

Special Education

Students with special needs flourish in our Catholic schools as we offer a nurturing, accepting, faith based environment with a focus on individual strengths and abilities to help each child reach his/her God-given potential.

Children with learning disabilities, attention deficits, or speech-language impairments have their special education needs met with resources that parallel those available to other students in their public school district. These may include special education teacher support services, resource room, teacher's aides, physical therapy, speech- language therapy, vision therapy, occupational therapy, and counseling.

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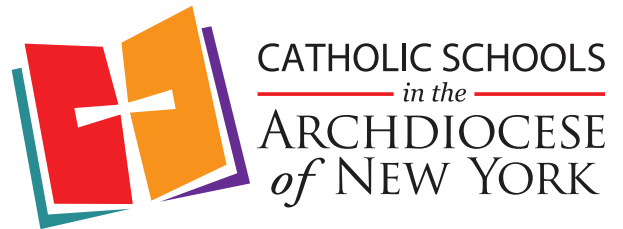
The **John Cardinal O'Connor School** in Westchester County offers a Catholic education to school age children with learning disabilities. It provides a differentiated instructional program with a full academic curriculum modified to achieve the goals and objectives of each student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Educational Services Plan (IESP).

The school utilizes specially trained staff and a consistently applied instructional approach to teach the skills students need to achieve their academic and personal potential. The staff is committed to providing a structured learning experience in a safe and moral environment with instruction in the Catholic faith as an integral part of their curriculum, including attendance at Mass and sacramental preparation.

Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum and social skills are taught through a character development curriculum. With a small student-to-teacher ratio and an array of multisensory teaching techniques, students are empowered to thrive academically, spiritually, emotionally, and socially.

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The **Seton Foundation for Learning** provides comprehensive educational services for children with special needs and their families. It is organized on the premise that early intervention for children who are developmentally disabled can enable them to achieve their full potential. It is the goal of the Seton Foundation to provide children with the fundamental skills needed to enter training programs for competitive employment and independent living. This goal is attained through the provision of a strong sequential educational and prevocational curriculum.

The Seton Foundation operates four programs on Staten Island:

- Joan Ann Kennedy Memorial Preschool, for students 2.9 to 5 years, located on the campus of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Boulevard
- Mother Franciska Elementary School, located on the campus of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Boulevard
- Bishop Patrick V. Ahern High School, for students 15 to 21 years, located on the campus of Moore Catholic High School at 315 Arlene Street
- The Therese Program for children on the autistic spectrum, located on the campus of St. Joseph Hill Academy at 850 Hylan Boulevard

The Seton Foundation is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian corporation that is affiliated with, and accredited by, the Department of Education of the Archdiocese of New York. It was founded in 1985 and is open to children of all faiths. It does not receive funding from the Archdiocese.

The Seton Foundation works cooperatively with the Departments of Education and Speech Language Pathology at St. John's University and the Nursing Department of the College of Staten Island. Its programs are approved by the New York State Department of Education.

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