

Welcome to Key Center School



Key Center School

Key Center Mission Statement

Key Center School will set high expectations, create opportunities, and expect success for our students.

Our Vision

Key Center School creates an educational climate where diversity and individuality are celebrated and respected. It is an environment where all staff continually strive to maximize the potential of each student through increasingly higher expectations.

Key Center Core Values/Beliefs

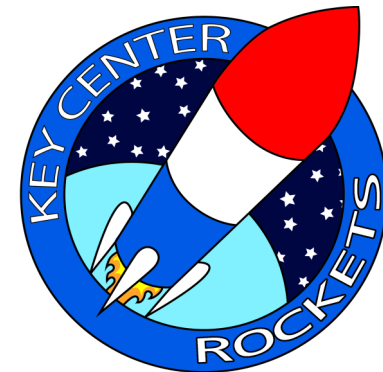
- ◆ To build relationships upon the unique differences of our staff, students and families; and to create a dynamic learning environment.
- ◆ All students are capable of learning and deserve an engaging, challenging, and motivating environment.
- ◆ Learning occurs at all times and across all domains of a student's life.
- ◆ The staff's role is to motivate, provide instruction, check for understanding and continuously assess student needs.

Parent Partnership

Wednesday Folder
Communication notebooks
Monthly Newsletter
Telephone/E-mail
Parent coffees/workshops

Key at a Glance

- 24% of our students have verbal language skills
- 54% of our students are ambulatory
- 100 % of our students have IEP's and receive programming for Intellectual Disabilities - Severe
- The majority of our students are at the emergent level of literacy
- Many of our students have serious medical concerns; 93% have Health Plans
- 9 students require 1:1 nursing services in order to attend and participate in school
- 17% of our students have active Behavior Intervention Plans
- 29% of our students receive vision services
- 76% of our students receive occupational therapy
- 39% of our students receive physical therapy
- 99% of our students receive assistive technology support
- 82% of our students receive speech therapy
- 4% of our students receive hearing services
- 37% of students receive ESOL services
- Student success is highly dependent on intensive staff support and every student participates in an adapted curriculum.
- Our Paraprofessional to Teacher ratio is 2:1



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Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Key Center School Programs

ABOUT KEY CENTER

Student Population

Key Center School serves students with intellectual disabilities, multiple and severe disabilities and autism from eastern Fairfax County. We serve approximately 75 students ranging in age from five to twenty two. Our small size and low student to staff ratio ensure that our students receive considerable individualized attention and we strive to help each one reach his or her potential.

Organization

Classroom

Teacher, 2 paraprofessionals

Management

Principal/ Assistant Principal

Social/Medical

Registered nurse

Social worker

School Psychologist

Part-time Public Health Nurse

Instructional Support

Behavior resource specialist

Technology specialist

Related Services

(Receipt of related service hours is an IEP-based decision)

Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Vision, Hearing, Speech/Language, Assistive Technology.

Self Funded Initiatives

- ◆ iPad Instructional Initiative
- ◆ Animal Assisted Instruction
- ◆ Quarterly djembe drumming
- ◆ Sensory and swing rooms
- ◆ Art Experience

Instructional Focus

At Key Center we focus on the whole student and emphasize:

- ◆ Independence
- ◆ Self Advocacy
- ◆ Multisensory Instruction
- ◆ Multi-faceted Communication strategies
- ◆ Social skills development
- ◆ Emotional/Behavioral Self Regulation

Our ultimate goal is to help students become as independent as possible.

Special Programs

- ◆ Adapted Aquatics
- ◆ Adapted PE with specialized equipment, including adapted bicycles
- ◆ "Time Pop" - Exploring recent geography and history through Pop Culture
- ◆ Key To Key—Peer Helping class



Community Based Instruction and Outreach

Key Center is very proud of its extensive community instruction and outreach program. Students work on functional literacy, work readiness and life skills during visits in the community. Monthly themes are explored through community visits, inviting members of the community in to Key Center and other instructional activities.

Vocational Program

The vocational program is designed to help students ages 14 to 22 develop work readiness skills and appropriate work behaviors. Students are involved in on- and off-site training. The on-site training occurs throughout the school building. In the vocational classroom, students engage in materials-handling activities along with sorting, assembling, and packaging tasks. Students also operate three school-based businesses: a printing business where newsletters for local community groups are printed, collated, folded, labeled, and stapled; a dog bone business called **Bone Appetit** where students bake, package and sell homemade dog bones donating the proceeds to various charities; and a laundry business—doing the laundry for the school. Students also bake and sell homemade bread.



Our community work sites include:

- ◆ FCPS-Instructional Program Support Center
- ◆ Key Middle School Clinic
- ◆ The Journey Church
- ◆ Animal Welfare League of Alexandria
- ◆ Milanos Family Restaurant



For more information about Key Center, please visit our website: <https://keycenter.fcps.edu/>

