CHARLOTTE
AREA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS

CAIS

A Consortium for
Applicant Assessment for
Pre-Kindergarten–Grade 4

2026-2027

Participating CAIS Schools

Websites provided for Open House dates and other pertinent information.

Charlotte Christian School
Allycia Brown, Dir. of Early Education & Lower School Admissions
7301 Sardis Road, Charlotte, NC 28270
704-366-5657 fax: 704-366-5678
allycia.brown@charchrist.com
charlottechristian.com

Charlotte Country Day School
Nancy Ehringhaus, Director of Admissions & Financial Aid
1440 Carmel Road, Charlotte, NC 28226-5096
704-943-4500 fax: 704-943-4536
nancy.ehringhaus@charlottecountryday.org
charlottecountryday.org

Charlotte Latin School
Mary Yorke Oates, Director of Enrollment Management
9502 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28277
704-846-7207 fax: 704-849-0503
maryyorke.oates@charlottelatin.org
charlottelatin.org

Charlotte Preparatory School
Seher Khanna, Director of Enrollment
212 Boyce Road, Charlotte, NC 28211
704-366-5994 fax: 704-366-0221
skhanna@charlotteprep.org
charlotteprep.org

Covenant Day School
Jennifer Billiard, Director of Admissions
800 Fullwood Lane, Matthews, NC 28105
704-814-1074 fax: 704-708-6149
jbilliard@covenantday.org
covenantday.org

Providence Day School
Lisa Knight
Assistant Head for Admissions & Enrollment Management
5800 Sardis Road, Charlotte, NC 28270
704-887-6000 fax: 704-887-7520
lisa.knight@providenceday.org
providenceday.org

Trinity Episcopal School
Fé Vivas Patriciu, Director of Admission & Financial Support
750 East 9th Street, Charlotte, NC 28202-3102
980-207-5898 fax: 704-358-9908
fpatriciu@tescharlotte.org
tescharlotte.org

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Finding Just The Right School

The independent schools that make up CAIS are united in our desire to determine the best educational match between your child, your family, and your school. It is important that your child's profile meshes with your school's curriculum and mission. In turn, your school should offer an environment that fosters your child's greatest potential.

Cognitive assessment is one of the tools we use to make sure your child finds the best possible school match. To this end, standardized cognitive evaluations are used to let you avoid multiple evaluations and allow member schools to assess applicants on an objective, uniform basis. They are the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence–Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV) for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 applicants; and the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children–Fifth Edition (WISC-V) for rising Grades 2-4.

Whether you are applying to one or more of our member schools, your child will be evaluated only one time by a licensed psychologist designated by CAIS. This one-on-one evaluation of your child by a highly experienced psychologist (listed in this brochure) meets the testing requirements of these participating schools:

- Charlotte Christian School
- Charlotte Country Day School
- Charlotte Latin School
- Charlotte Preparatory School
- Covenant Day School
- Providence Day School
- Trinity Episcopal School

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Tips For A Positive Testing Experience

Naturally, you want your child to perform to his or her highest ability when tested. For this reason, we hope you'll keep the following suggestions in mind, no matter how simple they may seem.

1. The more relaxed you are, the more relaxed your child will be! Double-check the date and time of your appointment and call ahead to get directions to the testing office. Avoid rushing to the appointment, since this can cause your child to make a poor transition into the evaluation. Arriving too early can also be difficult for your child. Please arrive promptly at the appointment time. Finally, try not to send your child to preschool immediately prior to the evaluation, as some activities could be overstimulating.

2. Testing in the mornings between 8 am-12 pm is preferable for children.

3. Young children tend to be attached to their daily routine, so let your child know that something different has been scheduled into the day. Sudden changes could be upsetting.

4. To put your child at ease, explain the one-on-one appointment with the psychologist in a matter-of-fact way and avoid any mention of testing. You might use phrases like: "We're going to see a person like a teacher. You'll need to listen and do what the teacher asks. This is something children do in school."

Emphasize that your child will enjoy the activities. The psychologists we have selected are skilled in putting children at ease. Most children are not even aware they are being tested.

5. Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats well before the assessment. Encourage your child to dress in comfortable clothes and to use the restroom before the appointment. Tell the psychologist if anything out of the ordinary has occurred the day or night before the assessment (such as illness, sleeplessness, medications, or travel).

6. Though you want the evaluation to be a positive experience for your child, use caution about offering rewards ahead of time. Being excited about an anticipated treat can interfere with your child's ability to focus.

7. Help make this a special time for your child. We encourage you to come without siblings.

Psychologists

The psychologists listed below have worked closely with the CAIS member schools. They look forward to working with you and your child as you go through the admissions process.

Standardized evaluations are the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence–Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV) for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 applicants; and the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children–Fifth Edition (WISC-V) for rising Grades 2-4.

Shaded psychologists administer WPPSI-IV and WISC-V. Non-shaded administer WPPSI-IV only.

Erika Baron, Psy.D.
425 S. Sharon Amity Rd., Suite D
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-268-9707
Erika@DrErikaBaron.com
DrErikaBaron.com

Susan Campbell, Ph.D.
1808 E. 7th Street
Charlotte, NC 28204
susancampbellphd@gmail.com
tournesolclt.com

Alexandra Duffy, Psy.D.
11220 Elm Lane, Suite 203
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-654-1920
alex@dralexduffy.com

Carmen Edwards, Ph.D.
4801 E. Independence Blvd. Ste. 1018
Charlotte, NC 28212
984-244-0646
scheduling@psychassessclt.com
***ESL Testing Available**

Theresa L. Gibson, Ph.D., PLLC
10720 Sikes Place, Suite 120
Charlotte, NC 28277
theresa@drtheresagibson.com
drtheresagibson.com

Jill Gottlieb, Psy.D.
10224 Hickorywood Hill Ave., Suite 101A
Huntersville, NC 28078
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DrJillGottlieb.com

Joy Granetz, Ph.D.
10724 Carmel Cmn Blvd., Suite 540
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Terri James, Ph.D., PLLC
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Chad Kraska, Psy.D.
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Heidi Limbrunner, Psy.D., ABPP
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ballantynepsychology.com
therapyportal.com/p/ballantyne/

Jennifer McConnell, Ed.S.
13950 Ballantyne Corporate Pl., Ste 155
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-216-4680
contact@bewellcharlotte.com
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Barrie Morganstein, Ph.D.
6060 Piedmont Row Dr. South, Ste. 120
Charlotte, NC 28287
704-552-0116
bmorganstein@southeastpsych.com

Lisa Pennington, Ph.D.
2813 Coltsgate Road, Suite 200
Charlotte, NC 28211
Online scheduling only:
carolinaminds.com

Melanie V. Powell, Ph.D.
501 S. Sharon Amity Road, Suite 500
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-248-4849
admin@mindsparkpsych.com
mindsparkpsych.com

Marla Shapiro, PhD,
226 E. Tremont Ave.
Charlotte NC 28203
(704) 317-7177
info@brainhealthpllc.com
brainhealthpllc.com
***ESL Testing Available**

The Registration Process: All Applicants Must Follow

To apply for testing, CAIS requires that you adhere to the following procedure:

❶ Complete an application to the school(s) to which you are applying for admission. No school will consider an evaluation until an application for admission to that particular school has been received.

❷ Appointments can be made after September 1, 2025. All appointments for testing are made by the parents with an individual psychologist-not by the schools.
Important Dates:

- TK/JK/K Application Deadline to CAIS Schools-- December 31, 2025
- TK/JK/K CAIS Testing Complete by February 1, 2026
- Grades 1-4 Application Deadline for CAIS Schools-- January 15, 2026
- Grades 1-4 CAIS Testing Completed by February 20, 2026

Payments must be made in full for appointments made after January 1, 2026 and are non-refundable.

❸ Since your child will be compared to other children with the same chronological age, **late testing provides no advantage.**

❹ Psychologists will not schedule appointments until after Labor Day. Contact your chosen psychologist from our brochure list. Since most work independently, allow up to 48 hours for a response. Ample slots are available for all applicants. Once confirmed, payment via credit card or Zelle is due within 24 hours. Check payments have a one-week grace period but must be arranged with your psychologist in advance. Payment methods may vary by provider. Appointments will be cancelled if payment isn't received within the specified timeframe.

