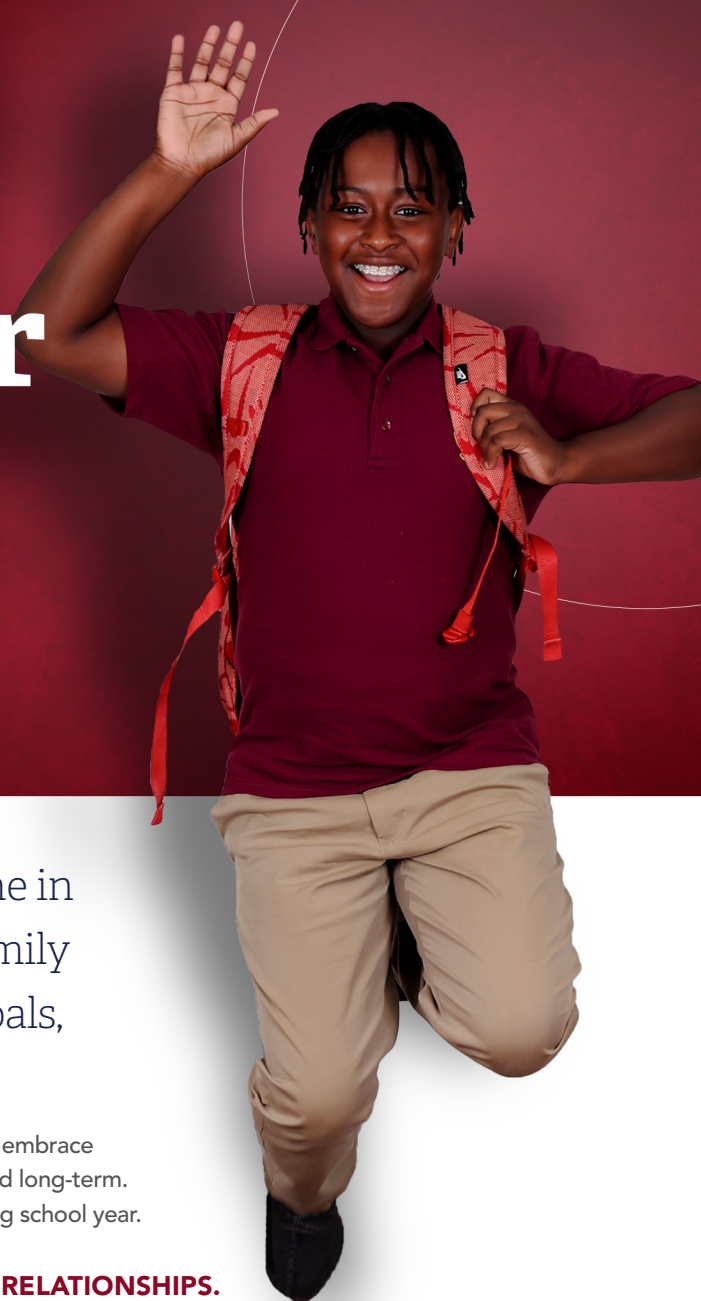


HOW TO PREPARE

Your Child for a Successful School Year



Every new school year is an exciting milestone in your child's life. However, each child – and family – approaches the year with different skills, goals, and interests.

Taking your child's individual needs into account while encouraging your child to embrace curiosity, possibility, and novelty will set them up for success in both the near- and long-term. Here's how to prepare your child to excel at their independent school this coming school year.

1. CREATE DAILY ROUTINES.

Work with your child to create a balanced, empowering daily routine that allows for rest, nutrition, socialization, creativity, and personal interests. A positive routine will position your child to thrive during the academic year and beyond. Why not start today?

2. NURTURE SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS.

A supportive community is central to student success. Make family introductions to teachers and other school personnel and reach out to other families with children attending the same school. Having access to a close campus community and familiar faces will foster confidence and encourage participation.

3. EXPLORE PRACTICAL LEARNING.

Give your child a variety of opportunities to use their knowledge and expose them to diverse working environments and peer groups. The arts, STEM projects, participation in clubs, and volunteer work are all great opportunities to see ideas in action, while still being kids.

4. ENCOURAGE SELF-RESPONSIBILITY.

Successful students take ownership of their studies, extracurriculars, and personal problem-solving. Help your child to make decisions, small and large, and prime them for success by scaffolding them with the tools, resources, and connections they need to take charge of their lives, recognizing that learning includes setbacks.

5. GO BEYOND COMFORT ZONES.

It's easy to lean into the things that we excel at. Encourage your child to spread their wings by taking up an instrument, learning a new language, or joining a sports team. Each experience will help them discover strengths they didn't know they had – and will help them develop new friendly groups as well.

7. TAKE A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE.

Excelling as a student at an independent school is about more than grades or test scores. Successful students develop a wide range of skills, abilities, and knowledge to serve them in the classroom and beyond. Encourage your student to try new things, embrace challenges, and, above all, ask questions.

At Staten Island Academy, we've seen generations of students make the successful transition into independent school life using the strategies above. As Staten Island's only independent, coeducational Pre K3-12 school, we're proud of our 140-year strong reputation for nurturing young people of high character and preparing them not just for college, but for life.

If you're exploring educational options for your child, we welcome you to attend an Open House or schedule a private tour to learn more about what a difference an independent school can make.

6. LEARN ALONGSIDE YOUR CHILD.

Taking an interest in your child's academic life will inspire your child to extend their knowledge and think deeply through ideas and questions that they can then take back into the classroom. Modeling curiosity and a growth mindset shows your child that when it comes to learning, the journey is the reward.

8. DO A TRIAL RUN.

Knowledge is preparation. Before the school year begins, gather information about school routines, personnel, experiences, and expectations. Research the school, watch videos, attend on-campus events, or take a tour so that your child is as prepared as possible for the coming year.

