



SAGE ACADEMY

Where Learners Become Leaders

An Innovative Microschool Designed
for the 21st Century

Pre-K through Elementary

Our STORY

Our story began with the same question many families in Granbury have: "**Where should I send my child to kindergarten?**"

Jamie and Tasha first connected as fellow parents of young children at Lake Granbury Montessori Academy. There, they saw the power of child-led learning in action.

As Tasha's son approached Kindergarten age, she reluctantly considered transitioning to the overcrowded public school closest to her.

Meanwhile, Jamie's son attended Kindergarten at their local elementary school. He had 15 minutes of recess and a classroom with no windows; he described Kindergarten as "mostly lining up and sitting at your desk."

As parents of children growing up in a rapidly changing and advancing world, we came to the conclusion that **traditional education isn't enough anymore.**

Our search for non-traditional education in Hood County led us to consider several faith-based schools. Yet, we believe firmly that because **each family has highly unique religious values and belief systems**, it is *families* – not teachers in a classroom – that are best equipped to share and teach those values to their own children.

We discovered the Acton Academy model at different times: Tasha in 2017, before her first child was even born; moving to Granbury spurred her quest to open a local Acton Academy. Jamie learned of it in 2022 through conversations with Tasha.

We created Sage Academy to be **the school we were searching for**; the missing piece in the educational landscape of Granbury.

We invite you to explore Sage Academy, and consider the idea that your search may be over too!



Jamie Alexander & Tasha Richard

Your child is destined to change the world.

MEET *the* TEAM



Tasha Richard

Founder &
Head of School



Jamie Alexander

Founder & Lead Guide,
Elementary



Beth Martin

Director,
Spark Program



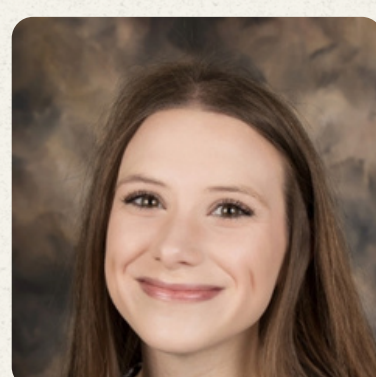
Jan Tennery

Lead Guide,
Toddler



Kristina Smith

Assistant Guide,
Toddler



Makayla Pratt

Lead Guide,
Primary



Whitney Woerner

Assistant Guide,
Primary



Reese Tennery

Assistant Guide,
Elementary

beliefs & promises to your child

OUR MISSION,

OUR MISSION:

To provide a 21st century education to each child who enters our doors using Montessori principles, Socratic questioning, project-based learning, and quality online learning tools, in order to equip the next generation of learners to find their calling and change the world.

OUR BELIEFS: We believe...

- each child has a gift that can change the world in a profound way.
- in a closely connected family of lifelong learners.
- families - not classroom teachers - are best equipped to share and teach religious values and beliefs to their own children
- the role of education is to inspire and equip children to find a calling, not just a career
- in the benefits of nature-based learning and education
- in the value of failure, as it helps develop foundational character traits such as resilience, perseverance, critical thinking, and compassion.

OUR PROMISES to our learners: You will....

- begin your hero's journey
- develop the skills to be a curious, independent, life-long learner
- learn to understand and respect economic, political, and religious freedoms and differences.
- cherish the arts, the wonders of the physical world, and the mysteries of life on earth.
- discover your most precious gifts and learn to use them to solve difficult problems in the world.

Children are far more capable than we can imagine.

Tasha Skeen-Richard

Founder and Guide Assistant



Tasha is a true entrepreneur at heart. She has spent her career successfully founding and managing her own businesses— and currently she runs her own digital marketing company that specializes in small business development.

Tasha also has another passion: education. She is always trying to keep her finger on the pulse of what's happening in the education system and finding out what it has to offer her 7-year-old son. Her desire to lift up the generations to come has been the essential, key ingredient leading her on this journey with Sage Academy Granbury.

Tasha has always been an advocate for education, but when she saw the Acton Academy model, she knew that it was exactly what she had been seeking for her own son. She looks forward to partnering with other parents to create a community and learning space that modernizes education for the 21st Century, and will be a springboard for a forward-thinking class of lifelong learners.

Jamie Alexander

Co-Founder & Guide

Jamie was born in Texas and has lived in Granbury for ten years. She is a seasoned educator, with a Texas Elementary Teaching Certification and over ten years of experience teaching and working with students in elementary grades through junior high.

She graduated from San Angelo Central High School, and went on to complete her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education at Loyola Marymount University. After moving back to Texas, Jamie got her Texas teaching certifications in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, as well as English Language Arts and Reading for grades 4-8. She taught 8th grade English for three years Weatherford, Texas, before having two children, Gabriel and Willow.

