



The Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Program for 4 year olds

What is Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK)?

A constitutional amendment passed by Florida's voters in November 2002 required a voluntary pre-kindergarten program for all 4 year old children by fall of 2005. The program is designed to prepare 4 year olds for kindergarten and build the foundation for their educational success. The program allows a parent to enroll his or her eligible child (4 years old by 9/1 and residing in Florida) in a free VPK program. Children who will turn 5 before 9/1 DO NOT qualify for VPK but may still attend our Pre-K program. You will be charged the regular tuition and fees for Pre-K.

All Saints School will again participate in the VPK program this upcoming school year. We have two programs available, VPK and VPK Plus. We encourage as many families as are able to participate in our VPK Plus program. It is our traditional 5 hour/day program and allows us to provide a wonderful well-rounded curriculum.

VPK: There is no charge to the parent for this program. Families are not billed for registration fees, supply and activity fees or monthly tuition. The child attends 4 days a week, Monday through Thursday from 9 am -1 pm. These hours fulfill the 540 instructional hours required by the state. There are a limited number of VPK only spaces available.

VPK Plus: VPK Plus is available either 4 or 5 days per week from 9 am - 2 pm, which are our school's normal hours of operation. It is the same Pre-k program that we have always had, but is more than the 540 instructional hours required by the state. VPK Plus families will pay a registration fee, (\$140 for Parish families, \$165 for currently enrolled families and \$225 for new students for 4 days per week and \$165 for Parish families, \$190 for currently enrolled families and \$250 for new students for 5 days per week) and a small monthly tuition fee for the extra hours of attendance over the 540 hours the state pays for. The monthly extra hours' costs are \$254 for 4 days and \$304 for 5 days. These charges help offset the cost of our enrichment programs.

In addition to our regular curriculum we offer exciting enrichment programs for our VPK Plus students. They receive **Art** and **Yoga** classes weekly as well as other enriching activities such as **Cooking**, more **Science experiments**, **Fun Friday's!** and a **Professional Storyteller** each month.

Curriculum: All Saints School will continue to use the excellent *Creative Curriculum* for our program, and *The Letter People* as an additional supplement. The strong emphasis on early literacy for which our school is well known, in addition to our "whole child" centered approach (spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive and physical) dovetails nicely with the standards and framework that the Florida Department of Education has written for VPK. All learning centers in the classrooms such as science, math, language arts, creative art, blocks, dramatic play, will continue to be enriched by the talent, experience and loving Christian character of our teachers. Our approach is developmentally appropriate, Christian based, and family centered. All teachers have their required credentials, including their Child Development Associate certifications, background screenings and additional VPK standards and curriculum training.

How to Enroll for VPK or VPK Plus

1. Register your child with All Saints School in January.
2. In May we will send you a link to fill out the state forms for funding. At that time you will be asked to provide your child's birth certificate and proof of your Florida residency. Once you receive the certificate of eligibility from the state we will submit the paperwork.

Students are required to attend class everyday. The children must be present for 80% of the instructional time within a given month and/or the entire school year in order for All Saints to be paid. It is imperative that each family adhere to this attendance policy in order to remain a VPK enrolled student at All Saints. Failure to comply may result in dismissal from the VPK funding. Parents are required to verify their child's monthly attendance by signing the 'Student Attendance Form', and the daily sign in sheets.