



# MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK

2018-2019

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Christian Academy. This handbook contains information specific to middle school. We encourage you and your parents to thoroughly read this handbook as well as the Family Handbook as you begin this new school year. Both handbooks are intended to be a continuing aid to you and your parents.

MISSION STATEMENT

Academic Excellence  
in a  
Christ-Centered Environment

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Address: 291 Ronald McNair Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29579  
Phone Number: 843-236-6222  
Fax Number: 843-236-2262  
E-Mail Address: [office@ChristianAcademicsaints.org](mailto:office@ChristianAcademicsaints.org)  
WEB Address: [ChristianAcademicsaints.org](http://ChristianAcademicsaints.org)  
Attendance E-mail: [attendance@christianacademicsaints.org](mailto:attendance@christianacademicsaints.org)

PARENT/TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents is very important in establishing and maintaining a positive and supportive working relationship. Please do not hesitate to contact the teachers at school by calling the office and leaving a message. The teacher(s) will return your call as soon as possible. Please feel free to contact the teacher(s) after school hours at his or her number listed below. You may also contact the teachers via e-mail. The e-mail addresses are available on the school's website, [christianacademicsaints.org](http://christianacademicsaints.org), under the faculty listing.

Alexis Adams 803-760-8160	Tommy Moore- 843-222-1080
Matt Adams- 864-992-6005	Morina Martin- 843-424-6019
Jennifer Baker- 843-359-1561	Haley Morgan- 843-450-4960
Christy Bell- 843-709-7963	Michelle Owens- 843-457-6611
Cecil Clarkson- <a href="mailto:cclarkson@christianacademicsaints.org">cclarkson@christianacademicsaints.org</a>	Kimberly Payseur- 843-450-4586
Joy Clarkson- <a href="mailto:jclarkson@christianacademicsaints.org">jclarkson@christianacademicsaints.org</a>	Kendra Timney- 843-250-1794
Jamie Eagerton- 843-222-8685	Lea Ann Williams- 843-283-6894
Tracy Fulford- 843-957-9862	Jordan Wiseman- 803-983-3760
Shay Godwin- 843-602-8194	Pam Wood- 423-612-6892
Bonnie Huggins- 843-421-7515	

### WEEKLY COMMUNICATION

Christian Academy recognizes the value and importance in having open communication among the teacher, the student, and the parent. Teachers will communicate weekly to provide an update on the progress of each student through RenWeb. Parents can set up a RenWeb account through the link provided on Christian Academy's website, christianacademysaints.org. RenWeb allows parents to view student progress reports, daily lesson plans, and homework assignments. Our goal in the middle school is to have all communication via e-mail. Parents are encouraged to contact the teachers regarding any questions or concerns. Each teacher's e-mail address will appear on our school's website. Papers will be sent home at the teacher's discretion. Teachers may request that papers be signed and returned. Parents may request that papers be sent home at any time.

### CHARACTER

It is our goal at Christian Academy to help each student acquire a sense of values and virtues such as honesty, compassion, self-discipline, courage, responsibility, respect for authority, loyalty, perseverance, hard work, courtesy, fidelity, persistence and commitment.

### DISCIPLINE POLICY

It is our desire that Christian Academy Upper School students "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord, Jesus Christ."(2 Peter 3:18) We anticipate that our students will filter their decisions, words and deeds through a Biblical lens. Teachers will discuss student behavior and growth with the Upper School team each week. Discipline at the Upper School level will be handled primarily by the teachers. Administration will be involved when deemed necessary. Christian Academy's Discipline Policy and Procedures will be followed. These are explained in the Family Handbook.

The upper school rules are as follows:

1. Follow instruction the first time they are given.
2. Be seated and ready on time.
3. Show respect in word and deed.  
...When in doubt, follow Christ's example.

Poor discipline choice will result in:

1. Warning
  2. Meet with teacher after class
  3. 10 minute detention & parent communication
  4. 30 minute detention to be determined by the teacher & parent phone call
- For repeated offenses: The student will be referred to administration for appropriate disciplinary action.  
\*Severe or repeated infractions may result in accelerated actions taken.

