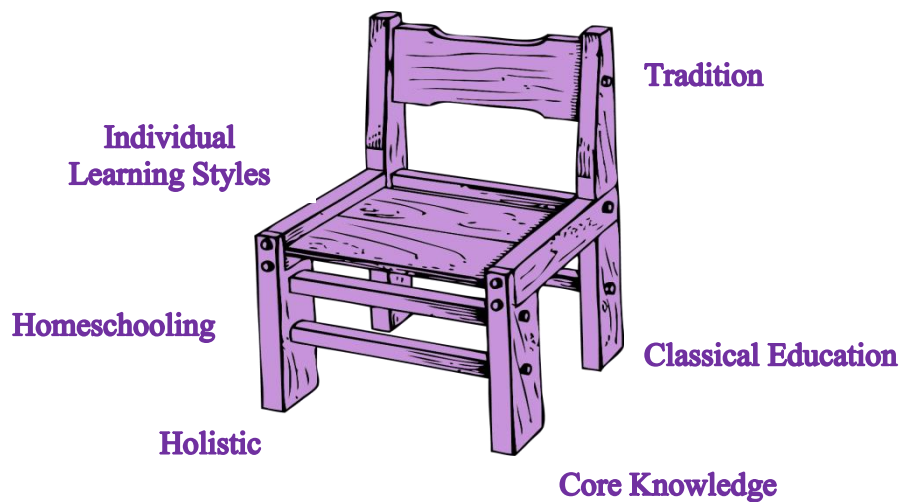




Educational Approach

Foundations 4 adVANCEment offers a unique approach to education that combines the best teachings available in education from yesterday and today, including approaches developed in traditional home schooling, classical education, Core Knowledge, and holistic engagement curricula. One may think of Foundations 4 adVANCEment's philosophy in terms of a four-legged chair.



The Individual Learning Plan Our approach centers on the individual student, not a curriculum or specific method of learning. Foundations 4 adVANCEment begins the educational process by assessing the student's individual strengths and weaknesses academically, socially, and spiritually.

The Integrated Curriculum An integrated curriculum, where facts are taught in context, is essential for critical thinking and long-term memory retention. An integrated curriculum tacitly recognizes that all knowledge precedes from one source, the God of the universe, and that all knowledge is coherently related.

Our curriculum emphasizes humanities, mathematics, and science. Humanities, a broad discipline, includes reading, writing, languages, literature, history, geography, poetry and scripture recitation, music and art, but subjects are taught as an integrated whole with God's truth as the core. We teach children to think about every aspect of life from the perspective that all events follow the Sovereign plan, and not to treat spiritual matters as a separate part of life.

Memorization And Recitation Exercising the memory makes our minds more agile, so Foundations 4 adVANCEment uses memorization techniques including writing, oral repetition, gesturing and playacting, singing, and acronyms. Through recitation students put memorization into practice and to learn to be confident speakers.

Narration A child will listen better and remember longer when “telling back” is a part of the reading process. Before a story is read, children are invited to pay close attention. They are responsible for narrating events in their own words after the reading. As children grow older (around 4th grade), written narrative can supplement oral narration.

Imitation In Writing, Drawing, And Painting Imitation enhances a child’s observational powers and gives a foundation for individual expression. Written imitation includes studying a passage of great literature and attempting a verbatim recapture. On a more sophisticated level, the writer can put the passage into his own words or imitate the style of the passage. The same method applies to drawing and painting.

Nature Walks Our science curriculum is nature and experience based. Nature slows us down, increases our powers of observation and increases our wonder. We live in a time of accelerating information, sound bites, and 3-4 second images on television. It takes time for children to learn to sit still and “consider the lilies” or “go to the ant.” Careful observation is a skill we nurture in your children during their time at Foundations 4 adVANCEment.

Journaling A journal provides a non-judgmental medium for self-expression and the opportunity to practice writing ideas. According to some studies, daily journaling improves a child’s language processing, especially when used as a written “conversation” between teacher and student. In this exercise, teachers may grade effort, but do not grade grammar and spelling.

Fine Arts Foundations 4 adVANCEment provides integrated art, music, and drama (theater art) instruction. The teacher plans art projects and activities to coincide with the students’ humanities curriculum. The classroom teacher also supplements the humanities curriculum with materials from the visual arts and picture studies.