

Welcome to Kentwood Preparatory



We Prepare Children For Life

Welcome Parents and Guests

- Please turn off or turn to silent/vibrate all cell phones.



Kentwood Preparatory



Kentwood is a co-educational day school plus a day/overnight summer camp offering an alternative education program.

Kentwood serves high functioning (average to above average intelligence) students who for one reason or another are not being successful in the public school, private school, and/or home.

High Functioning

- Not indicative of performance on testing or report cards
- Underachievers
- High functioning in 1 of 4 areas
 - » Academic
 - » Social Skills
 - » Life Skills
 - » Physical Skills



Children are Unique



- Like fingerprints
- Similar characteristics and qualities
- Don't fit perfectly into any diagnosis
- Every child has specific needs
- Every child possesses unique skills sets
- Not everything we discuss will apply to your child

Reasons for Lack of Success

- Social / Life Skills (1)
 - Making friends / treating friends / keeping friends
 - Self esteem / self confidence / depression
 - Impulsive / Poor Decision making
 - General lack of social skills
 - Inability to see cause and effect
 - Doesn't accept responsibility
 - Oppositional or defiant



Symptoms of Academic Problems

- Academic Deficits (1, 2)
 - Problems in one or more subject areas
 - Cannot or will not complete homework
 - Leave books at school or homework at home
 - Is non cooperative / non compliant in the classroom
 - Constant phone calls from the school / teacher
 - Does not like school
 - Won't get up in the morning
 - Fight to get them to school



Symptoms of Life Skill Problems

- At home (1, 2, 3)
 - Room is a mess / cannot find things / loses things
 - Poor hygiene / won't shower or brush teeth
 - Uses all the shampoo or loses the soap
 - Leaves wet clothes all over the house
 - Wants to watch TV or play games during meal times
 - Won't sit at the table or eat with the rest of family
 - Won't eat the food prepared
 - Wants to do all kinds of things at bed time
 - Won't stay in room
 - Fights with parents / siblings
 - Won't get up in the morning / fight to get them to school

Reasons for problems

May have 1 or more of the following

- Cognitive Function and Development
 - Have not developed the proper organizational skills
 - Don't have task analysis skills
 - Start / Stay On / Complete a task
 - Cannot see part / whole relationships
 - IE: How reading affects math word problems
 - Auditory processing problems (APD)
 - General processing / perceptual problems
 - Problems sorting, grouping, or sequencing

Failure of Public Schools

- Public schools rely too much on standardized testing (F Cats), grade levels, and memorization of facts and figures.
- Public schools do not focus on competencies, skills, or critical thinking.
- Public schools do not take a role of helping the family to raise their child – or perform the task of being a social anchor.
- Public schools do not make the accommodations that real life makes

Failure of Private Schools

- Try to remediate the subject content (math, reading, writing)
- Do not treat the cognitive* deficits that are causing the problems.
 - *Thinking, reasoning, and other intellectual abilities.
 - Cannot teach cognitive skills by teaching math and reading.
 - You need to teach the cognitive skills first and then the child will learn the math and the reading
- Repeat the same method of teaching that does not work (it never will work)
- Don't use a multi-sensory, hands on, tactile learning modality
 - Our students are tactile learners – they learn by touching and by doing, not just by listening.

Our Students

- Kentwood **does not** accept students who are emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded, or who are a danger to themselves or others *.
- Many of our students have been diagnosed (or misdiagnosed) with ADD/HD, Aspergers, Autism, OCD, ODD etc.
- The majority of our students just do not function well in the public school system because the public school system is not equipped, trained, or experienced enough to understand, teach, and nurture our students.

Our Students

- Are normal.
- Are physically normal.
- Exhibit “normal” behaviors – the difference is *frequency* of the occurrence
 - Frequency too high
 - Frequency too low
- Medications / Therapy / Tutoring

Kentwood Systems

- Individualized Academic, Social, Physical, and Life Skills
- Small classrooms 10 to 15 students
- Student to staff ratio of 6 to 1
- Constant positive feedback and reinforcement
- Determine what and where the deficits are
- Give the students the skills they will need to succeed
- Create a nurturing safe environment that fosters learning, promotes teamwork, and facilitates social and emotional growth

Kentwood Systems

- Identify deficits vs. manipulation
 - Remediate the deficit
 - Consequence the manipulation
- Take control back
- Focus where needed
- Accommodations that real life makes
 - Homework
 - Natural consequences
 - Choose to not do work > Stay late to make up work
 - Structure and consistency
 - Prepare for success

BICS, Clubs, & Late Clubs

- Early intervention and discussion
- Signed contracts
- 3 strike rule
- Idea and methodology behind clubs
 - Remediate deficits
 - Remove manipulation
 - Non Confrontational
 - No surprises

Kentwood Information

- Day School
- Day & Overnight Summer Camp
- Accredited by the same body as other private schools
- Calendar follows Broward County Schools
- Hours of school 8:30 to 2:30 / 3:30
- Pre-care from 7:30 Aftercare until 5:30
- Transport from Boca to Miami, A1A to I-75
- Uniforms required
- Catered lunch available
- Extracurricular activities (Sports, Drama, Art, Music, Dance, Fitness)

Kentwood Information

- Tuition is based on a sliding scale and is income dependent
- We accept McKay Scholarships
- IEP / Matrix
- Parent responsible for balance
- Financial assistance and scholarships

Kentwood Information

- How long does my child need to be here?
 - Alternative School
 - Prepares Students for Life
 - Skills need to be continuously taught and reinforced
 - Lifestyle choice
 - Prepares them for a job

Kentwood Process

- 1 of 3 Outcomes

- Yes
- No
- Maybe (need trial period or more information)

- Kentwood accepts 1 of every 5 applicants
- Program must be right for child *and* parents

- You will receive a phone call from an existing Kentwood parent
- You will receive call from admissions
 - To come in for an appointment or to discuss options

We only accept 150 students into our school each year

We have a 80 to 90 percent retention rate

Our school is full every year

Questions?