❺ To ensure test reliability and validity, **children must be at least four years of age** at the time of testing, and the assessment can be administered **only once in a twelve month period.**

❻ **Psychologists will report to the schools any indication that a child has been coached, tutored, or re-tested. Any indication of the aforementioned will invalidate your application to any CAIS school. Parents will be asked to sign a Test Validity Verification Form at the psychologist's office to ensure no prior testing/ coaching has occurred.**

❼ Upon completion of the evaluation, test results that are limited to percentile ranges are sent to the parents and to the designated schools. A more detailed interpretation of the results may be obtained by scheduling a feedback meeting with the psychologist. This is optional for each family and will be billed to you at the psychologist's hourly rate. To secure your feedback appointment, payment is due prior to appointment date.

❽ In addition to the assessment, CAIS schools require an interview with each child. The respective schools will contact you to make an appointment for the interview/observation sessions that are typically held November–February.

❾ General information concerning the results of your child's evaluation will be mailed to you in writing. The results of the evaluation will also be sent to the participating school(s) of your choice.

❿ Book an appointment with **one psychologist ONLY.**

Admissions Status and Candidate Reply Dates

TK/JK/K for all CAIS schools:
Notification date is **Friday, February 27, 2026.**
Contracts must be returned by Friday, March 6, 2026.

Grades 1-4 for all CAIS schools:
Notification date is **Thursday, April 2, 2026.**
Contracts must be returned by Friday, April 10, 2026.

No contract for a CAIS school will be required prior to this deadline.

Cancellation Policy:
Once payment is made, a nonrefundable $100 fee applies to all cancellations. Per CAIS guidelines, cancellations within 72 hours of your scheduled appointment are not eligible for a refund. For Monday appointments, cancellations must be made by the preceding Wednesday. If an unforeseen circumstance arises within 72 hours of your appointment, please contact the office immediately to discuss rescheduling options.

2026-27

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Registration Form

Please remit registration form and payment to the psychologist of your choice. Your appointment will be considered confirmed with the receipt of your registration form and payment in full. Please contact your provider as to their payment preference.

Testing Fees:

$300 for WPPSI-IV
$300 for WISC-V

The information must be complete and legible to facilitate mailing test results to you. Payment must accompany registration form. Appointments made after January 1, 2026 are non-refundable.

Child's name _____

❑ Girl ❑ Boy
(Please circle name the child is called)

Birth date (M/D/Y) _____

Applying to grade _____
(Child must be four years old before test date)

Previous psychological testing? ❑ Yes ❑ No

Name of test _____

Date administered/By whom _____

List services currently being provided
(i.e., speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, etc)

Is English the second language (ESL)? ❑ Yes ❑ No
For ESL students, an additional Nonverbal Index score will be provided.

Current school and grade _____

Parent #1 (Mr. Dr. Mrs. Ms.) _____

Email *(for testing confirmation)* _____

Street _____

City State Zip _____

Phone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

Parent #2 (Mr. Dr. Mrs. Ms.) _____

Email *(for testing confirmation)* _____

Street _____

City State Zip _____

Phone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

Child's appointment date and time _____

Follow-up appointment date and time *(if applicable)* _____

Assessing psychologist _____

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_____ Charlotte Christian School

_____ Charlotte Country Day School

_____ Charlotte Latin School

_____ Charlotte Preparatory School

_____ Covenant Day School

_____ Providence Day School

_____ Trinity Episcopal School

I hereby request that the results of the CAIS evaluation be sent to the school(s) checked above. I understand that a school must be indicated and that scores will be sent to the indicated school(s). I understand that an application must be made to a CAIS school.

_____
Parent Signature

❑ Psychologists will report to the schools any indication that a child has been coached, tutored, or re-tested.

❑ Any indication of the aforementioned will invalidate your application to any CAIS school.

_____
Date

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