

Academic Profile for School Year 2014-2015

for schools participating in the Educational Credit for
Exceptional Needs Children (ECENC) Program

School Name:

Sandhills School

SUPPORT LEVEL III

SCHOOL INFORMATION:



Address: 1500 Hallbrook Dr. Columbia SC 29209

Headmaster: Anne Vickers

Principal: Erika Senneseth

Website address: www.sandhillsschool.org

Phone: 803 695-1400

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Mission Statement or Philosophy: The mission of Sandhills School is to provide a successful learning environment for students who learn differently and who benefit from evidence-based, multisensory instruction. Sandhills School will develop the potential of each student by fostering intellectual curiosity, principled character and commitment to serve.

School History: Sandhills School was established in 1970 by a group of parents concerned about their bright children not learning in a traditional school environment. Sandhills School is an independent, not-for-profit school that provides a successful learning environment for students who have been diagnosed with a learning difference such as dyslexia and ADHD. Sandhills offers an advanced curriculum using a multisensory approach. The highly qualified faculty help the students excel through individualized instruction, and utilizing a specialized Orton-Gillingham curriculum. Sandhills recognizes that all students must build an essential foundation in reading, writing, and math. We capitalize on the students' strengths while removing the traditional obstacles of learning, so that these bright, creative minds may become independent learners and problem solvers. Sandhills students have average to superior intelligence, and are college bound. Sandhills provides students with the skill and ability to succeed in college and beyond. Additionally, Sandhills teaches each student the value and need for community service and leadership.

School Accreditations & Affiliations:

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators (AOGPE), NAIS, PAIS

Non-Discriminatory Policy:

Sandhills School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion or national origin in the administration of its educational programs, policies, employment practices or other school programs.

All data and information included in this Academic Profile are self-reported by the school.

SUPPORT LEVEL I: Traditional school/classroom environment with no specific special education services provided but strives to make needed accommodations for exceptional needs students who struggle in academic areas.

SUPPORT LEVEL II: Traditional school/classroom environment with a specially designed program or learning resource center to provide needed accommodations based on the needs of exceptional needs students.

SUPPORT LEVEL III: A school specifically existing to meet the needs of only exceptional needs students with documented disabilities.

WHOLE SCHOOL PROFILE:

STUDENTS

2014-15 Enrollment:

85

TEACHERS

Number of Classroom Teachers: 15

Detail on teachers' training if applicable:

All teachers are required to take the Orton-Gillingham course. Most teachers are certified in this approach and have had over 60 hours of course work in this specialized curriculum.

ECENC PROGRAM

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR THE EDUCATIONAL CREDIT FOR EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS CHILDREN PROGRAM

Children with the following challenges may be eligible to be served: dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, ADHD

Features of Curriculum / Instructional Program(s) used for eligible students: The Orton-Gillingham approach to teaching is a renowned, researched based program that has proven to be the best method for instructing students with dyslexia and similar learning differences. Infinitely adaptable, O-G offers multisensory instruction that encourages students to think. Previously taught material is constantly reviewed and new material is introduced systematically, so that the student experiences a high degree of success in every lesson.

Assessments: Sandhills tests every student in 1st-8th grade using the Woodcock-Johnson III for the purposes of accountability and measuring gains.

***Assessment Results:**

Mean Standard Scores- Letter Word Id: 8th 102, 7th 100, 6th 104, 5th 101, 4th 98, 1st-3rd 98; Calc: 8th 106, 7th 99, 6th 108, 5th 103 4th 101, 1st-3rd 98; Spelling: 8th 91, 7th 94, 6th 94, 5th 96, 4th 85, 1st-3rd 91; Passage Comp: 8th 100, 7th 98, 6th 103, 5th 102 4th 101, 1st-3rd 98; Applied Problems: 8th 101, 7th 97, 6th 103, 5th 100, 4th 101, 1st-3rd 101; Writing: 8th 120, 7th 113 6th 118 5th 111, 4th 110, 1st-3rd 115; Word Attack: 8th 103, 7th 105, 6th 101, 5th 101, 4th 100, 1st-3rd 98

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SCHOOL

Grade Span: grades 1-12

Student to Teacher Ratio: 3:1

Grading System: Sandhills uses the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy.

Graduation Requirements: English Literature-4 units, English Composition-4 units, Mathematics-3-4 units, Foreign Language-2 units (must be same language), Science-3 units of lab Science, History-3 units, Computer Science-1 unit, PE-1 unit, Fine Arts-1 unit, Electives - 2 units.

Curriculum / Instructional Programs: Sandhills offers a rich and comprehensive curriculum that is based on the Orton-Gillingham principles. We use a multisensory approach that is based on learning by doing. We capitalize on the students' strengths. We also use state-of-the-art technology to enhance student success.

Assessments:

Sandhills uses a variety of assessment tools. All students in grades 1-8 are given the Woodcock-Johnson III at the end of the year. We use informal assessments twice a year to measure gains in the O-G class. All high school students take the ACT.

Assessment Results:

ACT Mean Score - 25 for 2014-15



***Data only reported when exceptional needs population at school totals at least 10.**