BREAK TIME

Break time is intended as time for having a light snack and going to lockers and restrooms. **Students are encouraged to go to the lunchroom area to eat their snack.** Students should not eat in the classrooms. Snacks should not have to be prepared or microwaved, and should be healthy in nature. A drink machine is available in the lunchroom area for middle school students to use during break time. Students are expected to pick up their trash when break is over. Students are allowed to have a water bottle with them throughout the day. **NO OTHER DRINKS ARE TO BE IN THE CLASSROOMS.** Students are responsible to report to the class following break on time.

**Students should not go into the kitchen area without teacher permission.**

ACADEMICS

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:00-8:50
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	8:55-9:45
Break	9:45-9:55
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	9:55-10:45
4 <sup>th</sup> period	10:50-11:40
5 <sup>th</sup> period	11:45-12:35 MS Lunch
6 <sup>th</sup> period	12:40-1:30 HS Lunch
7 <sup>th</sup> period	1:35-2:25
8 <sup>th</sup> period	2:30-3:20

FRIDAY CHAPEL SCHEDULE

MS Homeroom(1 <sup>st</sup> pd)	8:00-8:10
MS Chapel	8:10-8:50
HS 1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:00-8:50
MS 1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:55-9:35
HS Chapel	8:55-9:35
Break	9:35-9:45
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	9:45-10:25
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:30-11:10
4 <sup>th</sup> period	11:15-11:55
5 <sup>th</sup> period	12:00-12:45 MS Lunch
6 <sup>th</sup> period	12:50-1:35 HS Lunch
7 <sup>th</sup> period	1:40-2:25
8 <sup>th</sup> period	2:30-3:20

GRADING

The grading policy for each class is up to the individual teacher. Each teacher will send home his/her grading policy. Understanding each grading policy will help your child understand how to make improvements in grades. If you have questions about how grades are computed, please contact the teacher.

Teachers may offer opportunities for students to earn bonus points during each grading period. This may result in a grade of over a 100 for the 9 weeks grade. However, no grade over a 100 will be assigned as the final grade.

GRADE SCALE

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

**Character and Work Habit Marks**

E =	Exemplary
N =	Needs Improvement
S =	Satisfactory Progress
U =	Unsatisfactory Progress

## HOMWORK

Homework may be assigned by teachers to reinforce and enrich learning. All homework assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time. Students should plan to study each evening in preparation for the next day of school. The amount of time necessary to complete homework assignments will vary according to the grade level and the ability of the student. Greater amounts of time will be necessary in order to prepare for tests. Students are expected to do their own work and take the responsibility for it. While students are encouraged to work together on certain assignments, it is not expected that they will share their homework with the intent of someone else copying it. This will result in a zero for the assignment.

## TEST POLICY

All tests will be announced at least two days in advance. A teacher may cancel or reschedule a test on or before the end of the school day preceding the scheduled date of the test and must announce this to the students. No more than two major tests will be scheduled in a day. Students are expected to make up a missed test at the earliest possible date. If a student misses a scheduled test due to arriving late, the test must be taken before the end of the day. Students who are absent when a test is given should be prepared to take the test upon their return. **It is the responsibility of the student to schedule a time with the teacher to take the missed test.** Exceptions will be made for lengthy absences.

## EXAMS

Eighth grade students enrolled in a high school class (Algebra I H or CP, English I H, Health CP, Computer Applications CP) will be required to take semester exams. The exam grade will count as 20% of the semester average. Successful completion of the course may result in earning high school credit. A grade of “B” or above or teacher recommendation must be obtained to receive credit for these classes. Any student earning a grade below a “B” will be required to repeat the class the following year.

