

PROSPECT STUDIO

A transformative year of innovation, entrepreneurship, design & leadership

APPLEWILD SCHOOL

Founded in 1957, Applewild is a preschool to 9th grade school for 315 day and boarding students located one hour from Boston.

Applewild has a specific focus on teaching students using metacognitive strategies---in short, we teach students how to "drive their brains" which greatly improves their academic trajectories. This focus combined with accelerated academics, a school-wide service learning program and a broad arts and athletics program all combine to produce successful results --- **90% of our graduates received acceptance to their 1st & / or 2nd choice secondary schools.**

The School has 26 acres and 10 buildings including 300 seat theater, 200 seat dining hall, 3 athletic fields, 2 gymnasiums, 4 science labs, 2 libraries, 2 woodshops, 2 art studios and an 18-bed dormitory.

All Applewild students graduate after the 8th grade and may choose to apply to Prospect Studio. Most Prospect Studio students will not come from Applewild's 8th grade.

WHAT IS IT?

A one-year stand-alone, interdisciplinary program for 8th and 9th grade students who wish to spend a year engaging in an intellectual adventure designed to inspire deeper, self-motivated learning.

Ideal for the student who wants one more year of preparation before attending their local high school or an independent secondary day or boarding school.

INSPIRATION

What do we know about the future of learning & work?

Interdisciplinary

Work will be done in small nimble teams

Will need to be constantly learning new skills



If we could give students a year to prepare for this future, what would we want them to learn?

The increasing rate of change and technological innovation in Artificial Intelligence, big data, robotics, nanotechnology, and biotechnology will demand different skill sets



The 8-9th grade years represent the last window to firm up skills and attitudes before high school – its an exciting opportunity!

MORE INSPIRATION

Author Tony Wagner's books: Creating Innovators and Global Achievement Gap books.

Identified the skills and attributes our students will need to be successful:

1. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
2. Collaboration across Networks and Leading by Influence
3. Agility and Adaptability
4. Initiative and Entrepreneurialism
5. Effective Oral and Written Communication
6. Accessing and Analyzing Information
7. Curiosity and Imagination

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Our theme is Placemaking and Urban Renewal, which offers a wealth of questions to explore in seminars, individual projects and whole group experiences.

These projects are immersive and rich in skill development, engaging students in depth study of statistics, data visualization, analysis of history, presentation skills, interviewing skills, and many others.

Students will be writing authentically and frequently to develop their expository writing and narrative skills, metacognitively reflecting, and conversing about their work to develop leadership and project management skills.

APPLEWILD — POWDERHOUSE PARTNERSHIP

Somerville-based Powderhouse Studios won the nationwide \$10m XQ Prize for innovation in education and is aligned with the Woodrow Wilson School of MIT to help MIT evolve to produce the next generation of teachers. We hope to not only benefit from this partnership, but to also benefit from programming.

The big ideas which drive Powderhouse Studios are in firm synchronicity with our goals for Prospect Studio:

1. Constructionism — You learn best when doing something authentic with whatever you're learning. This happens best when creating something public and tangible which matters to you.
2. Thinking about thinking — Learning how to learn requires thinking about thinking. This metacognition is essential for youth and staff both to become expert in.
3. Computation, narrative, and design — Representing ideas for machines (computation), representing ideas for people (narrative), and making things for others (design) are fluencies which allow us to connect to a wide variety of backgrounds, interests, and aptitudes. These fluencies cut across programs and projects at Powderhouse, creating a shared vocabulary for discussion and critique of work.
4. Self-efficacy — Self-knowledge and self-management are essential skills. Developing these requires people work more and more independently over time, and this requires thoughtful scaffolding.

PROFILES OF BEST FIT STUDENT



Average to above average cognitive ability.



Unbridled curiosity.



Appropriate social skills who are able to make connections and develop working relationships.



Unique interests and passions about many topics and who tend to seek deeper levels of understanding.



ELL, Executive Function/ADHD, mild anxiety – Admissions will counsel on individual basis

WHAT ABOUT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?

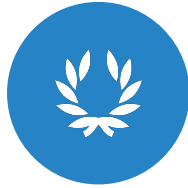
International students with strong English skills may find this program to be an excellent introduction to American progressive education and New England prep school culture.

This year allows students to adjust and to more carefully assess options for secondary school – our secondary school advisors are experienced in helping international students navigate this process.

Is appropriate for student who may only want a single year in an American independent school setting.

There are only 13 seats in this program so admission is selective.

LOGISTICS



Secondary School
advising



Transportation
available



Day or boarding
- both 5 & 7-day
options available



Sports optional



Learning support
available



Full academic
credit

HOW WE WORK WITH CONSULTANTS & ADVISORS

We have a long tradition of working well with consultants and advisors.

This allows us to better meet the needs of our students and to offer exceptional service. We share the same goals of helping your clients.

If you wonder about the possible fit for a client, please feel free to pick up the phone and give us a call. We welcome these conversations!

ADMISSION PROCESS



Our goal is to understand each student.



Inquire! Send us an email or give a call to discuss further



Complete normal Applewild application via website or SSAT SAO



Submit SSAT, TOFEL or other educational testing if available



Schedule an interview for family and student



Submit 2 years of transcripts



Submit math and English teacher recommendation forms



International students must submit Duolingo test