

Special Education Program



The Forbush School
AT GLYNDON
PART OF THE SHEPPARD PRATT HEALTH SYSTEM

[The Forbush School at Glyndon](#) is a nonpublic, twelve-month special education day school serving students ages two to 21 with primarily emotional and behavioral disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Part of the Sheppard Pratt Health System, the school has two campuses in Reisterstown, MD, divided by either age or disability. Each of the programs provides a supportive and structured environment integrating specialized academic instruction, counseling, transition services, and behavioral modification specific to each student population. By establishing a comprehensive, integrated school and psychiatric treatment approach, we are able to offer students and families in the Greater Baltimore and Washington, D.C. metropolitan areas the ability to attend one consistent special education program.

Our goal at The Forbush School at Glyndon is to provide therapeutic, co-educational programs and support services through a sequential curriculum of studies, utilizing the Baltimore County Public School Curriculum, the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards, and the Syracuse Community-Referenced Curriculum Guide. The staff seeks to develop the potential of each student in the areas of cognitive, social, emotional and physical development, in an effort to return the student to a less restrictive environment in a public school or adult setting as quickly as possible.

The Forbush School at Glyndon is approved by the Maryland State Department of Education as a Type I, full-day, non-public special education and related services nursery school (ages 2, 3, and 4), kindergarten, elementary school (grades 1 through 8), secondary school (grades 9 through 12), and non-graded (ages 2 through 21) program for students with ASD, emotional, speech/language, and other disabilities, as well as other health impairments.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

With more than 40 years in the community, we understand the importance of family involvement in a child or adolescent's education and we believe that parents and guardians are the most significant individuals in a young person's life. We encourage our students' parents and guardians to meet and/or have weekly contact with one of the school's social workers in order to stay updated as to their child's progress. We also work to develop partnerships with families whereby progress made in the school setting can also be extended into the home environment.

The Forbush School at Glyndon's mission is to provide quality and individualized special education and related services for students. Through the use of research-based practices, proactive and positive interventions, consistent standards,

and well-trained and supportive staff, we are committed to empowering all individuals with the necessary skills to become life-long learners and responsible citizens.

OUR PROGRAMS

Nursery Program

Located on the beautiful Glyndon campus, the Nursery Program provides educational services to students ages two to eight with ASD, emotional disabilities, speech and language impairments, other health impairments, developmental delays, and other related disorders.

We know how critical this time is to a young child's development and we work very closely with the entire family as we get to know your child and begin to develop strategies for early intervention and education. While there are many unique aspects to our program, the most important and influential is our amazing staff. Every single person who works with a child in our program is nurturing, caring, dedicated, and kind. We treat your child like they were our own, and work with them to customize instructional areas to fit the goals outlined in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). This helps us to develop unique programming that meets each student's specific needs.

At this age, our primary instructional focus is on early intervention. We create individualized programs to educate each student in academics, as well as social, communication, and basic life skills. We use Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) techniques to bring about positive change in behavior, and have a full-time Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) on staff to work with us as we reduce undesired behaviors early on in your child's education.

With a student to staff ratio of two to one, we work to develop an individualized schedule that outlines daily instruction. Our learning environment is very innovative, and we integrate technology, including smart boards, iPads, laptops, and desktop computers, into our daily curriculum as appropriate.

Elementary & Middle School Program

Located on the beautiful Glyndon campus, the Elementary & Middle School Programs offer kindergarten through eighth grade students with emotional, behavioral, and intellectual disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder, the low staff-to-student ratio and individual attention needed to help them thrive. We work to create an environment where each student is best able to learn and grow. The Glyndon campus has a ropes course and two sensory rooms for students to use.

The Hannah More campus is located at 12039 Reisterstown Road in Reisterstown, MD. Facilities on this campus include classrooms, clinical and school offices, media center, computer labs, cafeteria/kitchen, and gymnasium.



In addition to our expansive grounds, each of our students has access to integrated technology in the classrooms for educational and recreational usage.

Throughout our school, our teachers utilize an incentive-based program, customized to each student's likes and dislikes, which encourages positive behavior and allows them to continue to learn and grow. Incentives may include a student/teacher kickball game, a science lesson in the woods, or lunch with a special person. Once a student reaches eighth grade, they have the opportunity to do an "exploratory class." This class exposes the students to a variety of career options, such as building trades, horticulture, and culinary arts, to prepare for the transition to high school.

Autism Program

The Autism Program is on our Glyndon Campus, and is a non-graded program serving students ages 12 to 21 with autism spectrum disorder. The team designs a unique schedule for each of our Autism Program students based on his or her Individualized Education Program (IEP). Our experienced staff utilizes evidence-based strategies and a trans-disciplinary approach to teach critical skills in the areas of academics, vocational preparation, social skills, and behavior management.