1<sup>st</sup> Semester Exams: January 10, 11, 14, 15

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Exams: May 20, 21, 22, 23

## CALCULATING GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

Eighth grade students taking Algebra 1, English I and/or Health CP will earn Carnegie units which will be calculated in their High School grade-point average. The grade-point average is calculated according to the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy. The grade-point average is figured from the conversion table shown below. The conversion table assigns “quality points” to each numerical grade depending on the grade earned and the category of weight assigned to the course taken (honors or CP). The formula for figuring the Grade Point Ratios (GPR) is:

$$\text{GPR} = \frac{\text{Sum}(\text{quality points} \times \text{Carnegie units earned})}{\text{Sum of Carnegie units attempted}}$$

### Grade Point Conversion Table

Average	Grade	College Prep	Honors	AP/IB/Dual Credit
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

## HONOR ROLL

Students are eligible for honor roll if they meet the following criteria.

**Principal's Honor Roll.** This award is given at the end of the year. In order to receive this award, the student must have all A's in all subjects for each quarter and for the final grade.

**"A" Honor Roll.** The student must have earned an A in all subjects during the quarter.

**"A/B" Honor Roll.** The student must have earned A's and B's in all subjects during the quarter.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIPS

Students in the middle school have the opportunity to travel each year. The trips are designed to enhance the curriculum and broaden the experiences of the middle school students.

Back to School Retreat - Grades 6-8

The Back to School Retreat is held each year at Camp Pinehill located in Bennettsville, SC. The retreat is scheduled for August 23-24, 2018.

Grade level Trips

The trip rotation is as follows:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Camp St. Christopher, May 1-3, 2019

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Florida, February 12-15, 2019

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Washington D.C., March 5-8, 2019

(Dates are scheduled but subject to change.)

All students are encouraged to attend. Students/parents are responsible to complete and turn in all required forms and payments by the deadlines established for each trip. Any students not participating in the trip will be required to attend school as normal.

The middle school trip coordinator is Mrs. Joy Perry

([jperry@christianacademysaints.org](mailto:jperry@christianacademysaints.org)).

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ***Middle School English Language Arts***

#### ***6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts***

Students will further develop their ability to comprehend, apply, analyze, and evaluate what they read. Students will become familiar with works included in the canon of English Literature and works of highly acclaimed children's literature. Students will demonstrate mastery in expository, research and creative writing. Students will expand their vocabulary, knowledge of spelling rules, and root word derivations. Students will improve their knowledge of English grammar and usage and apply their knowledge in written work. Students will learn how to work cooperatively in reading groups/clubs throughout the year. They will be exposed to the many types of young adult literature as well as the timeless classics.

Textbooks:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Elements of Literature, Course 1, Holt  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Elements of Literature, Course 2, Holt  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Elements of Literature, Course 3, Holt  
Elements of Language, Course 3  
Vocabulary Workshop, Sadlier-Oxford

#### ***Sixth and Seventh grade Grammar, Composition, and Vocabulary with Emphasis on Latin Etymology***

The grammar and composition courses will provide students with a basis for proficiency of grammar use (syntax and mechanics) in written composition. Furthermore, students will improve their diction by studying both English vocabulary and the connections of Latin, Greek, and Germanic roots to modern English. The writing process will be used to develop proficiency in various modes of written communication. Emphasis will be centered on the truth that God has gifted humans with organized language and values development of effective communication as foundational in relationships reflective of His character.

Textbooks:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Writing & Grammar, BJU  
Vocabulary Workshop, Sadlier-Oxford  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Grammar for Writing, Sadlier-Oxford  
Vocabulary Workshop, Sadlier-Oxford

#### ***English I Honors: Genres of Literature***

The Genres of Literature course encompasses the study of the four foundational areas of literature in the English language: short story, poetry, the novel, and drama. Characteristics and history unique to each of these genres will be examined in contrast to other forms of literature. The instructor will integrate students' recognition and application of literary terms with practice in analysis of literature and its relevance to a



Biblical Christian worldview. Additional components of this course are a parallel focus on mastery of expository writing and a yearlong overview of English grammar. English I Honors is a high school level class. Eighth grades students enrolled in English I Honors must earn a “B” or better to receive high school credit. Students making below a “B” will be required to repeat the course in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

Literature Text: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes: Platinum Edition, Prentice Hall

Grammar Text: Writing and Grammar Handbook, Gold Edition, Prentice Hall

Vocabulary and Spelling Text: Wordly Wise, EPS

Prerequisite: A grade of “A” in 7<sup>th</sup> grade English, teacher recommendation, substantiating standardized test scores, and administrative approval

Credit: 1 unit

### ***Middle School Mathematics***

Students are to develop self-confidence in their ability to do mathematics. Within this confidence, each student will have a tool chest filled with basic skills, technology, integration of biblical principles, communication and higher level thinking abilities. The student will also learn self-work habits and discipline to use their tool chest to be successful in our ever-changing world.

