

# Middle School Curriculum Overview

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## Bible

<b>Grade 7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Survey of New Testament</li><li>• Lessons from the life of Christ</li><li>• Lessons from men and women of the New Testament</li><li>• In depth study of the early church and Book of Acts</li><li>• Scripture memorization</li></ul>	<b>Grade 8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Life and ministry of Christ</li><li>• Review of the four gospels</li><li>• Cultural and historical background of the gospels</li><li>• Scripture memorization</li></ul>
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## Mathematics

<b>Grade 7 – Course II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decimals and fractions operations</li><li>• Types of graphs</li><li>• Integer operations and equations and inequalities</li><li>• Proportions and percents</li><li>• Geometry</li><li>• Square roots and probability</li></ul>	<b>Grade 8 – Course III</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rational numbers</li><li>• Equations, inequalities, exponents, square roots</li><li>• Geometry</li><li>• Proportions</li><li>• Linear equations and graphing</li><li>• Trigonometry and polynomials</li></ul>
	<b>Algebra 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluation of expressions involving signed numbers, exponents, roots and absolute value</li><li>• Equations and inequalities involving absolute value</li><li>• Scientific notation</li><li>• Unit conversions</li><li>• Solution of equations with one unknown variable</li><li>• Solution of simultaneous equations</li><li>• Algebra of polynomials and rational expressions</li><li>• Word problems with algebraic solutions</li><li>• Graphing points and lines</li><li>• Pythagorean theorem</li><li>• Functions and functional notation</li><li>• Direct and inverse variation</li></ul>

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## English

<p><b>Grade 7 – Grammar and Composition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of eight parts of speech</li> <li>• Correction of fragment and run-on sentences</li> <li>• Capitalization and punctuation rules reviewed through paragraphing of conversation</li> <li>• Participle, appositive and infinitive phrases</li> <li>• Subordinate clauses in complex sentences</li> <li>• Writing process through expository, descriptive and narrative writing</li> <li>• Journal writing skills in creative writing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade 8 – Grammar and Composition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts of speech, parts and patterns of a sentence, verb and pronoun usage and mechanics</li> <li>• Verbal phrases, gerunds, infinitive and appositives</li> <li>• Simple, compound, complex and compound-complex sentences</li> <li>• Subordinate clauses emphasizing adjective, adverb and noun clauses</li> <li>• Research paper written conjunction with history curriculum</li> <li>• Writing process in expository, descriptive and narrative writing</li> <li>• Journal writing skills</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grade 7 – Literature</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions on a variety of literary genres through selected short stories and a novel</li> <li>• Discussion skills are developed through comprehension questions</li> <li>• Biblical stories, verses and truths are related through journal writing</li> <li>• Alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors and personification in poetry</li> <li>• “The Westing Game” by Ellen Raskin</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade 8 – Literature</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions on a variety of literary genres through selected short stories and a novel</li> <li>• Communication skills further developed through comprehension questions</li> <li>• Biblical stories, verses and truths are related through journal writing</li> <li>• Alliteration, onomatopoeia, similes, metaphors and personification in poetry</li> <li>• <u>Daniel’s Story</u> by Carol Matas and a play version of <u>Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl</u> in conjunction with a trip to the Holocaust Museum</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grade 7 – Spelling and Vocabulary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twenty spelling and vocabulary words weekly</li> <li>• Bi-weekly focus on these words, their meanings (both literal and figurative), their ranges of usage and their relationship to other words</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade 8 – Spelling and Vocabulary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twenty spelling and vocabulary words weekly</li> <li>• Bi-weekly focus on these words, their meanings (both literal and figurative), their ranges of usage and their relationship to other words</li> </ul>

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## Science

<b>Grade 7 – Life Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Biology introduction</li><li>• Scientific method as seen in various experiments</li><li>• Classification system to include levels of phyla and classes</li><li>• Parts and functions of the cell</li><li>• Genetics and mutation</li><li>• Creationism: What we believe and why</li><li>• Evolution: What they believe and the errors</li><li>• Characteristics of a phyla or class through the study of a representative organism</li><li>• Human body and its systems</li><li>• Observations of specimens, videos and hands on activities</li></ul>	<b>Grade 8 – Earth Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earth’s motion</li><li>• Stars, sun, moon, asteroids, comets and meteors</li><li>• Planets</li><li>• Space exploration</li><li>• Meteorology</li><li>• Movement in the atmosphere</li><li>• Weather prediction</li><li>• Minerals and ores</li><li>• Rocks and fossils</li><li>• Mountains and hills</li><li>• Earthquakes and volcanoes</li><li>• Oceans, seas, glaciers and ground water</li></ul>
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## Social Studies

