



anastasis academy

BUILDING INDEPENDENT AND CREATIVE THINKERS, WITH PURPOSE

YOUR ROADMAP FOR EVALUATING A SCHOOL

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS
BY ANASTASIS ACADEMY



HOW TO:

EVALUATE A SCHOOL

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Choosing a school for your child is a big decision. Do you rely on the sites who rate schools based on their standardized test score outcomes? Do you rely on how many stars they have on Google or Yelp? What questions should you be asking as you tour? How do you discover who a school is beyond the sales pitch? How do you ensure that even the most impressive school is the right one for your family?

This roadmap has been created to help guide you through questions that can lead you to make the best decision for your child and family. We've included questions and reflection exercises to help you through this process.

Should you be interested in how Anastasis Academy answers these questions, we would be delighted to meet you!

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

IN THIS ROADMAP

- 20 Questions to ask and answer as you tour a school.
- Reflection tool to assess your child's needs in a school.
- Reflection tool to assess your family's needs in a school.

HOW TO USE

THIS ROADMAP

Begin with the questions. Some of the questions you'll be able to answer by exploring the school's website, others will be best answered in-person as you tour.

We've used the following symbols to help you navigate those questions.

-  Website
-  In-person Tour

Next, we'll invite you to reflect on your child and family needs. Does the school adequately meet the needs?



LET'S BEGIN WITH THE QUESTIONS

1

What is the school known for?



2

How does the school/teacher get to know my child as an individual?



3

What is the average class size?*



*** How does this impact:**

- * Student relationships**
- * Academics and learning**
- * My child's specific needs being met**
- * Classroom management**



4

What communities/districts does the school draw from?





5

How can parents be involved?



6

How often do children get to experience immersive learning? (i.e. field trips, guest speakers, hands-on, etc.)



7

How is behavior or discipline addressed?*



* **What preventative measures do you see in place?**

* **How is character being developed in the classroom? School-wide?**

8

How is my child's learning progress measured and shared?



9

Will my child be subjected to state-mandated, high-stakes tests?



10

How does the school meet my child's individual academic needs and avoid a one-size-fits-all approach to learning?



11

How is learning connected to other learning so that it is in context?*



*** Look for:**

- * Inquiry-based, or project-based approach**
- * Schedule of the day (Is each subject taught separately? If so, how are teachers helping connect learning across subjects?)**

12

What additional special activities will my child enjoy each week?



13

How is the school community built?



14

What learning differences can the school support?



15

How do students learn to serve the community?



16

What kind of flexibility is offered in classroom space?



17

How is play incorporated in the learning?



13

How does the school nurture a global perspective?



14

How does the school support my child socially/emotionally?



15

How does the school develop life skills?



16

How is technology being used purposefully for learning?



17

What is the homework policy?



18

Is this a faith-based school? What does that look like?



19

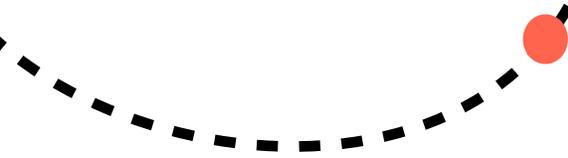
What is the tuition, and what does tuition include?



20

What additional fees can I expect throughout the year?





MY CHILD'S NEEDS

A school may be impressive, they might have answered questions in a way that you, as a parent, loved. Let's consider your child and make sure that the school is a good fit for them. Answer the questions below and reflect on how the school is prepared to meet their needs.

My child's academic strengths:

My child's academic weaknesses:

My child's social strengths:

My child's social weaknesses:



MY CHILD'S NEEDS

My child prefers movement



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

My child prefers hands-on learning



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

My child is bored in school



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

My child is an independent learner



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree



MY FAMILY NEEDS

School is not just a place where your child goes to learn, it's a community that your family becomes part of. It's important to think about how the school community meets the needs of your family.

The schools values match the values of our family.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

The school expectations for parents work for our family.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

Our family can invest in our child's education right now.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

We support the school's approach to learning.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree



MY FAMILY NEEDS

The homework policy works for our family.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

Assessment practices honor who my child is.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

The approach to behavior/discipline is in alignment with our values.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree

There is a payment option that works for our family.



Strongly Agree

Strongly Disagree



FINAL REFLECTION

You've scoured the school website, toured the school, considered how the school can meet the needs of your child and your family. Here are a few final prompts as you make your school decision.

Our favorite aspect of the school was _____

When we entered the school we immediately felt _____

The classrooms were _____

Children seemed to be _____

We noticed that the staff seemed _____

One question we still have is _____

Things I want to remember about our tour _____