She is excited to share and explore the Acton Academy model of learning with her own family, as well as other local families that are looking for innovative ways to help their children discover their passions, and reach their highest potential.



SPARK



LEARNING DESIGN *in a one-room schoolhouse*

Child-Centered Learning

Montessori education focuses on the individual needs, interests, and pace of each child rather than a one-size-fits-all approach. Students learn through interactive tactile materials that encourage exploration and problem solving.

Self-Directed Learning

Children are encouraged to choose their activities and work independently, promoting responsibility and self-motivation. Classes typically have children of various ages (22 months-3 years, 3-6 years), fostering peer learning, collaboration, and mentoring.

Focus on Life Skills

Emphasizes practical life skills such as spooning, tonging, wet and dry pouring, cleaning, and various other fine motor building activities, alongside academic subjects.

Respect for the Child

Montessori emphasizes respect, independence, and the development of social skills. Teachers act as facilitators rather than traditional instructors, observing and guiding rather than leading lessons.



**DISCOVERY
STUDIO**
ELEMENTARY

in a one-room schoolhouse
LEARNING DESIGN

Core academic skills

Learners MASTER the foundations and concepts of reading, writing, and math using a combination of self-paced cutting-edge educational technology, and Montessori-inspired hands-on learning.

Socratic discussions

Deep Socratic discussions about heroes, history, and self-governance hone critical thinking skills and the ability to listen, think, write, and speak clearly. Students learn to understand and respect economic, political, and religious freedoms and differences.

Authentic character development

Learners are active participants in our democratic learner-led environment, which creates a tightly-bound community of individuals that learn to form authentic friendships and respectfully resolve interpersonal problems. Through peer mentoring, guided discussions, and modelling, learners develop habits and character traits that make for an abundant, fulfilling life.

Quests and projects

Quests are hands-on projects lasting 4-6 weeks. Through a series of challenges, students explore big ideas related to science, entrepreneurship, the arts, and/or social studies. These deep-dive projects help learners master the skills needed for real-world challenges.

TODDLER SPARK STUDIOS

Daily Schedule

A day in our studio is marked by creativity within constraints: large blocks of time for work and play with clear but broad guardrails. Young people are equipped to manage their time, set goals, and track progress.

School Calendar

Sage Academy Spark's Montessori-based curriculum is the guiding structure behind our 10 month calendar. We follow the Granbury ISD calendar for holidays and closures.

We also offer an eight-week summer session which is divided into (2) four-week sessions beginning in June, with the week of the Fourth of July off. During these sessions we explore various themes from dinosaurs to transportation to space to the ocean. The schedule is slightly modified for the summer. See us for details.

[View our '25-'26 Calendar here.](#)

Each day is broken up into work sprints with a shared purpose or goal. Throughout the day there are opportunities to work and learn outdoors.

In a normal day: Subject to change based on seasons.

8:30-8:45 Drop off

8:45-9:30 Outside Play At the end of this time: Boots & jackets off, shoes on, and prepare for group time.

9:45-10:00 Group Time & Story Time

10:00-10:10 Bathroom Break

10:15-10:30 Snack Time

10:30-11:15 Work Cycle

11:15-11:30 Music & Movement

11:30-11:40 Bathroom Break

11:40-12:00 Lunch & Clean Up

12:00-12:45 Outside Play

12:45-1:00 Return Inside & Bathroom Break

1:00-2:30 Nap Learners are invited to work quietly from 2:30-2:40 then prepare to dismiss.

2:45 Dismissal

SPARK STUDIOS PRIMARY

Daily Schedule

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School Calendar

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*Learners who need rest are given a peaceful environment to nap. Those who remain awake engage in a shorter, guide-led work cycle with materials focused on pre-reading, phonemic awareness, number sense, and early writing. For learners who are ready, this includes progressing through Kindergarten-level Montessori curriculum to support a confident transition into elementary.

[View School Calendars here.](#)

Our Kinder Studio is housed within the Primary Studio and serves as the capstone (leadership) year of the Primary experience. During this year, learners deepen academic skills while stepping into greater independence and leadership within the studio community.

In a normal day: Subject to change based on seasons.

8:30-8:45 Drop off

8:45-9:30 Outside Play At the end of this time: Boots & jackets off, shoes on, and prepare for group time.

