disabilities
- Specific learning disabilities
- Traumatic brain injury
- Other health challenges

## Our Approach

Kennedy Krieger School Programs are organized around professional learning communities based on shared decision-making by those working closest with the students each day, creating a vibrant and energized learning environment. These communities are structured to allow students to achieve their goals in the most appropriate educational setting possible. Each community incorporates specialized instruction, classroom structure, and therapeutic and behavioral interventions.

We maintain a robust interdisciplinary team approach within and across communities, allowing for programmatic planning, as well as planning at the level of each individual student. Interdisciplinary teams regularly meet to monitor students' progress and make appropriate modifications to ensure each student's success.



## Our Team

The school's staff comprises specialists from a variety of fields. Staff members include:

- Special educators
- Speech-language pathologist
- Occupational therapists
- Mental health case managers
- Expressive therapist
- Curriculum specialists
- Reading specialist
- Board-certified behavior analysts
- Behavioral specialist
- Registered behavior technician
- Paraprofessional staff members
- Psychologist
- Neuropsychologist
- Psychiatrist
- And more



## Instructional Program

Our curriculum focuses on building essential skills through access to standards and curricula identified by the Maryland State Department of Education and evidence-based intervention programs. Students receive ongoing instruction in the following areas: reading/English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, health, music, fine arts and career development.

The 11-month program is grounded in evidence-based methods and uses Universal Design for Learning principles and carefully chosen accommodations, modifications, adaptations and supplementary supports to meet each student's needs. Our materials are carefully selected based on their proven effectiveness and motivational appeal to our students. Many of the materials are customized and created by teachers to address various learning styles. Classrooms have interactive technologies that support instruction, including smart boards and iPads.

Teachers and related service staff members maintain ongoing systems for evaluating each child's progress. Through this dynamic process of continuous data collection paired with informal and formal assessments, the interdisciplinary team decides the direction and pace of instruction for each student, and the related service supports needed to facilitate their progress.

## Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

For many students, academic achievement is compromised by behavioral challenges. The school provides a continuum of positive behavioral interventions, environmental structures and staff supports for students. Board-certified behavior analysts oversee a highly structured school-wide behavior management system with predictable routines, rewards and consequences. This work includes dense systems of data collection, token economies and other reinforcement opportunities. When needed, functional behavior assessment and analysis is conducted to develop an individualized behavior intervention plan. While the school focuses on preventative behavior management methods, crisis intervention techniques are sometimes needed to support a student. Staff members receive annual training and assessment in preventive behavior management methods and crisis intervention.

## School Life

While the school offers students robust clinical support and programming communication, we also strive to develop a school community. Students may participate in assemblies, field trips and school events. Annual events include:

- Character parade
- Thanksgiving feast
- Read-a-thon
- Block Kids (a trades fair)
- Lil' Shoppers
- Book fair
- Field trips
- Talent show
- Picnics
- Field day
- Graduation
- And more!

We also offer opportunities for students' families to participate in the school community. The Fairmount Campus Parent Association holds monthly virtual meetings open to all. And there are opportunities for families to volunteer in person, virtually or by sending items to the school.

## Contact Us

### Kennedy Krieger School: Fairmount Campus

If you are interested in enrolling your child in the Fairmount Campus school, or if you have any questions, please contact our Office of Admissions, Compliance, and Transition (ACT) to discuss next steps.

*Please note: Tours of the Fairmount Campus are conducted by appointment only.*

### Kennedy Krieger School: Fairmount Campus

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Scan the QR code or visit  
**KennedyKrieger.org/Fairmount**  
for more information.



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