

# How do I choose which program is best for my four year old?

Holy Cross Academy sees each child as a unique person, created by God, with individual gifts, interests, and ways of learning. Our classrooms are more than just places to learn academics; they are spaces where your child will grow in faith, creativity, character, and confidence. As we grow our Pre-K family, we are not redefining who we are. We are thoughtfully providing two distinct pathways to meet your child's needs, while sharing in the same mission of providing high quality academics and faith formation. To help you choose the best program for your child, we invite you to consider the learner, the logistics, the future, and the heart.

## Consider the Learner:

### ECEC Program

Teachers plan engaging weekly themes that guide classroom learning experiences

Daily routines and schedules are structured to provide consistency

Skill development is intentionally embedded within play-based learning

Teacher guides learning and small groups to introduce new concepts and skills

Classroom environment is bright and playful with theme based learning centers

Assesses Archdiocesan standards for Preschool

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and weekly Religion concepts in classroom

Offers specialty classes in Music, Body and Balance, Gym, and Science

### Reggio Pre-K

Activities emerge from the children's interests

Projects continue or end based on the curiosity of the children

The schedule adapts to child investigations and curiosities

Teacher is a collaborator, setting activities based on observations of the students

Classroom environment has a calm, natural aesthetic with real world materials

Assesses Archdiocesan standards for Preschool

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, attends Mass with K-2 students

Offers specialty classes in Music, P.E., Art, and STREAM

## ECEC Program

**Does your child thrive in a structured environment where play experiences promote imagination, risk taking and problem solving skills? Do they like engaging with pre-academic skills through sensory activities and dramatic play?**

## Reggio Pre-K

**Does your child thrive in an adaptive environment where learning experiences emerge from their own deep explorations?**

### Consider the Logistics:

- **Does your work schedule/child care arrangement work with the building schedule for the program you're choosing?**
- **Do you have other children still at ECEC or already at the Primary Campus?**

### Consider the Future:

**Enrollment in the Reggio Pre-K program is open to families who intend to enroll in Kindergarten at HCA that following year. Families who are interested in the program and have different plans for Kindergarten will be enrolled in the ECEC program and placed on a Reggio waitlist until June.**

### Consider the Heart:

**Which program most aligns with your family values? Which one "feels right?" Trust your gut and know that your four year old will be safe, seen, and loved at Holy Cross Academy, no matter which program you choose!**



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