



19 Dundonald Street West
Hamilton, Bermuda

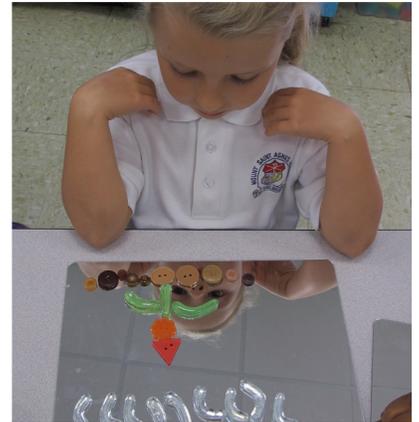
Telephone: 292-4134
Email: admissions@msa.bm
www.msa.bm

Reggio Emilia-Inspired Early Learning Program

The Mount Saint Agnes Academy Reggio Emilia-Inspired Early Learning Program will create an innovative active learning environment whereby children, parents and teachers work together in a spirit of cooperation and as co-constructors of knowledge. This approach results in a culture that respects childhood as a time to explore, create and be joyful.

Focus on Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Social Skills Development, the Arts and the Natural world to meet the needs of each individual child will be provided by diverse experiences and ample opportunities for play, exploration, discovery, and problem solving. At the heart of our program is the belief that we do not view children as empty vessels to be filled with facts. Rather, we see children meeting their full potential, competent and capable of building their own theories through the interdependence of individual and social learning.

The Early Learning Program will foster in children a love for learning and prepare them for a seamless transition into the current curricular programs offered from Grades K – 12.



- Certified teachers
- Learning through play
- Integration of the fine arts
- Developmentally appropriate learning experiences
- Rich oral language opportunities
- Faith-based
- Inclusive

Quick facts:

 The program is open to children who will be four on or before December 31, 2015.

 It will operate from September 2015 until the end of June 2016, with an optional six-week summer camp program in July and August (\$185/week).

 Hours are 7:45 am – 5:30 pm. The instructional day is from 8:30 am – 2:30 pm.

 The program will be located on the current MSA grounds.

 Tuition is \$12,500 for the academic year 2015/16, and is inclusive of before and after school care. A one-time \$500 incentive bursary is awarded to practicing Catholic students upon written request being provided to Bishop Robert Kurtz.

 Only 20 students will be offered admission.

 Placement into our Kindergarten Class of September 2016 will be guaranteed upon successful completion of the program.

 **Application deadline is March 31, 2015.** All applicants must submit a completed application form, a copy of the child's birth certificate, and the non-refundable \$50 application fee to the school office by March 31, 2015

The following key principles are inspirations from Reggio Emilia, which we have adapted to our own community and culture at Mount Saint Agnes Academy.



The Image of the Child. We believe in children's strengths and capabilities. Our goal is to empower children to explore the world, create meaning, and challenge their own thinking. Over time, children apply their knowledge confidently and successfully to new situations, which results in feelings of pride and self-worth.

The Role of the Teacher. Teachers are facilitators who guide children's thinking, document their ideas, and support them in their learning. They provoke skill development, deep thinking, and positive social interaction.

Jesus said,
"Let the little
children come
to me.

I love them."
– Luke 20:36

The Role of the Parents. We recognize that each family brings a unique perspective to the classroom and we welcome parents' active participation in our program.

The Role of the Environment. The classroom environment reflects the values, beliefs and cultures of those who share it. Each area of the room and the materials housed there has a specific purpose. The design, color, and

natural light are backdrops to feature the children's work as the main attraction of the classroom setting.

The Power of Documentation. Documentation provides a visual record of the dynamic learning encounters that take place in the classroom. With this data, we can interpret children's interests, feelings, and ideas and give value to their work. Documentation is a form of assessment and advocacy for each individual child.

Emergent Curriculum. Within this Early Learning Program, children's interests and discoveries propel our curriculum. Our goal is to challenge children to generate their own ideas and theories, posing thought-provoking, open-ended questions. In keeping with our school's overall philosophy, teachers integrate and encourage in-depth learning experiences.