

Superb Scholastics

YOUNG MINDS BENEFIT FROM OPTIONS

While public schools across Southlake are exceptional, sometimes parents want their children to learn in a different setting. They can select from several private options throughout the community that provide an excellent atmosphere where their kids can excel.

Fusion Academy Southlake caters to students in grades six through 12. The school features the smallest student-to-teacher ratio in the area—one-to-one instruction takes place in individual classrooms. The school’s Director of Admissions and Outreach, Jenni Hubby, explains that everything involved with the pace and style of teaching is tailored to each child.

“At Fusion Academy, we define success individually, one student at a time,” she says. “Given the correct, individualized support; appropriate, challenging education; and a warm, trusting environment; every child can reach his or her greatest potential.”

Students at the academy are prepared not only academically, but also socially and emotionally. This kind of well-rounded approach enables children to graduate with the confidence to take-on challenges in college and beyond.



Photo courtesy of Liberty Christian Academy

Private schools have smaller class sizes and ample opportunities for pupils to delve into their own creativity.

Youngsters ages 3 to 12 can receive a hands-on, personalized experience at Southlake Montessori. The school encourages students to seek knowledge by following their own interests in areas such as history, math, art, music, zoology and more. Head of School Debby Riordan speaks highly of this crucial aspect of childhood development.

“Southlake Montessori allows children the freedom to explore at a rate appropriate to their own level,” Riordan says. “Students that need more time are given that opportunity while those grasping a concept quickly don’t have to wait to move forward.”

This method to learning helps set Southlake Montessori scholars apart from others when they start to transition into college and the workforce. At an early age, students learn the importance of motivation, critical thinking and passion for learning.

Crown of Life Lutheran School features a well-rounded program focusing on academics, spirituality, emotional and social interaction, and physical health for students in preschool through eighth grade can attend. Jennifer Schnell, the school’s director of admissions, says these aspects—as well as giving back—are crucial to a child’s development and path for success.

“Upper school students are required to complete 30 hours of community service each year,” Schnell says. “This can set up a

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lifelong pattern of volunteerism and will add depth to a college application and resume.”

Pupils are engaged in a faith-based worldview but are also immersed in rigorous subjects such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). In addition, pupils have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities such as soccer, volleyball, music, band and more.

Whether it's the lower, middle or upper levels, pupils at Liberty Christian School are immersed in biblical truths and exceptional course offerings.

Students have access to outstanding academics, fine arts and athletics. Since it's a college preparatory school, it offers more than 20 advanced placement classes and dual credit courses.

With such a strong foundation, it's no surprise that more than 99 percent of the school's graduates enroll in the college or university of their choice. In 2014, the senior class received more than \$7 million in scholarships.

The Clariden School provides children in preschool through high school with project-based learning. This concept actively engages students as they develop portfolios to showcase their accomplishments.

Students benefit from small class sizes and highly qualified educators who promote creativity and problem solving. In addition, there is no state-funded testing required so kids are taught based on what they need to know to prepare them for

the future, not to pass an exam.

Clariden students also have the opportunity to participate in many activities outside of the classroom such as robotics. The school won first place in overall performance at the BEST (Boosting Engineering Science and Technology) Robotics Competition in fall 2014. Clariden competed against 19 other schools.

Waypoint Montessori is another exceptional alternative with preschool, lower and upper school options. Children are nurtured into a self-discovery of creativity as instructors are dedicated to exemplifying the Montessori philosophy to students.

At the preschool, toddler and primary level, children are encouraged through exploration and discovery at every step of development.

In the lower school, pupils continue where the primary program left off and new concepts are introduced. Subjects such as math, language, geography, history and others are used to spark reasoning and active imagination.

The upper school continues to help young learners grasp the world around them by incorporating Spanish, art and music into the curriculum.

With this vast array of alternative educational programs available, there's no doubt the Southlake area offers a great starting point for child's path to success. ■ *by Mallorie Ann Ingram*



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for Southlake**

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