

St. Anne School

Aquinas Learning Support Program

St. Anne School believes that *all* children are unique, learn at different rates and should be challenged at their fullest potential. St. Anne School, in partnership with the Diocese of Allentown, *is pleased to be the first Northampton County elementary location for the Diocese of Allentown Aquinas Learning Support Program (ALSP).*

The Aquinas Learning Support Program has been developed for students with diagnosed learning disabilities. The program's unique emphasis is on learning strategies and student skills specifically-designed to help children foster independence. Students in the program are challenged to learn self-acceptance, self-discipline, cooperation skills and consistent work and study habits. The goal is to help students become responsible members of the community.

The primary goal of the ALSP is to offer a Christ-centered, quality academic education within a Catholic school environment for children with diagnosed learning disabilities. The growth of the whole child is our priority. Most important is the student's development of their relationship with God. Students in the ALSP are fully incorporated into the prayer service and liturgical celebrations of the school.

Elementary aged children receive specialized instruction for half the school day to address their learning disability. They join their peers in their own grade level for religion, social studies, science, physical education, music, computer technology, art and library so they are totally immersed and integrated into the school.

Aquinas Program Admission Requirements

Program admission requires that a child has been diagnosed with a specific learning disability, should be of average or above average intelligence and possess an eagerness to learn and cooperate. The following evaluations must be conducted and submitted:

- A full psycho-educational evaluation completed within the last two years including WISC-III or Stanford Binet Test, Math Inventory, Perception Test and a Reading Inventory
- Relevant medical/health records including a neurological evaluation, if applicable
- A student's most recent annual report card including copies of their discipline records
- A student's most recent CER or IEP, if applicable

Aquinas Learning Support Program Application/Admissions:

Please call the St. Anne School Advancement Office 610-868-4182 or email ebrida@stannebethlehem.org regarding transfer or admission to St. Anne School to:

1. Schedule a school tour and meeting with Mrs. Karen Bentz, St. Anne Principal, (parents and student)
2. Please bring a copy of your child's latest report card (s), copies of all special testing results, IEPs and/or evaluations.

Following the meeting, if applicable, all records will be sent to the Diocese of Allentown office of Special Education.

The Deputy Superintendent for Secondary and Special Education for the Diocese of Allentown, along with the Principal, reviews and determines acceptance into the Aquinas Learning Support Program. Each application is carefully evaluated and placement is made on a space-available basis. Placement is not guaranteed.

Acceptance

Once your child is accepted into the program, he or she is fully incorporated into the school and is responsible for complying with all school policies. After careful assessment an Instructional Plan (IP) is constructed for each student to assure that their academic needs are met at their present level of achievement. Their IP will progress at a rate that enhances the student's potential for success.