



SAINT CATHERINE ACADEMY

Where learning and caring lead to personal best

## FACT SHEET

### *A Community Need*

Some students with multiple or intellectual disabilities need a program that combines life skills and core academics to better prepare them for independent living. These needs are not always adequately addressed in traditional school settings that may lack this focus and an appropriate peer groups.

### *A Commitment to Serve*

The Diocese of Bridgeport has made a commitment to these students. Through partnerships with public school districts and parents, Saint Catherine Academy provides the best possible academic and life skills education in a school specially designed for this purpose and an experienced staff committed to this mission.

### *A Center for Learning*

Saint Catherine Academy, founded in 1999, has delivered on its mission to serve students ages 5 through twenty-one who are intellectually challenged who seek an alternative educational placement. The Academy is a state-approved school of the Diocese of Bridgeport founded on Catholic principles while accepting students of all faiths.

Students may be placed by their home school district or privately placed by parents/guardians.

### *A Program with Purpose*

The program is the result of careful integration of academics, life and vocational skills delivered in a facility designed for this program. The faculty is state-certified educators who are dedicated to the students' social and academic education.

The focus of the program evolves with the student; **elementary and middle school** aged students spend a greater amount of time on core academics supplemented with life and social skills. The **adaptive high school** program introduces a greater concentration on vocational skills reinforced by maintaining academic and social skills. The **Transition** program has equal emphasis on vocational and independent living skills supplemented by reinforcement of functional language and math skills.

***A Diverse Student Body***

Our students represent many surrounding communities including Weston, Easton, Fairfield, Newtown, Redding, Stratford, Bridgeport, Hamden, Trumbull, West Haven and Stamford. Currently there are 12 girls and 9 boys ranging from 8 to 20. Each student has an individualized program based upon their needs and abilities.

***A Path to Independence***

Saint Catherine Academy is founded on the principles that each person is valued. The mission of the Academy is to develop each student to meet their potential and to lead an independent and fulfilling life to the fullest extent possible.

***For more information:***

Helen Burland  
President  
Saint Catherine Academy  
760 Tahmore Drive  
Fairfield, CT 06825  
203-540-5381

[www.stcatherineacademy.org](http://www.stcatherineacademy.org)

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