
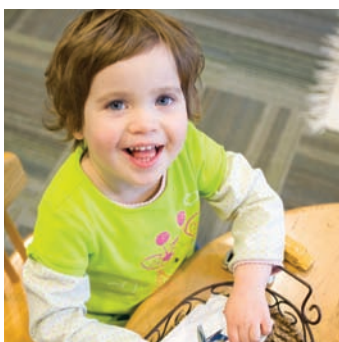
A woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a floral top, is smiling and playing two bongo drums. A young girl with short brown hair is leaning over the drums, also playing. The drums have a colorful geometric pattern. In the background, another child is partially visible, and there is a bulletin board on the wall.

*Education is a
natural process
carried out by
the child and is
not acquired by
listening to words
but by experiences
in the environment.*

Dr. Maria Montessori, 
Educator, Physician
and Anthropologist

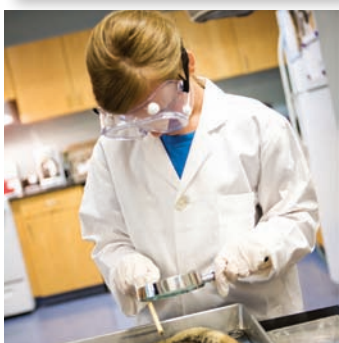


*I am filled with curiosity,
inquisitiveness and wonder.*

Developmental Experience

Springmont has a long history of providing a progressive educational experience crafted to each stage of a child's development. Our students approach the classroom and the world with excitement and curiosity—with eyes wide open. Students' intellectual abilities grow alongside their character in a warm and safe school community. Children spend the vast majority of their time at school. When a safe environment is provided at school, curiosity thrives and great learning and exploration take place. Our dedicated and experienced faculty build upon this and cultivate the inner spark of each student engaging them in learning to last a lifetime.

Our curriculum is as individualized as development itself. This is everything you wanted for your own education, and no one does it like Springmont. To prepare for success in a world not yet envisioned, today's students will need the tools and skills to adapt. At Springmont, students thrive by gaining confidence and a sense of self in conjunction with problem solving skills, social acumen, creativity, compassion *and* intellectual pursuits.



Diverse Community

Families joining the Springmont community come from all over the world. More than a dozen languages are spoken among Springmont's families who hail from countries on six continents. Walking the campus, one may hear Hindi, Tamil, German, Portuguese or Arabic languages, among others, spoken on a daily basis. All major religions are represented as well. This rich cultural and ethnic diversity is celebrated in our school community and woven into classroom studies as well as special events, such as International Night, which celebrates our school's Mission and Core Values and the lives and cultures of people around the world.



We embrace the following Core Values at Springmont:

* Engaged Learning

Students collaborate utilizing their social skills, sense of self and knowledge to become effective in life pursuits.

* Stewardship of the Environment

Students are guided to develop an awareness of the natural world and each person's responsibility for it.

* Creativity

Students are guided to adapt creatively to a changing world and to prepare to have a positive impact on it.

* Authenticity

Students are guided to value both knowledge and a sense of self to develop strength of purpose and conviction.

* Gift of Time

Students are guided to discover meaningful experiences with a depth of understanding that will ignite their imagination.

* Global Awareness

Our students are able to see beyond themselves and want to lead socially useful and purposeful lives.

* Mutual Respect

Students pursue an appreciation of others and trust that they will be heard regardless of differences of opinion, person or learning style.

When students leave us, they also take knowledge of themselves. As a Teacher here, I value the opportunity to focus on all aspects of development, and not just the academic ones.

Sam Newman
Middle School Teacher
Ages 12-14



Classroom Structure

In all classrooms, an individualized work pace and choice are balanced with responsibility. Children repeat and perfect concepts, move on to new ones, are presented lessons from the teacher and collaborate with peers throughout the school day. Our beautiful, well organized materials are learning tools which bring concepts to life. These are designed to appeal to the child's natural sensitivities and critical periods of development. As a result, children thrive in the learning environment, challenge themselves, develop responsibility, discover things that amaze and delight them and pursue learning opportunities at every turn.

