



## Registration

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: How does a parent/family enroll a child in King's Academy?

Only a custodial parent or legal guardian can enroll a child in King's Academy. That parent or guardian should telephone the school to schedule a time to complete the registration/enrollment process. The child should be in attendance. Parents should bring picture identification, verification of residency and address, immunization record, a completed and signed NC Health Transmittal form, the child's birth certificate and cash or check in the amount of the registration fee.

### Q: What are the tuition costs?

The following tuition schedule will govern the 2024-2025 school year:

#### Preschool:

Class	Tuition	Tuition/Additional Sibling	Non-Refundable Registration
Half Day Four Days (Twos & Threes)	\$280/month	\$252/month	\$100
Half Day Five Days	\$340/month	\$306/month	\$100
All Day Preschool	\$195/week	\$175.50/week	\$100

#### Elementary:

Class	Tuition	Non – Refundable Registration	Educational Resources	Technology Fee	Total
Kindergarten	\$5,900	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$6,300
First Grade	\$6,800	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$7,200
Second Grade	\$7,500	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$7,900

## General

**Q: Which North Carolina government agency oversees non-public schools which enroll children younger than five years old?**

The North Carolina Division of Child Development oversees such programs which involve any children younger than age five who are on the premises for more than four hours daily.

**Q: Must private schools test students?**

Nationally Standardized Tests are required by state law to be administered each year to all students enrolled in grades 3, 6, 9 and 11. Note that this requirement is different from that of North Carolina's public schools.

**Q: Must private schools collaborate or communicate with local public schools?**

Collaboration and communication are not required but can be mutually beneficial. Private school students may be able to access special support services through the local public school district. Additionally, the local public-school superintendent would greatly appreciate notification whenever a student withdraws from an area private school. This voluntary action helps in enforcing the compulsory attendance law for students in the local area.

**Q: What is the regulatory philosophy underlying today's North Carolina conventional non-public school laws?**

North Carolina (like every other state) operates a public school system which is free of tuition charges and open to all school age children.

No one is required to attend a non-public school.

Since North Carolina's non-public schools receive no state tax dollars and enroll only about 10% of the compulsory attendance age children living in North Carolina, the State of North Carolina does not attempt to regulate the religious philosophy, educational philosophy or the operational policies of non-public schools.

North Carolina does, however, establish fire safety and sanitation standards which all conventional non-public school buildings must meet.

North Carolina non-public school law also mandates the length of the school year, student attendance and immunization record-keeping and nationally standardized testing of students in order to monitor the overall quality of student academic performance.

DNPE staff representatives periodically conduct on-site visits to conventional non-public schools to review updated fire safety and sanitation building inspection records, the school calendar, attendance records, and nationally standardized test score records to make certain that these requirements are met on an on-going basis.

King's Academy will operate in accordance with the state laws and regulation relative to fire safety and sanitation standards. Safety drills will be conducted (e.g. fire, lockdown, severe weather) and inspections (e.g. health department, fire marshal) will be scheduled. The latter may also occur unannounced.

## Attendance

### **Q: Are there state mandates and guidelines for handling makeup days for weather-related school day closings?**

Non-public schools are exempt from all laws governing public schools except for those relating to building code, sanitation and immunization requirements. Non-public school laws mandate a school year of at least nine calendar months excluding reasonable holidays and vacations.

No specific minimum number of days or number of hours per day are given. They also do not address the issue of weather-related school closings and the makeup of them.

DNPE suggests that, in most cases, school days missed because of weather-related closings be made up within the school year. Most non-public schools build several adverse weather days into each school year's calendar.

King's Academy will operate a nine-month school year with a holiday calendar comparable to the local public school district. Weather decisions (e.g. closings, delays) will be made by the Head of School in collaboration with the senior pastor or his designee.

### **Q: Does North Carolina non-public school law require that a conventional non-public school student be on the school's premises for a specific number of hours per day, week, month or year?**

No. G.S. 115C-[548](#) and [556](#) require that the non-public school student regularly attend classes and that the non-public school itself shall operate ". . . *on a regular schedule, excluding reasonable holidays and vacations, during at least nine calendar months of the year.*"

However, there is no reference to a specific number of hours per day, week, month or year the school must require its students to be on its premises. G.S. 115C-[554](#) and [562](#) exempt non-public schools from any such public school laws.

**Q: Why does DNPE recommend for conventional non-public schools a school term of at least 180 school days, typical school day lengths of at least 5 1/2 hours, and typical class periods for grade 9-12 students of 50 minutes each?**

Since most non-public schools usually have some students who transfer back into the local public school system, be aware that the principal of your local public school is empowered by public school law to determine the acceptance or rejection of transfer credit from your non-public school into his/her public school.

Non-public schools that do not meet or exceed the length of school year, the length of school day, and the grade 9-12 class period length requirements for North Carolina public schools may encounter problems in gaining transfer credit recognition for academic work completed by the student at the non-public school.

## Curriculum

**Q: Are non-public schools required to follow the Public Schools of North Carolina curriculum?**

No. Non-public schools may utilize whatever curriculum they wish. Instruction at King's Academy will be guided by the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and Lifeway's Ages and Stages: A Discipleship Framework.

**Q: Is the Public Schools of North Carolina curriculum available online?**

Yes, the [NC Standard Course of Study](#) is available online.

