



Our Mission:

To provide a dynamic, nurturing and personalized education that inspires a passion for learning, self-discovery and connection to the community.



OUR 3 ROOTS	APPROACHES	OUTCOMES
<p>1. Academic Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiential & Inquiry-Based Learning • Self-Paced • Personalized Instruction • Student Choice • Specialized Reading, Writing & Math Instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Academic Engagement • Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Skills • Content Knowledge Mastery • 21st Century Literacies • Increased Initiative & Independence
<p>2. Social & Emotional Growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Mindfulness Practice • Improv & Theater Experiences • Advisory & Mentoring Groups • Cooperative Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self & Social Awareness • Creativity • Communication & Collaboration Skills • Responsible Decision Making • Resiliency
<p>3. Civic Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living Classroom • Field Studies • Exploring Community Resources • Service Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaningful Learning Experiences • Career Exploration • Civic Literacy • Community Involvement • Global Awareness

The Sycamore School
Personalized experiential learning.

OUR CURRICULUM

The Sycamore School integrates academic development, social emotional growth and civic engagement. Our curriculum encompasses elements of the following evidence-based educational models:

- Framework for 21st Century Learning
- Universal Design for Learning
- Common Core State Standards
- Mindful Schools
- Connected Math
- Next Generation Science

Teachers create a dynamic learning process by building relationships with students to personalize instruction.

- Students make choices based on interests and influence how content is learned and mastery is demonstrated.
- Students learn in a living classroom, making use of local resources through field studies and service learning opportunities.
- Our community embraces tolerance for diverse viewpoints and acceptance of differences; we encourage each student to find and use his or her unique voice.

Students & teachers **are partners** in learning.



THE SYCAMORE SCHOOL

Learning Rediscovered

The Arlington Center
4600 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 300
Arlington, Virginia 22203
703-717-5360

www.thesycamoreschoolva.org

Helping students find their place... in the classroom, in the community, in the world.

WHY THE SYCAMORE SCHOOL?

- The middle school years are a pivotal, predictive, and possibly life-altering stage of development.
- Conventional education is focused on standardized tests, rigid standards and acceleration that diminishes curiosity and the desire to learn.
- Conventional education often creates excessive stress and can undermine individual development of character, connection to the community and compassion.
- Traditional practices force students into one way of learning and thinking, producing a system of winners and losers. Our world needs strong leaders, thinkers, and feelers, not just survivors.

WE BELIEVE

- Young people are curious, resilient, and capable of creating innovative solutions to real-world problems.
- Learning should be meaningful, challenging and engaging.
- Intelligence and ability are not fixed, but can be developed.
- Learning is messy, not linear. It's a process of trying, making changes, and moving forward.
- Learning requires a partnership between students, staff and parents.

We provide the tools and opportunities to reignite your child's desire to learn.

Education is **more** than good grades!

Is The Sycamore School right for you?



PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

- Display curiosity
- Want to succeed
- Seek inspiration and engagement
- Feel uninspired or disengaged at school
- Do not want to be defined by standardized test scores
- Have dreams beyond college

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

- Focus on student growth versus grades
- Are willing to partner with staff to support a healthy learning community
- Want their child to succeed in life, not just school
- Are tired of struggling with child over attendance and homework
- Would welcome decreased homework and increased family and leisure time

Conventional Schools

Students can get lost, feel invisible and vulnerable in a large school setting

Large classes with teachers as focus

Standardized test- based curriculum

Common instruction for entire class

All teaching happens in the classroom

The Sycamore School

Students feel safe in a nurturing, inclusive learning community

Small classes focusing on student-teacher collaboration

Dynamic curriculum with real-world application

Students help shape individualized instruction

Learning happens everywhere— in the classroom and the community

Rolling Admissions

Our inaugural class will include students in grades 6-8 and expand as students advance through grade 12. For more information, please visit thesycamoreschoolva.org or call **703-717-5360** to schedule an informational meeting.