### ***6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math***

Sixth grade math involves building upon the basic skills and applications through higher level thinking skills. The concepts will be taught using the Mathematics Grade 6, Holt McDougal math book and other supplementary materials including technology. The topics include but are not limited to number theory, two-dimensional geometry, area and perimeter, understanding and computation of fractions, and understanding and computation of decimals.

Textbook: Mathematics Grade 6, Holt

### ***Pre-Algebra***

Students will develop a confidence in their ability to do mathematics while creating an active learning environment. They will expand on their basic skills with an abstract approach thus preparing them for Algebra. Topics to be covered will include integers, solving equations, number theory, ratios, proportions, percents, geometry and measurement. Any student receiving a grade below a “B” may be required to repeat Pre-Algebra.

Textbook: Pre-Algebra, Holt

### ***Algebra I CP***

Algebra is a way to solve problems and understand the world around us. This course lays the foundation on which all future math classes will build. The Algebra I CP course involves solving simple to complex equations from the concrete level to the application level. Students will be introduced to the graphing calculator to enhance their learning experience. Throughout the year, students will cover a wide variety of topics such as writing, solving, graphing and applying equations. Other topics include systems of equations, matrices, probability, inequalities, polynomials and exponents.

Algebra I CP is a high school level course. Eighth grade students enrolled in Algebra I CP must earn a “B” or better in order to move forward in the math program at Christian Academy. Any student receiving a grade below a “B” will be required to repeat Algebra I in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Text Book: Algebra I, Pearson

Prerequisite: A grade of “C” or above in Pre-Algebra, teacher recommendation and administrative approval

Credit: 1 unit

### ***Algebra I Honors***

Algebra is a way to solve problems and understand the world around us. This course lays the foundation on which all future math classes will build. The core of the Algebra I Honors course involves solving simple to complex equations from the concrete level to the application level. Students will extensively use a graphing calculator to enhance their experiences and to take learning from the classroom to the real-world. Throughout the year, students will cover a wide variety of topics such as writing, solving, graphing and applying equations. Other topics include systems of equations, matrices, probability, inequalities, polynomials and exponents and quadratics. Concepts will be taught at a faster pace and in greater depth and difficulty at this level.

Algebra I is a high school level course. Eighth grade students enrolled in Algebra I Honors must earn a “B” or better in order to move forward in the math program at Christian Academy. Any student receiving a grade below a “B” will be required to repeat Algebra I in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Text Book: Algebra I, Pearson

Prerequisite: A grade of “B” or above in Pre-Algebra, teacher recommendation, substantiating standardized test scores, and administrative approval

Credit: 1 unit

### ***Middle School Social Studies***

Students will develop and learn responsible citizenship through the study of and appreciation of our Christian heritage, our American Republic, and world cultures.

Each student will understand the nature of patriotism and develop respect for the freedoms we have. Students will be challenged to seek out his/her role in preserving these freedoms and be a good citizen. The study of world cultures in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, geography in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and American History/South Carolina History in 8<sup>th</sup> grade gives a basic background to understand the complexities of current events.