## Kindergarten

**Q: Is there a birthday cutoff date for students to be admitted into a non-public school kindergarten program?**

No. Non-public school laws give such schools the freedom to establish their own policies regarding the age cutoff for admission. See [G.S. 115C-554](#) & [G.S. 115C-562](#)

For example, a non-public school may require that the child turn age 5 by November 1 of the school year during which the child seeks admission to its kindergarten program. King's Academy has elected to abide by North Carolina's cutoff date. In accordance with North Carolina law, King's Academy will consider on a case-by-case basis, children who are not five on or before August 31 of the school year. Parents should be prepared to provide references, assessment data and student work samples.

**Q: Must non-public school kindergarten programs operate on full day schedules?**

No. Non-public school kindergartens may utilize a half-day schedule all year long, if the school so desires. King's Academy will operate a full-day kindergarten.

**Q: What is the Public Schools of North Carolina birthday cutoff date for children to be eligible for kindergarten enrollment?**

The child must have reached his/her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday on or before August 31 of the school year for which the child is seeking kindergarten enrollment. See G.S. [115C-364](#).

**Q: Will there be any potential legal ramifications for the student or parent if a non-public school chooses to set its kindergarten entrance age cutoff date later than the Public Schools of North Carolina?**

Yes. G.S. [115C-288a](#) grants to the principal of a local public school authority to grade and classify students presented for enrollment in his/her school.

There is a distinct possibility that the public school principal may not move a younger non-public school kindergarten student into his/her public school first or second grade.

## **Student Records/Transcripts/Grades/Promotion**

**Q: May a conventional North Carolina non-public school withhold student records, subject grades and transcripts for students whose financial account is delinquent?**

Yes, provided the North Carolina non-public school does not participate in any federally-funded programs. The vast majority of North Carolina non-public schools do not participate in them.

Student immunization records, however, must always be released when requested by the next conventional school which the student will be attending. The withholding of student academic records, report cards, etc. by North Carolina non-public schools until a student's financial account is paid in full is a long standing, perfectly legal and acceptable practice for non-public schools to utilize in collecting past-due accounts.

Virtually all private colleges and also North Carolina non-public schools use this technique as a method of last resort. No one in state government has legal authority to deal with this type issue. Such a problem can only be resolved by the student's parent/guardian and the North Carolina non-public school involved.

King's Academy does not participate in federally-funded programs. Transcripts and other records may be held until tuition accounts are settled.

**Q: Must North Carolina non-public schools make their student records available to students, parents or the general public upon request?**

No, provided the school does not participate in any federal government funded programs (Most North Carolina non-public schools do not participate in them).

Each North Carolina non-public school establishes its own policies concerning the release of student records.

**Q: What are the laws governing non-public school student record maintenance?**

G.S. 115C-[554](#) and [562](#) exempt non-public schools from all public school laws relating to student record keeping.

North Carolina's non-public school statutes require that the non-public school make and maintain only student attendance, immunization and nationally standardized test result records.

Non-public school laws do not address student academic or disciplinary record keeping requirements.

**Q: Must non-public school teachers follow the Public Schools of North Carolina student promotion and retention policies?**

No, North Carolina's non-public school statutes do not address this topic.

Therefore, private K-12 schools in North Carolina are free to make their own final decisions regarding whether a student is promoted to the next grade level or retained.

The Head of School, much like a public school principal, will retain authority to grade and classify students, including promoting, retaining, transferring or placing students.

[G.S. 115C-554](#) & [G.S. 115C-562](#) exempts them from all public school promotion/retention policies.

## Textbooks

**Q: Do the Public Schools of North Carolina provide textbooks at no charge to students enrolled in non-public schools?**

No. Each non-public school must purchase its own textbooks.

**Q: Is there an online version of the North Carolina State Board of Education textbook adoption list available?**

Yes.

**Q: May non-public schools purchase textbooks from the Public Schools of North Carolina?**

The Public Schools of North Carolina do not sell their textbooks to non-public schools.

**Q: Must conventional non-public schools utilize the same textbooks as used by the Public Schools of North Carolina?**

No, non-public schools may use any textbooks they wish.

## Staffing

**Q: Are health certificates required of non-public school teachers and other school staff?**

No, provided the school does not operate a pre-kindergarten program.

However, non-public schools are encouraged to voluntarily require them initially for each new school staff member. Read the North Carolina Attorney General's [legal opinion](#).

The current public school staff health certificate statutory requirement is found in G.S. 115C-[323](#).

At the time of employment, King's Academy will require health certificates, including Tuberculin Skin Tests for all staff.

**Q: Are non-public school teachers and administrators required to be licensed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction or State Board of Education?**

No, each individual non-public school establishes its own qualifications for its faculty and administrative staff.

King's Academy is committed to hiring educators who are licensed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. It is expected that licenses remain current throughout

tenure.

**Q: How does a North Carolina non-public school head have a criminal background check run on a North Carolina non-public school employee?**

A criminal background check can be obtained through the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation in Raleigh or any other certified background check company.

King's Academy has applied to be listed among private schools accepting North Carolina Opportunity Scholarship funding. The North Carolina Department of Administration requires the head of school/principal to have a background check through NCSEAA Castle Branch.