



PORTSMOUTH
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY
— AT DOVER —

Maximizing God-given potential since 1979.

PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 5

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Explore a place wh



here you can soar.

Welcome to PCA

While families with young children come in a variety of shapes and sizes, they share similar hopes for an excellent education in a safe and nurturing learning environment. PCA's Christ-centered community answers that call by engaging students as they discover and develop their talents and interests in academics, Biblical integrity, and a wide range of enrichment activities.

Our Values

At PCA everything we do is centered around our Core Values: Christ-Centeredness, Biblical Integrity, Curiosity, Compassionate Community, Excellence, Joy, and Humility.

discover...

- 50 acres on the Bellamy River
- Christ-centered community
- Academic challenge through differentiation
- Individualized support in every subject
- Engaging activities targeted to all interests
- Creative Design Center with STEM focus
- Riverfront "Outdoor Classroom" for experiential learning

explore a joyful lea





Our Mission

PCA exists to honor God joyfully by inspiring students to maximize their God-given potential.

arning community

Preschool (Ages 3 to 5)

In the early years, play is vital to learning. It allows children to make discoveries, form friendships, and develop theories. Portsmouth Christian Academy Preschool gives children space to explore and learn through play and traditional academics, pairing child-initiated activities with teacher-initiated learning. Preschoolers are engaged in weekly enrichment classes in Music, Art, Physical Education, and Library. Your child will experience small groups and differentiated instruction, and will thrive in a classroom setting that emphasizes the love of God.



weaving play with

“We want children to leave our preschool with a strong sense of self – knowing who they are, how important they are to God, and that they are a part of God’s creation. We want them to know that they are unique, that they are special, and that He loves them.”

– Harlee Tuttle, Preschool Director

A young child with light brown hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing a handmade costume that resembles a porcupine. The costume consists of a brown cardboard band around their head with several long, thin sticks protruding from it. A cardboard nose with a spiral pattern is attached to their face with white string. The child is wearing a dark red turtleneck sweater. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a classroom or playroom, with a wooden table and a blue chair visible.

academic learning

Primary (K-2)

As our teachers build on your child's natural way of learning through experience and play, classroom instruction is designed to encourage children to become engaged learners. Mastering math concepts and literacy are key goals in the primary grades, beginning with math facts, phonics, and active listening, and moving to math functions and in-class math clusters. Reading Lab, guided reading, and Reading Buddies with older students allow for positive group and peer learning experiences.



developing and master

“As a mother myself, I know how important it is that my child be surrounded by a community of loving, nurturing people, who inspire children to maximize their God-given potential.”

*– Dr. Carrie Abood,
Lower School Principal*

ing foundational skills

Elementary (Grades 3-5)


Elementary learning classes build on your child's independence as a learner and identity as a child of God. Students move from "learning to read" to "reading to learn," and the curriculum encourages high levels of decoding, comprehension, word analysis, and writing. Math differentiation is delivered via group clustering of students in grades 3-8 to offer a "just right" amount of challenge for learners who are working at a similar pace or on the same skill.



creating competent

Nurturing the Whole Child

We focus on whole-brain teaching strategies and best practices that facilitate curiosity and joy in discovering God's world. Maximizing each child's potential is not just the role of the teacher, but also a lifetime skill that each student must learn through giving and receiving respect and grace.

A young boy wearing a bright orange life vest and a white t-shirt stands on a wooden dock. He is holding a blue and white sensor device. A woman, presumably a teacher, is kneeling on the dock next to him, looking at a smartphone. The background shows a large body of water and a forested shoreline under a clear sky.

"My desire is for students to feel safe and encouraged to try new and challenging things."

*– Shanna Ketchum,
4th Grade Teacher*

and curious learners

Fine Arts

Portsmouth Christian Academy's Fine Arts Department seeks to cultivate artists of excellent craft and character who reflect God's image through joyful, creative expression. Portsmouth Christian Academy emphasizes the Fine Arts beginning in Preschool, laying a foundation for artistic appreciation that will develop as your child later pursues studies in visual art, band, chorus, orchestra, or theatre. Our Fine Arts curriculum focuses on progressive development, introducing all students to the violin in third grade and allowing them to choose from instrumental or choral options in later years.



“Building a musical and artistic foundation at a young age allows students to progress at a faster pace and to move into higher levels of thinking and learning.”

– Katrina Veno, Faculty

cultivate artists
to reflect joyful,
creative expression



Enrichment Classes

PCA offers a full complement of academic enrichments to broaden your child's learning. Foreign language, computer, art, physical education, library, and music round out each child's day, and further equip them with essential 21st century skills.

pursuing passions be





beyond the classroom

Extracurricular Activities

We emphasize education of the whole child, extending learning beyond the walls of the classroom. As such, we offer a variety of extracurricular options, allowing students to gain additional experience in areas of their choosing including athletics, drama, robotics, LEGO Builders, pottery, and music.



Biblical Worldview and Personal Growth

PCA's vision – “Christ-centered graduates impacting the world for good” – begins in Preschool and continues through the Lower and Upper Schools. Our intentional approach to developing the whole child involves an integration of faith and learning at every level.

The early years begin with understanding who God is and how to care for each other while the elementary grades move to a higher level of spiritual development by studying Christ-like characteristics and developing the discipline of personal Bible study.

“PCA is a community that is based on sound Biblical standards. Education is rigorous, but students are supported and encouraged to excel. My children feel safe and have flourished at PCA.”

– Raquel, parent

impacting the



A close-up photograph of two young boys sitting together and smiling. The boy on the left has light hair and is wearing a dark blue polo shirt with yellow and pink stripes. The boy on the right has dark hair and is wearing a blue and red plaid shirt. They appear to be in a classroom or school setting.

world for good

Community

As we seek to honor God with a shared mission, faculty, staff, students, and parents are welcomed into a Christ-centered and supportive family. Community begins in the classroom, through instruction that focuses on a Christian worldview, and expands between classrooms, in the hallways, and at extra-curricular and school-wide activities. Our parents are involved in active volunteer service at school, and our community reaches towns in New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts.

Community events have included:

Homecoming, Father-Daughter Square Dance, Mother-Son Olympics, LIFE Series, Spring Fling, Auction, Coffee Hours with the Head of School, and much more.



connected and **involved**





investing in the future

Variable Tuition

Tuition at PCA is not “one-size-fits all.” It’s a range that spans from 40-80% of the actual cost of a PCA education. Variable Tuition adjusts tuition rates to meet your family’s unique financial position.

“We travel 45 miles every day to educate our children at PCA. Is the money and time invested in our children at a young age worth the sacrifice? Absolutely. I would do it again.”

– Anders, Parent

Join us for an open house or personal tour to see for yourself!

Ready to apply? Follow these steps:

Visit PCA

Complete
an online
application

Submit
checklist
items

Experience
PCA
for a day

Schedule
an
interview



PORTSMOUTH
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Preparation for life.

20 Seaborne Drive • Dover, NH 03820
603.742.3617 • pcaschool.org

Portsmouth Christian Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.