Rather than beginning with the skill as is common practice, at Springmont, larger concepts are presented, which allows the child to expand beyond the basics. This process exposes students to new ideas and information that is far more motivating than the skill alone. Students of all ages move about the classroom working on engaging projects and exploring their interests. They perfect, discover and rise to the challenge, with accountability and responsibility increasing as the child grows. Respect for the environment, self and others is integrated into daily activities.

Mixed Age

One hallmark of Montessori is the mixed-age classroom which enriches the learning experiences for each child. Younger students have the opportunity to learn seamlessly from older students. They aid in the development of the younger students and build confidence and esteem for the older students. The age groups are intentional and based on developmental stages. The Teacher/Student relationship is strengthened each year the student remains in the same classroom. This sets the stage for success at every stage of development as students learn to see their teachers as a resource and champion. For the Teacher, a much deeper understanding of each child's individual learning style develops providing a rich service to students as well as parents.





Faculty

Springmont's faculty members are highly skilled with an average of more than 15 years experience. Toddler, Primary and Elementary faculty hold Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) diplomas in addition to bachelor's degrees. Middle School faculty hold American Montessori Society and/or state certification and approximately half of all teachers hold master's degrees. Springmont regularly opens its doors to teacher-trainees and observers from around the world. The staff serves on statewide and Montessori committees furthering educational and leadership objectives. For our teachers, Montessori education is more than a job—it is a way of life. The AMI training is an internationally recognized extensive course of study that encompasses the intellectual, physical, social and spiritual development of the child at each specific stage of development. Springmont's faculty strives for professional excellence by adhering to AMI standards and benefits from participating in other professional development programs such as Orton-Gillingham reading remediation, positive discipline or courses designated to specific program areas. More than 1.5 percent of the annual budget is allocated for professional development.



I dive in headfirst and wide awake.

Toddler

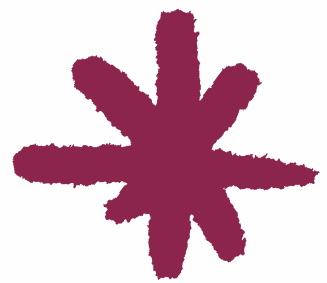
Toddler classrooms serve ages 18 months to three years and are guided by specially trained faculty in warm, home-like learning environments. Children develop a sense of community in a classroom designed for their size and budding motor skills as well as build confidence as they practice life skills. As children repeat these activities, their concentration and coordination increase, and they become more independent in their ability to care for themselves and their environment. Toddlers set the table for snack, mix muffin batter, wash dishes, wipe up their spills and sponge off tables. Children choose fine motor activities, acquire toileting independence, paint and enjoy music together. Much time and loving, patient guidance is spent on positive interaction in the Toddler community. Language development is a high priority in the Toddler class. It is during the toddler years that children speak their first words, phrases and sentences.

Primary



Primary classrooms serve ages three to six in beautiful, sunlit rooms especially prepared for this stage of development. Children use their natural powers of discovery with materials specifically designed to promote activity-based learning. The learning materials demonstrate geometry, four mathematical functions, geography and physical science. The carefully prepared classroom guides children in the

acquisition of vocabulary, reading, independence, social skill, fine and gross motor development, self-direction and responsibility. Classes are large enough to provide a dynamic social environment for your child, yet the learning groups offer a low student-teacher ratio, so your child thrives academically. Our uniquely trained faculty intensely follow the interests of each child presenting carefully designed lessons one-to-one or in small groups. All Primary classes have access to adjoining gardens, which allows opportunities to care of the environment as well as exploration in the natural world. The arts and physical education are integrated into the class and Spanish language instruction begins for all students.



Elementary

Elementary classrooms serve ages six to nine and nine to 12 and build upon the Primary experience. Elementary learning includes Going-Out excursions guided by the keen interests of small groups of students, overnight adventures at Springmont's 86-acre Landschool in Summerville, Ga., and learning materials designed particularly for this stage of development. Class council meetings provide a forum to make collective decisions, solve conflicts and practice successful communication. Spanish, the arts and physical education concentrations increase in depth and access to resource staff or teachers trained in these areas of study. Student lessons are presented in small groups of typically six to eight students allowing the teacher to tailor lessons to individual learning styles.