Our team develops individual behavior plans and conducts preference assessments to determine the likes and dislikes of each student so that we can create a school environment that the student will succeed and be happy in. We recognize that every student's needs are very different; some require several breaks throughout the day, while others require different academic approaches and opportunities for sensory input. To ensure a healthy school environment, our sensory room doubles as a physical fitness room, providing the students with active and engaging activities, including a ball pit, swings, Wii Fit, and Xbox Kinect. Our students also have the opportunity to engage in some of the Secondary School Program's vocational classes, developing job skills in our carpentry, horticulture, and culinary classes.

Many students in our Autism Program need structure and consistency to thrive in the school environment, and so we try to limit change where possible. As students near graduation, we work hard to help prepare them for the transition, putting our students and their families in touch with the right agencies and people to explore next steps, employment, and independent living possibilities. We also try to prepare our students' families as much as possible, providing them with information and advice for next steps post-graduation.

High School

The High School Program is located on the Hannah More campus and provides programming for students in grades 9

through 12 with high functioning autism, emotional disabilities, or specific learning disabilities. The high school is a co-educational program designed to maximize each student's ability to obtain his or her high school diploma in a nurturing and supportive environment. We offer a traditional high school program using the Baltimore County Public Schools Curriculum. The high school completer pathways include Spanish, auto maintenance/repair, culinary arts, computer technology, and horticulture/landscaping. In addition to work-based learning opportunities in these areas, we offer training and hands-on experience in an office support setting (e.g. copying, collating, laminating projects). These programs are designed to help students transition into the community and lead successful lives as they prepare to enter college or the work force.

Our experienced educational staff and clinical department, consisting of full-time social workers, psychiatrists, and nurses, are trained in and implement a behavior management system stressing positive intervention responses and students taking responsibility for their own behaviors in classroom and extra-curricular settings.

Students are enrolled in our school from several different counties, therefore, we work hard to make sure our parents feel involved and connected with their child's education. Parents are invited to attend key meetings, parent/teacher nights, sporting events, and the monthly Parent Support Group sessions. Our Parent Support Group is open to the community and supports parents of students with a range of disabilities, including emotional disturbances, autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, and learning disabilities. These disabilities typically interfere with academic functioning, social development, and family relationships, placing enormous stress on parents and their child(ren). The support group, co-facilitated by licensed professionals, offers parents a confidential, supportive environment in which they can share experience and knowledge with one other, allowing for problem-solving, development of coping strategies, and inspiring hope.

FACILITIES

The Glyndon campus is located at 407 Central Avenue in Reisterstown, MD. It is a beautiful, wooded campus with classrooms, clinical and school offices, media center, computer lab, dining hall, auditorium, gym/activities room, and greenhouse.

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RELATED SERVICES

Our related services include:

- Behavior management planning
- Crisis intervention
- Educational evaluation
- Individual, group, and family counseling
- Medication management
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychiatric consultation and treatment
- School health services
- Special education services
- Speech and language therapy
- Transition services

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Students may be enrolled at any time during the school year depending on the availability and appropriateness of the classroom setting. Prior to the start date, an orientation meeting is scheduled with the student, family, and treatment team, including the homeroom teacher, therapist, and social worker. Students are able to start in the program once the orientation meeting has occurred, a schedule of classes has been determined, and transportation is arranged.

PART OF SHEPPARD PRATT HEALTH SYSTEM

The Forbush School at Glyndon staff benefits from being part of Sheppard Pratt Health System by having access to the best training, treatment practices, and current technology; this allows us to provide your child with the best education to meet his or her needs. In addition, we actively collaborate with the other Sheppard Pratt Health System schools and professionals to ensure that we are sharing experiences, lessons, and best practices across the various special education schools.

We leverage our staff's expertise and Sheppard Pratt Health System's resources to ensure your child is receiving the best care and education on a daily basis. Once enrolled in one of our programs we will review your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) and modify our instructional areas to fit his or her unique needs to ensure maximum growth.

CONTACT THE FORBUSH AT GLYNDON

Please direct Admission/Referral inquiries to:

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[Sheppard Pratt Health System](#) is dedicated to improving quality of life through mental health, special education, and addiction services for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults. Our patient-centered treatment approach, combined with our legacy of clinical excellence, sets us apart from other health systems on both a local and national level. We have been ranked among the nation's top psychiatric hospitals for 25 consecutive years by [U.S. News & World Report](#).

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