The CrossWalk Program on the campus of North Cross School empowers students with language-based learning differences to reach their potential. The program provides a quality education to help them develop academically, socially, and emotionally. We rekindle student excitement for school, help them regain confidence in themselves, and challenge them to exercise their strengths.

About The Crosswalk Program

The CrossWalk Program provides specialized instruction and support for bright students with language-based learning differences. Our mission is to provide remediation of language skills for students with dyslexia and similar language-based learning differences in grades ECP Level 3—Kindergarten through 5th grade with the goal of returning the student to mainstream education fully prepared to perform at grade level in a mainstream classroom. The CrossWalk Program seeks to expand a student’s knowledge of the English language in a systematic manner. Teaching is diagnostic and prescriptive—each teacher seeks to understand how an individual learns and devises an appropriate teaching strategy for that student. Instructors closely monitor the student’s performance in order to identify and analyze individual needs. Material is presented in an sequential way that ties new concepts with past material. Our goal is to expand a student’s knowledge of the English language by moving from the simple, well-learned material to the complex in a logical manner. Lesson time is structured so students are comfortable and know what to expect each day when they enter the classroom. Teaching is also directed towards providing the experience of success, increased self-confidence, and motivation.

Mathematics

The concepts of math, the language of math, and calculation are important parts of our curriculum. Following the tenets of the Orton-Gillingham Approach, North Cross School uses manipulatives and technology to present new concepts in a visual, auditory, and kinesthetic/tactile manner. This hands-on, multisensory instruction helps students understand and retain the underlying mathematical concepts. Topics are presented incrementally and reinforced with continual review.

Admission Criteria

• Complete the North Cross School application packet, available at www.northcross.org/application.
• Along with the application, please submit any current psycho-educational evaluation scores and reports from specialists (including speech/language specialists and tutors). At a minimum, all applicants must have an outside psycho-educational or neuropsychological education evaluation. These evaluations are comprehensive and should diagnose the learning difficulties that the child is experiencing and suggest a treatment plan. These evaluations can be done by an independent evaluator and should be up to date. In general, it is recommended that evaluations be done every three years, but a more recent evaluation may be necessary during the admission process.
• Students must have cognitive abilities in the average or above average range as measured by a psycho-educational test.
• There must be significant evidence of academic underachievement in one or more academic areas such as reading, written language, math, or basic learning processes, visual/motor perception, or language processing difficulties. The learning difficulties experienced by the student should not be the documented result of primary emotional or behavioral problems, environmental, cultural, economic, or other physical or mental handicapping conditions. The discrepancy between potential and actual achievement may not qualify a student to be certified Learning Disability according to public school standards, but the difficulties must be interfering with academic performance.

• As part of the student assessment process, all applicants are required to complete a full day campus and classroom visit. To schedule a visit, please contact the Admission Office at (540) 989-6641.
• In some cases, additional testing may be required in the area of a language difficulty to understand the exact nature of this difficulty. This will enable the Admission Office and the CrossWalk Director to be better able to make the final admission decision.

For additional information about the program, please visit www.northcross.org/crosswalk, or contact Kit Prillaman, CrossWalk Program Director, at (540) 989-6641 or kprillaman@northcross.org.
Accreditation

North Cross is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools.

Memberships

North Cross is a member of National Association for College Admission Counseling, and Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling, the Cum Laude Society and the Counsel for Advancement and Support of Education.

School Mission

North Cross School is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day school that serves children from early childhood through twelfth grade. In all of its programs, North Cross School strives to promote in its students: scholarship and a love of learning; character and a sense of personal integrity and responsibility; and a commitment to the good of the community and all within it. Although we prepare our students to enter the finest colleges and universities in the country, we understand that such preparation is of greatest use when it provides for our students the personal and intellectual skills to lead full and meaningful lives. In all things, North Cross School endeavors to be true to its motto: Veritas Vincit – The Truth Will Triumph.