Textbooks:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Discovering Our Past: A History of the World, McGraw Hill

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Discovering Our World: Geography, McGraw Hill

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States, McGraw Hill,  
SC: The History of an American State, Horne & Klein

### ***Middle School Science***

A variety of topics will be covered during the school year to help students develop an understanding that science is the study of man's observations of the world God creates. Each of the relevant areas of science: earth, life, physical, and environmental, will be covered. The sixth grade class will begin the year with a study of Science & Technology. Other topics the sixth grade will study include Ecology and the Environment, Earth's Surface and the Diversity of Life. The topics covered in seventh grade include Earth's Structure, Water & the Atmosphere, Cells & Heredity, and Human Biology. Eighth grade students will study Chemistry, Motion, Forces and Energy, Astronomy & Space Science, and the Dynamic Earth. A wide range of teaching techniques such as classroom activities, labs, demonstrations, use of technology, written reports, projects, and class discussions will be used to help enhance the subject and promote a greater understanding of this wondrous world God had given us.

Textbooks:

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science & Technology, Pearson, Ecology and the Environment, Pearson,  
Earth's Surface, Pearson, The Diversity of Life, Pearson

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Earth's Structure, Pearson, Water & the Atmosphere, Pearson,  
Cells & Heredity, Pearson, Human Biology, Pearson

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Introduction to Chemistry, Pearson, Forces and Energy, Pearson,  
Astronomy & Space Science, Pearson, Sound & Light, Pearson

## ***Middle School Bible***

### ***Sixth Grade Bible***

Middle school years are a time when young people begin to make more and more decisions for themselves. Through His Word, God offers the wisdom we all need to live day to day in a manner that glorifies our Lord and Savior. The ACSI Bible lessons in Grade 6 focus on the Gospels, Acts, and lessons taught in Romans and 1 Corinthians. Students will learn about the early church, evangelism and the Holy Spirit, sin, obeying Christ, making choices, and more.

Textbook: ACSI Bible 6, ACSI

### ***Seventh Grade Bible – Wise Up***

In middle school, young people face more and more decisions on their own. Soon they find that their new freedoms are followed by greater responsibility and higher expectations. *Wise Up* encourages students to study the wisdom of God in Proverbs, allowing Him to shape their lives into the image of His Son, Christ.

Textbook: Wise Up, Positive Action

### ***Eighth Grade Bible –Walking with God***

Students in Grade 8 will study the Bible, beginning with the birth of Jesus and continuing through his early ministry, death and resurrection. A unit on New Testament writings gives students an opportunity to note the various challenges facing the New Testament churches, and compare them with today's challenges. The unit concludes with a study of Revelation that introduces students to apocalyptic literature as well as God's plans for those who have been saved through Christ.

In a unit on personal devotions, students discover how a meaningful devotional habit strengthens their relationship with God and helps them grow in faith and obedience.

A series of units on Church history concludes the Grade 8 curriculum. Students learn what happened to the church after the conclusion of the New Testament, and follow its progress through the centuries to current issues facing the church today. Students will recognize how God continued to work in the lives of his people throughout the history of the church and is present with us now, just as He promised.

Textbook: Walking with God and His People, Christian Schools International

### ***Health CP (Eighth Grade)***

This course is designed to assist students in obtaining accurate information, developing lifelong positive attitudes and behaviors, and making wise decisions related to their personal health. The course is designed to be Biblically-based and scientifically-sound. Study will include physical health, mental health, social health, and spiritual health.

Topics covered include the human body and its systems, nutrition, fitness and exercise, infectious and noninfectious diseases, stress and anxiety, the acceptance of personal responsibility for lifelong health, respect for and promotion of the health of others, relationships and reaching your potential.

Health CP is a high school level course. Eighth grade students enrolled in Health CP must make a “B” or better to receive high school credit. Students making below a “B” will be required to repeat the class the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

Textbook: Total Health: Choices for a Winning Lifestyle, ACSI Purposeful Design  
Credit: .5 unit

### ***Computer Applications CP***

Computer applications will introduce students to software applications that are necessary to live and work in a technological society. Learning will occur through the completion of real-world, student-centered activities and projects. Topics and applications covered will include online communication, word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations.

Computer Applications CP is a high school level course. Eighth grade students enrolled in Computer Applications CP must make a “B” or better to receive high school credit. Students making below a “B” will be required to repeat the class the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

Textbook:  
Credit: .5 unit

### ***Special Classes***

Art  
Computer 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
Computer 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to Engineering  
Drama  
Music  
Physical Education  
Spanish