9:30-9:45 Group Time Group discusses the weather and calendar, and receives a group lesson before the work cycle

10:00-10:10 Bathroom Break

9:45-11:15 Snack & Work Cycle During this time, the learners serve themselves snack & return to work

11:15-11:30 Music & Movement

11:30-11:40 Lunch Prep

11:40-12:00 Lunch & Clean Up

12:00-12:45 Outside Play

12:45-1:00 Story Time & Nap Prep

1:00-2:35 Rest & Work Cycle

2:35-2:45 Spanish

2:45 Dismissal

SPARK STUDIOS KINDER

Daily Schedule

A day in our studio is marked by creativity within constraints: large blocks of time for work and play with clear but broad guardrails. Young people are equipped to manage their time, set goals, and track progress.

The Kindergarten Year: A Capstone Experience

The Kindergarten year is the capstone of the Primary journey. During this time, learners deepen their academic foundations while stepping into greater independence, responsibility, and leadership within the studio. As the oldest members of the community, Kindergarten learners model routines, mentor younger peers, and prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.

This year also brings increased challenge and ownership of learning. Learners practice goal setting, build confidence in their abilities, and take pride in contributing to the studio community. By the end of the year, they leave Primary not only academically prepared, but also ready to take on the next adventure with curiosity, resilience, and a strong sense of responsibility.

[View School Calendars here.](#)

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11:30-11:40 Lunch Prep

11:40-12:00 Lunch & Clean Up

12:00-12:45 Outside Play

12:45-1:00 Story Time & Nap Prep

1:00-2:35 Rest & Core Skills Work Cycle

2:35-2:45 Spanish

2:45 Dismissal

Daily Schedule

A day in our studio is marked by creativity within constraints: large blocks of time for work and play with clear but broad guardrails. Young people are equipped to manage their time, set goals, and track progress.

School Calendar

Sage Academy's project-based Quests are the guiding structure behind our 11 month calendar: 4-6 week work sprints are followed by 1 week session breaks.

This model allows learners to dive deep into their Quests while providing clear project deadlines and boundaries.

The week off allows learners to recharge and reset for the next Quest. It also provides families dedicated time to:

- travel
- tend to personal matters such as doctor's appointments
- purposefully engage in their community

so that learners don't miss valuable learning time.

A shortened summer break of 6 weeks maintains student interest and retention.

[View our '25-'26 Calendar here.](#)

Each day is broken up into work sprints with a shared purpose or goal. Throughout the day there are opportunities to work and learn outdoors.

In a normal day:

7:45-8:15 Drop off

8:00-8:30 Art

8:30 Morning Launch (Greeting, socratic discussion, goal setting)

8:45 Morning Work Cycle Learners practice and master hands-on work for their appropriate learning level

10:30 Morning outdoor time

11:30 Lunch

12:00 DEAR (Drop Everything And Read)

12:15 Core Skills Math & Reading skills on Chromebooks using adaptive software programs tailored to individual needs

1:10 Afternoon outdoor time

1:40 Quest/project time Focused individual and group project work

2:15 Specials Rotating focus on music, dance, cooking, foreign language, PE skills and group games, yoga, etc

2:45 Studio Maintenance

3:00-3:15 Daily Close and Reflection, Pick-up

PROVEN OUTCOMES

Learners throughout the Acton Worldwide network are gaining on average 2 to 2.5 grade levels per year.



1

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LOVE SCHOOL

Students who can't wait for summer break to be over, want to come to school on weekends, and sing on their way to school.

2

FAMILIES THAT JOURNEY TOGETHER

Families discover that the joy of learning is a shared journey. As one parent described: "Acton Academy has transformed our family, inspiring each of us to find a calling and discover our own Hero's Journey."

3

SUCCESS WITHOUT 'TEACHING TO THE TEST'

There is zero "teaching to the test" in the Acton model, and only a portion of our day is spent focusing on core academic skills...and yet over the 10 years of Acton's history we've seen an average of 2.5 grade levels per year growth on the IOWA standardized test.

4

OWNERSHIP OF LEARNING

In our student-led environment, children are empowered to discover and delve into their passions, take responsibility for their successes and failures, and explore their world in a way that helps them become curious, life-long learners.

IS YOUR FAMILY READY TO LEARN MORE?

Rolling Enrollment Opens in both August & January

Begin the admissions process
by scheduling a discovery call.



Book Connection Call



Have more questions?

Get in touch!



[Contact us](#)



SAGE ACADEMY

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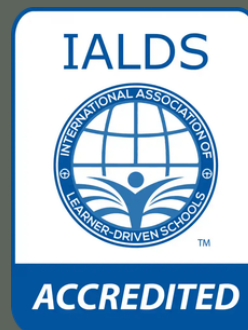
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If you have more questions please
be sure to visit our website [FAQ](#)
[page](#) or get in touch:

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