

Lake Forest Academy- Summary of Services

Lake Forest Academy (LFA) is an alternative education/day treatment facility. It serves New Hanover County School students grades K – 8. Most of the students that attend LFA have not been successful in traditional school settings behaviorally and or emotionally. Typically the behaviors are directly related to a mental health diagnosis, which is required to receive day treatment supports. A referral packet is submitted by the student's current school. Parents must be in agreement for their children's information to be submitted. After an assessment, the referral is reviewed by a team to determine eligibility for services. If approved, students typically attend 6 to 12 months.

LFA is a year round school and the students continue during intersessions and in the summer for day treatment support. The staff to student ratio is lower than traditional settings and the curriculum includes both academic and behavioral instruction. Coastal Horizons provides counseling support in the classrooms as well as individualized therapy.

If parents are interested in enrollment, contact the school in which you child attends. Parents can also call LFA directly for additional information.

NHCS Elementary Transition Program is also housed at Lake Forest Academy. This class serves K-5 students awaiting entry into the day treatment program, and students that have been in a higher level mental health facility and are not be ready to return to a traditional environment. An application is completed by the student's home/district school. It is scored by a team utilizing a rubric that considers the level of need.

Day Treatment is a licensed mental health service provided at Lake Forest Academy. Counselors work with your child in the classroom on their individual goals, teaching how to be

successful in a classroom setting. Monthly meetings are held with your child's case manager and teacher to discuss progress and can link you to additional community resources. Day Treatment is offered year-round by working with your child during school intersession breaks in the fall, winter, spring and summer. Transportation and food is provided during these intersessions. Licensed therapists are on-site to provide individual therapy and crisis support.