

Our Mission



Kirby Hall School believes that for students to learn well, they must feel appreciated and respected. Excellent teachers and curriculum must guide each student. Classes must be small enough for teachers to individualize. Fun is a part of every day at Kirby Hall. It is the job of the school to provide an appropriate environment for learning to occur. Our Vision and Mission Statement is:

The Mission of Kirby Hall School is to prepare bright and kind young people for a life of academic success, personal fulfillment and satisfaction, and service to their community. A gifted faculty with genuine affection for children and teenagers helps each student meet his or her greatest potential by setting high standards for academic achievement and honorable behavior, while recognizing and rewarding individual strengths and being sure that all students are taught to respect and support their fellow schoolmates. Kirby Hall pursues its goals through a traditional course of study and small classes, where individual attention is possible and is given daily to each student. We believe that children achieve and grow in a more wholesome way when they are well-nurtured, happy and having fun. The environment reflects the values of kindness, humility and mutual respect. Kirby Hall students ultimately go forward in their lives knowing both how to succeed in the world themselves and how to make it a better place for others.

Our Mission Statement drives our efforts to ensure that all students experience academic success and personal growth. We measure our success in achieving our mission by a positive attitude of our students and their interest in their studies as well as the high academic standards achieved in nationally standardized tests.

Instruction in the classroom, as well as decorum outside the classroom, is defined along the lines of the mission and the beliefs of the school. The core curriculum is taught one grade level above the norm to allow bright students to meet their potential while remaining with students of their maturity level. They are neither bored nor misplaced into a more socially advanced group due to their advanced academic ability. The curriculum is traditional yet fashioned for today. The curriculum director continually reviews current adoption materials and possible new materials to ensure the best in brain-based research and best practices are reflected in our instruction. Class sizes are small, enabling the faculty to provide individual attention as needed. Decorum, self worth and nurturing are all traits that are expected of both faculty and students. The school environment reflects the school's mission of tradition and respect. Students are taught to be respectful of their historic school, the building and its belongings.

"Our goal and pleasant duty as teachers of Kirby Hall School is to transmit to our students the appreciation of beauty in literature and the arts; the value of languages for communication among individuals and among nations; the importance of history as the experience of others from whom we learn patterns in our present world; the amazing world of science that shows us that reality can be more fantastic than fantasy itself; and, the awe of the abstract world of mathematics that shows a practical connection with everyday life. It is our objective to deliver a love of knowledge that creates an ample and positive vision of the world and an appreciation of our civic duties to humanity."

-- *Julio de la Llata, KHS Spanish Teacher*

"When it was time to find a school for Kilean, we were determined to find at least the level of education I received at the private school I attended at Europe, but we also wanted a friendly and warm atmosphere. After our first visit to Kirby Hall, both my husband and I noticed how the teachers seemed content and lively. We felt that they were happy with their jobs and enjoyed the children. We also noticed that the children seemed intelligent, sweet, and polite in a natural fashion, without affectation."

-- *Viviane Vives*

"Kirby Hall is everything parents could want for their child, excellent academics in a warm and nurturing environment. It feels like we are dropping her off with family each morning."

-- *Leigh Ann Bennett*

"Kirby Hall is as personal and attentive as a large home school. The children form life-long bonds in these small classes while getting one of the best educations in Austin! The faculty and administration support the kids like a trusted aunt! I drop off my child feeling secure in the knowledge that she is getting the very best education I can find, in one of the most nurturing academic environments I've ever known."

-- *Joan Doughty*

"While we can measure academic excellence with grade point averages, standardized test scores, and college admissions, it is harder to quantify the less tangible things that define a high quality educational environment. Equally important are the Band-Aids and hugs that cure boobos and bruised feelings, the teachers who daily greet each child by name and the value of spending time with teachers and parents who nurture and challenge. Kirby Hall meets the true measure of excellence."

-- *Irene Bond*

"Kirby Hall School is an ideal balance of educational excellence and a nurturing atmosphere. It strives to provide a challenging curriculum that prepares our future generation of leaders. In many cases, our children are successfully completing work at grade levels 2 - 6 years above their own. Essential elements are a priority: reading, writing, and math. However, the excellence of all the instructional staff also strongly prepares our children in history, foreign language, science, computer science, art, drama, music, and physical education. Children at Kirby Hall are encouraged to think independently, to write well, and to be able to speak in front of groups of people. Collaborative activities hone their team-work skills. The combined strengthening of both independent work and team-building exercises enables individuals to be excellent contributors, regardless of the situation."

-- *Cherye West*

Kirby Hall admits students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin to all rights and privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to this school. We do not discriminate in the administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarships, or other programs.