What sets YCS schools apart from other private and public special education programs?

- We have a strong, balanced clinical and academic program that works to meet the needs of the whole child.
- YCS schools are accredited by the New Jersey Department of Education.
- Members of ASAH, NAPSEC and The Council for Exceptional Children.
- Recognized as NASET Schools of Excellence.
- Trained and certified to use Verbal De-escalation and Handle With Care Techniques.
- Staffs a Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Offers Extended School Year



UCS Fort Lee Education Center
The is Official Home of the

Bulldogs!

YCS is one of New Jersey's leading, private nonprofit social services and behavioral health agencies dedicated to advocating, educating, sheltering and caring for vulnerable children in YCS educational, residential and community-based programs throughout New Jersey.

YCS MISSION

To partner with at-risk and special needs children, youth and young adults to build happier, healthier and more hopeful lives within families and communities.

Richard Mingoia President/CEO

Ruth Ann Hunt

VP/Director of Schools

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YCS



Fort Lee Education Center (FLEC)

Placing Special Education students on the road to success for 20 years.



ABOUT US

Fort Lee Education Center (FLEC) prepares students with special needs, in grades 6-12+, for the many possibilities awaiting them after middle and high school. Our program is designed to educate the mind while transforming behaviors.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Our curriculum is based on the Core Curriculum Content and Common Core Learning Standards of New Jersey. Our multisensory instruction engages students in the learning process by tapping into their individual styles of learning. The activities and lessons are student based and are created to provide the students with options. We also encourage project based activities. While students are given an opportunity to fine tune their social skills, these type of activities help to promote problem solving, team work and healthy decision making.

While the majority of the Middle School classes are self contained, the Academic instruction is departmentalized and occurs using a team teaching approach. Each classroom has a teacher and at least 2 aides to help with instruction.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

It is our goal to nurture the positive academic and social growth of our students. Therefore, our behavior modification program includes a positive recognition approach. Students are consistently recognized for their efforts through the following techniques:

- Academic Achievement Awards
- Principal Awards
- Good News Reporting
- Rising Star Recognition
- Fresh Starter Awards
- School Jobs

While these are school wide techniques, our teachers have expanded on the idea by also developing strategies inside the classroom.

BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION PROGRAM

In addition to positive recognition, our school wide behavior modification program includes a Point System, School Store, Peer Mediation, Diffusion Time, Individual and Group Counseling and Behavior Intervention Plans. Students learn positive pro-social behaviors through group problem solving discussions and role modeling.

CRISIS INERVENTION

We have a fully staffed Crisis Intervention Team and knowledgeable clinical staff available to work with those students who exhibit extremely disruptive and inappropriate behaviors.

CLINICAL SERVICES

Individualized counseling is a vital component of the FLEC program. Students are assigned to a Certified School Social Worker with whom they work with privately twice per week and once per week in a group setting.

Highlights

- A Cognitive Behavioral Approach is used to enhance self-esteem, improve socialization skills and foster more appropriate behaviors and responses.
- Frequent communication is maintained with the family, CST and outside agencies so that behaviors learned at school can be reinforced at home.

• Additional therapeutic options include character education, family life, social skills and LGBT groups.

The goals for each student receiving clinical services are:

- To understand the consequences of his/her actions.
- To gain the insight needed to predict the outcomes of desired behaviors.
- To be able to control triggered behaviors through self-regulation.

RELATED SERVICES

- Speech
- Counseling
- One on One Aides
- PT/OT

TRANSITION SERVICES

For college and career planning, the students are assessed using the NJ Career Assistance Navigator. This allows us to appropriately guide their career and college choices throughout their stay with the following activities:

- College & Career Fairs
- Career Exploration Classes
- Workshops
- Community Service
- College tours

At the junior and senior levels, selected students are given the option to participate in our Shared Time program at Eastwick College. These students are able to explore and select a vocational program for certification upon graduation.