The curriculum provides the framework for exploration through key lessons and materials, which stimulate further inquiry. Each area of study is related to the whole body of human knowledge, and subject matter is presented with harmony and cohesion. This universal approach provides students with a wealth of knowledge to explore and also begs the question, "What is your purpose and task in the world?"





Middle School

The Middle School program is uniquely designed for ages 12-14, providing students with an intellectual and social community that serves as a bridge from their Elementary Montessori experience to high school and beyond. The course of study reflects an integration of the Montessori philosophy with Georgia's curriculum requirements, current learning theory and the most recent studies on the developmental needs of early adolescents. Students are coached in personal development, such as managing social demands and identifying personal study styles.

Students develop ownership of their education and responsibility for personal choices. The class community meetings provide a forum to make collective decisions, solve conflicts and practice successful communication. This design requires personal responsibility, self-discipline and motivation.

The liberal arts curriculum is designed to give students meaningful experiences to build community, personal confidence and greater independence. Our liberal arts curriculum includes:

- Internships, on and off campus
- Campus business operation
- Overnight trips to Springmont's Landschool campus in Summerville, Ga.
- Community volunteering; active involvement to support local charities and community projects

All of these experiences enrich students' personal development, changing identity and their deepening social and global awareness. These are as important to a Springmont education as success in the academic program, which includes the following:

- **The Humanities** – Latin and Spanish, literature, Language Arts, history and cultural studies
- **The Sciences** – algebra, advanced algebra, geometry, physical and earth sciences
- **Electives** – archery, fencing, debate, social skills, 7-Habits of Highly Effective Teens, community volunteerism and logic change each year
- **Fine Arts** – music and art history, Orff, dance, visual arts using multiple mediums and providing avenues of self-expression

Unlike other programs at Springmont, the Middle School students are graded numerically on weekly tests and cycles of study and grades are posted each semester. As a result, the scope of study is clearly reflected in high school transcripts along with each student's independence, responsibility and character.



Springmont is one big community that is always helping each other. My teachers care about me so much and have prepared me very well for high school.

Carlin, Middle Schooler, age 14



I discover the amazing in unexpected places.



Arts

Essential ingredients to a Springmont education are art, music, physical education and Spanish. Our curriculum stresses the connectedness of all subjects. Resource Teachers in art and music advise classroom Teachers and also provide instruction adding dimension to the daily curriculum by infusing the students' education with opportunities for creative expression, explorations of culture and connections to oneself in ways only accessible via the arts. Visual art projects are often part of classroom research as well as creative exploration. Art techniques, mediums and history are brought to life through instruction, research and exploration.

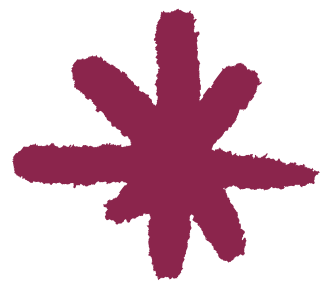


Music

Music, like the smile, is a common language, and is valued at Springmont as a path to cultural awareness, and support to language and math skills. Students use bells and Orff instruments, learn drumming and rhythm and experience chorus and dance. During the Opera performance the stage is filled with students in vibrant costumes and make-up under the direction of our fine arts faculty and Middle School students who sometimes play the leading roles to much acclaim! The Upper Elementary curriculum includes violin, viola and cello lessons taught using the Suzuki method, which applies the basic principles of language acquisition to learning music.



Over the years we have been impressed by the quality and difficulty of the class work. However, tying that academic work together with lessons of grace, courtesy and community is what sets this school apart.



Lara and Josh Tolchin,
Springmont Parents, 2000 - 2014





Physical Education

It has been shown time and again that physical education has an impact on cognitive ability, attitudes and academic behavior. At Springmont, we believe in daily recess, weather permitting, facilitated with physical education sessions weekly. PE emphasizes gross motor coordination, teamwork, sportsmanship, introduction to many sports and fun! As children grow older, games become more structured. You'll find students enjoying organized games such as kickball and basketball as well as soccer. Afterschool Enrichment activities include Karate, Running Club, golf, hockey and tennis. Games can be observed in the Pavilion, activity court, lawn and field.

