



Friendship Aspire Academy  
Public Charter School  
ARKANSAS

Grades K-10

# Student Services Plan

**2024-2025**

## **Guidance and Counseling**

The guidance program is available to all scholars at Friendship Aspire Academy. FAA provides services to students in a regular school setting environment. We provide onsite Mental Health Services through partnerships with local agencies. Through this program we provide multiple services and guidance through numerous program designs.

### **Personal Counseling and Character Development**

- Personal Counseling
  - Provide personal counseling to students as needed through a partnership with Mental Health Professionals.
  - Use various methods for counseling sessions and conduct classroom observations.
  - Follow Friendship Aspire Academy Arkansas protocols in crisis situations
  - Assist families with the referral process to outside counseling agencies and other resources.
  - Conduct Student Support Meetings which includes, students, parents, school leaders, teachers and counselor/case manager.
- Character Development
  - Create monthly themes in relation to character development traits.
  - Assist students/families in understanding age appropriate social/emotional behavior.
  - Implement a restorative approach.
  - Employ a Culture Coordinator.

### **Classroom Guidance**

A comprehensive school counseling program involves planned guidance activities for all scholars. These age-related exercises foster scholars' academic, personal, social, and career development skills. Such activities are implemented through a collaborative effort by counselors and teachers.

1. Classroom guidance curriculum focuses on topics such as:
  - a. Self-understanding
  - b. Effective interpersonal and communication skills
  - c. Problem-solving
  - d. Decision-making
  - e. Conflict Resolution Skills
  - f. Effective Study Skills
  - g. Positive Attitudes toward School
  - h. Career Awareness and the World of Work
  - i. Substance Abuse Prevention
  - j. Comprehension and acceptance of differences in people (racial, gender-based, cultural, religious, physical)
  - k. Divorce

### **Relationship between Classroom Performance and Academic Success**

The administration at Friendship Aspire Academy will assist scholars in understanding the relationship between school and classroom performance and their future college or career aspirations. This process begins in early grades and continues throughout the scholar's education. Age appropriate classroom guidance lessons, small groups, and individual counseling sessions, as well as supporting teacher lessons and classroom procedures can all be used in the process of helping scholars see the connections.

### **Parental Involvement**

The school encourages parents to take an active role in helping their children reach their potential. The schools communicate with parents in order to keep them updated on programs, opportunities, and information on ways to support their students at home.

### **Psychological Services**

The district provides psychological services to students. These services include, but are not limited to, the following: evaluation of students with learning or adjustment problems, evaluation of students for exceptional student programs, consultation and counseling with parents, students, and school personnel to ensure students are ready to succeed and that all students are preparing for college and work, provision of an early identification system of learning potential and factors that might affect educational performance, system for liaison and referrals with available resources, written policies that assure ethical procedures in psychological services.

### **Bullying**

Bullying in any form creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation and distracts from a safe environment necessary to promote exceptional learning, and is not tolerated at Friendship Aspire Academy. Scholars are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying to their teacher, principal or designee, including a single action that if allowed to continue would constitute bullying. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a scholar has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying shall report the incident(s) to school administration, including a single action that if allowed to continue would constitute bullying. Any person or persons who file a complaint will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form

### **Suicide Prevention Program**

If any employee has reason to believe, has direct knowledge of, or a report from another person, that a person is in any danger of harming him/herself, that employee is to report the situation to the principal and/or superintendent immediately. If the person has threatened or has displayed alarming warning signals, appears to have a plan, or is in imminent danger and requires intervention, then administration should be contacted immediately.

### **Health Services**

All health services are provided by our onsite school nurse.