<b>Grade 7 – World Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cultural approach</li><li>• Ancient cultures of Mesopotamia and Egypt</li><li>• Greek and Roman civilizations</li><li>• Civilizations of the far east</li><li>• Major world religions and their basic belief system</li><li>• Western Europe: Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation</li><li>• French Revolution and the World Wars</li></ul>	<b>Grade 8 – World Geography</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basics of geography: maps, weather, terminology, economic and political systems</li><li>• Extensive map work covering all the countries of North and South America, Europe, Asia and some in Africa</li><li>• Detailed information about each of these countries to include capitals, landmarks, etc.</li><li>• Research paper and oral report on country of choice</li></ul>
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## Chapel: Weekly for grades 7 - 8

- Student led praise team
- Guest speakers of pastors, teachers, camp directors, missionaries and professional speakers
- Student testimonies, drama performances and individual speakers
- Student led small groups
- Spiritual or Missions Emphasis Week with multiple chapels

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## Technology Education

<p><b>Grade 7 – Microcomputer Applications I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows primer</li> <li>• Word processing</li> <li>• Excel spreadsheets</li> <li>• PowerPoint presentation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade 8 – Microcomputer Applications II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding Windows</li> <li>• Access database management</li> <li>• Advanced word processing</li> <li>• Advanced Excel spreadsheet operations</li> <li>• Advanced PowerPoint skills</li> </ul>
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## Physical Education

<p><b>Grades 7 - 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased skill on previously learned team competitions</li> <li>• Increased skill on previously learned major sports units</li> <li>• Minor sports introduction</li> <li>• Presidential fitness testing for overall student fitness evaluations</li> <li>• Rules of major sports</li> <li>• Health units</li> <li>• Students are expected to wear gym uniforms</li> <li>• Taught separately with some activities being co-ed.</li> </ul>
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## Spanish

<p><b>Grade 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appreciation of Spanish culture around the world</li> <li>• Vocabulary presented relates to student’s world: numbers, months, days, seasons, clothing, colors, familiar locations and telling time</li> <li>• Simple conversation phrases</li> <li>• Basic grammar concepts: noun-adjective agreement, gender and formation of plurals</li> <li>• Question-answer sentence format</li> </ul>
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## Library

<p><b>Grades 7 – 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability in study halls</li> <li>• Assistance with research materials and periodicals</li> <li>• Internet access and website evaluation</li> <li>• Yearly challenge to read at least six books throughout the school year as a competition between classes</li> </ul>
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## Art Education

<p><b>Grade 7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art of the Middle Ages</li> <li>• Styles of the Italian and Northern Renaissance</li> <li>• Baroque style</li> <li>• Rococo artistic style</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grade 8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neoclassical, Romantic and Early American artistic expression</li> <li>• Impressionism</li> <li>• Post Impressionism</li> <li>• Expressionism, Surrealism, Pop art and non-objective abstract form</li> </ul>
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## Music Education

<p><b>Middle School Chorus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered to grades 6 – 8</li> <li>Choral session includes unison and part-singing</li> <li>Instruction   performance techniques, music reading and vocal production</li> <li>Performances at winter and spring concerts, chapels and middle school ACSI Fine Arts Festival in the spring</li> </ul>	<p><b>Beginner Band</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begins in 5th grade but may include 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are beginners</li> <li>Instrument selection must be approved by director to ensure balanced band</li> <li>Rent, purchase or loan of instrument is permitted</li> <li>Two performances yearly</li> <li>Private lessons required for all students</li> </ul>	<p><b>Middle School Band</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered to students in grades 6 – 8 with at least one year of playing experience</li> <li>Review and expands on beginning band curriculum</li> <li>New key signature, mixed meters, advanced rhythmic patterns</li> <li>Performance opportunities in chapels, winter and spring concerts and may include participation at the middle school ACSI Fine Arts Festival</li> <li>New students must audition</li> <li>Private lessons required of all students</li> </ul>
<p><b>Middle School Vocal Ensemble</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection based on auditions from middle school chorus</li> <li>Rehearses every Wednesday after school Members expected to maintain a high level of musical endeavor as the music is more advanced</li> </ul>	<p><b>Instrumental Ensembles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on student interest and qualifications</li> <li>Performances at ACSI Fine Arts Festivals as well as at school concerts and chapels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Spring Drama Production</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play and musical presented on alternating years in the spring</li> <li>Middle school students can only participate in the musical productions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grades 6 – 8 – Music Appreciation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered to students not enrolled in a performing arts group</li> <li>Cycle One             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medieval through Classical Era</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cycle Two             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classical through Romantic Era</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cycle Three             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>American music composers</li> <li>Jazz</li> <li>Civil War</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

## Supported Instruction Program

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assists students who are experiencing academic difficulties</li> <li>Gives students the support needed in a one-on-one or small group environment</li> <li>Concentrates on supporting students' return to the regular classroom and performing independently without assistance or modifications</li> <li>Functions as a lab for students working on independent studies</li> </ul>
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