Spanish

The study of Spanish is available to all children as a part of the curriculum from age three to 14. It is integrated into the curriculum of each classroom with developmentally appropriate teaching methods and best practice. Language study is considered a critical component of the coordinated elements of a comprehensive curriculum, as opposed to being considered a separate, isolated skill. Because of the school's high diversity level, students are exposed to several languages, and international students have learned to speak English after enrolling at Springmont.



**ROBERT,
BUILDER,
AGE 11**



I turn over every stone.

Outdoor Education at the Landschool

Outdoor lessons experienced in the Lower School are built upon as students visit Springmont's Poplar Springs Landschool in Summerville, Ga. On overnight adventures, students participate in teambuilding and group development activities, while also learning about the natural history of plant and animal life in the region. The facility is situated in the foothills of the Appalachian Trail, where students are immersed in experiential learning opportunities. A naturalist provides lessons in edible plants and finding a water source and a safe habitat while exploring nature. Students make their own rope from bark, learn to start a fire from flint in the fire pit and grind ochre for painting. These excursions offer students connections to the natural world and to themselves. These outings also offer time for critical analysis, decision making and opportunities for intellectual, creative, social and physical engagement beyond the classroom.



We gathered binoculars and headed out to see what we could see. The children used compasses to tell us which direction to walk. Everyone had a great time being in nature, and no one missed their television!

Malcom Campbell,
Springmont Parent, 2007 - Present



The Springmont school community is supported by parents who contribute their time, talents and resources to the school to support all aspects of campus life. Parent involvement makes annual events such as the Montessori Mile and the annual auction possible. Because the school culture is an involved and welcoming community, other annual events such as the Opera, Grandparents Day and Field Day are eagerly anticipated by friends and extended family. Field Day is a favorite for the whole family—even teachers get in on the fun!

Parents, faculty and staff also are integral to maintaining and improving the quality educational environment children receive through the Annual Fund. Through the Annual Fund, the school is able to keep tuition affordable, maintain beautiful classroom environments and enhance programs. Future funding will support items such as renovations and additions to outdoor learning and play environments, additional books and computers for the Media Center and support music and arts programs. The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of these efforts and is essential to providing a quality learning experience.

IMPACT, our parent organization, helps with community service projects initiated by students and class-wide art projects. Parents also support teachers by bringing snacks and flowers, organizing class socials, working in the gardens and assisting on field trips.

Parents are invited to frequent Parent Education sessions focusing on a variety of Montessori topics and classroom operations. Guest speakers present information on subjects such as child development, behavior or learning. Our Parent Education program provides opportunities to join a community of learners, strengthening the school-parent partnership.



Experience the Springmont community.

The REAL role of leadership in education...is not and should not be command and control... [it] is raising a climate of possibility. And if you do that, people will rise to it and achieve things you completely did not anticipate and could not have expected.

Sir Ken Robinson,
Educator, Author and TED presenter

A young woman with blonde hair tied back, wearing a blue t-shirt, is looking down at a large, colorful birthday card. The card is decorated with various patterns like stars, stripes, and polka dots. It features multiple "Happy Birthday" messages from friends and family, including "Happy Birthday Katie!", "Happy Birthday Anna your oldest niece", and "Happy Birthday Sara". There are also drawings of cakes and balloons. In the foreground, a white paper with the word "Math" written in blue marker is visible. Other students are blurred in the background.

KATIE,
DREAMER,
AGE 13

Math

www.springmont.com 15

**ROHAN,
PROBLEM SOLVER,
AGE 3**



Springmont is about more than academics. Our school is about helping children make discoveries and find their places in the world. Springmont is about guiding students to develop intellectual skill and maximize potential. Our experience providing a stellar learning environment offers students outstanding education that supports individual talents and affinities. Your child will develop depth, compassion, inquisitiveness, abstraction, wonder and knowledge.

Give the gift of knowledge.
Spark the sense of wonder.

