

FORMATION

FOR LIFE



FAITH CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL INFO PACKET

Welcome!

As your family considers school options, what are your priorities? As a mother who raised two children at Faith Christian School, I believe the core commitments and values of Faith Christian School offer you and your family something rare and precious.

In this packet, we will tell you about our school—a connected, thriving community. It is made up of engaged parents, dedicated and remarkable teaching faculty and staff, and all of our incredible students.

As we hope to show you in this packet and in a tour, an education at Faith Christian School moves beyond preparation for college or establishing an academic foundation to succeed. We focus on a deeper calling: **FORMATION FOR LIFE**. Through a classical academic program, lasting friendships, spiritual maturation, and practical opportunities to serve and lead others, our alumni have proven time and again to *thrive in life*.

We are delighted about your interest in Faith Christian School and can't wait to meet you and your child soon.

Warmly,

Cathi Weber

Cathi Weber
Director of Enrollment



You're looking for a school where your student will grow and thrive.



We understand what the search process can be like!

As a parent, you'll find FCS is a place where your family's values are reinforced, where you'll be welcomed and involved in the educational process, and where we'll help you find affordable options so you can enroll your child with confidence.



FAITH CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

As you compare the options, we're here to help you understand the unique benefits of a Christian, classical school. It's a place where your student will find:

- Integrated academics that promote exploration and a love for learning
- Community built around Christian values and culture
- Caring teachers and mentors who model what they teach
- Opportunities and encouragement to improve public speaking skills
- Latin courses (4-12th) to better prepare for language, literature, and science
- Logic courses to develop STEM and problem-solving skills
- Rhetoric courses to develop persuasive writing and speaking skills
- Participate in athletics, clubs, service opportunities and the fine arts

At Faith Christian School, children assume increasing responsibility as they become young adults. Advisors are assigned to each grade to help students study effectively, organize their notebooks and lockers, resolve conflict with increasing independence, and learn how to follow Jesus on a daily basis.

Faith Christian School
Admissions Office

 540.769.5200

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Middle School: Formation For Learning

Formational Curriculum

In Middle School, students are challenged with a rigorous curriculum that builds on their learning in Lower School. Carefully crafted lessons are designed to create independent thinkers and problem-solvers. Students not only learn what to think, but how to think.

Also, our Christian, classical education is not limited to the classroom. The Middle School experience is enriched with stimulating extracurricular activities, community service, and leadership opportunities. Technology is de-emphasized in order to foster study skills and deeper friendships. As a result of their well-rounded education, Middle School students go on to excel in their Upper School studies and beyond.

Core Subject Areas

Students explore science and history, build math and writing skills, Latin, logic, rhetoric, and participate in fine arts.



Faculty Advisors

Students are grouped and assigned a faculty advisor who encourages students as God's image-bearers in and outside of the classrooms.



Activities, Sports, & Clubs

In addition to off-campus activities, students can join several active clubs, athletic teams, and serve in leadership.



Middle schoolers need a safe, positive place to learn and grow. They deserve to be known and loved by dedicated teachers. At Faith Christian School, your children will enjoy small class sizes wherein they will receive individual attention. They will be immersed in a rich, Christian environment that will help them form a biblical view of the world and their place in it. Likewise, middle school parents need a partner to help mentor their children. At FCS, we want to partner with you. We will understand your children's needs and, together, we will help them thrive.



GRADES 6-8

MIDDLE SCHOOL



At Faith Christian School, we want students to grow in both wisdom and virtue. To accomplish such a lofty aim, we have carefully curated a Middle School curriculum that is complete with rich texts and big ideas to nourish their hearts, souls, and minds.

In literature and history classes, students learn to read books often above their reading level with increasing independence. Their math and language studies promote detailed thinking. Fine arts instruction imparts a love for beauty. By completing a formal study of logic, students learn to form and support their arguments with sound reasoning and to do so with intellectual humility.

They are taught by teachers who love children and are steeped in Scripture so Middle Schoolers become intimately acquainted with Christ, the fountain of all wisdom and virtue.



Core Subject Areas

- Science
- Math
- Latin
- Fine Arts
- Bible Classes (NT/OT Survey)
- Literature
- History
- Logic

Advisory

Advisory: Students learn study skills, organization, character formation, discipleship, have fun, build relationships, and more.

Activities, Sports, and Clubs

In the Middle School, students can participate in Fides, Chess Club, Debate Club, Student Government Association (SGA), and Sodalitas (Latin) as well as athletics and both on- and off-campus activities.

Why Parents Choose FCS

1

Parents know that a school's culture—and worldview—will impact their child's academic and spiritual growth.



We love the way our biblical worldview is supported and reinforced as it is interwoven through the curriculum. The teachers and staff at Faith Christian School truly care about student success, both academically and spiritually.
— *Donathan Family*

2

Parents want to partner in the formation process with teachers and mentors who see, know, and deeply care their children.



We are thankful for teachers at Faith Christian School who see, know and care for our children. We are thankful for how they train minds and hearts to see God's goodness and glory. We are thankful for a school that partners with parents.
— *Eng Family*

3

Parents want to ensure their children become life-long lovers of learning in a community that values learning HOW to think.



The academic structure of the classical Christian model of learning has been a great fit for our family. The support shown by the faculty and staff creates a partnership in raising believers with a love of learning. The community at Faith Christian School is unmatched in the Roanoke Valley. — *Price Family*

Why Christian Education?

5 Reasons To Consider A Christian Education: A private Christian education provides the kind of return on investment that lasts forever.



Supportive Community

In a Christian school, not only the students but also the entire family can plug into a supportive community of like-minded believers who share values, eternal principles, and informed boundaries. This reinforces your family's values while your children mature in their journey with God.



Personalized Approach

Typically, Christian schools have some of the smallest class sizes, allowing teachers to fully know their students and respond to their individual needs in a way that is likely more reminiscent of your own experiences as a child.



Lasting, Positive Friendships

Christian schools provide a greater opportunity for students to build Christ-based, close friendships with peers and mentors that last long after graduation. Since one of the deepest human longings is to know and be known, a Christian education provides the best and safest environment for your children to develop socially.



Better Preparation For College

Studies show private Christian schools tend to provide a more rigorous academic program and more personalized care than public schools. Students graduating from these schools tend to score higher on SAT's, perform better during college, as well as go on to complete more Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral programs.



Biblical Worldview

A Christian worldview strives to view people, challenges, purpose, and community from God's perspective. All education is based on some type of worldview—a Christian education simply helps students build their own vibrant, Christian worldview.

I am thankful for the friendships that my son, husband, and I have made with other Faith Christian families. We are also thankful for the amazing staff that is so caring and supportive. I love the communication we have with our son's teacher. This community is such a blessing!

- Melissa, mom to Joseph, Kindergarten

So, Why Classical?

In a word: Results.

Harmonious with a biblical worldview, a classical education provides a framework that nurtures and encourages a student's God-given innate desire to discover, investigate, question, and probe. Students gain mastery of foundational content, develop strong reasoning skills, and mature into keen critical thinkers as they delve deeply into the study of Liberal Arts and Sciences and find themselves equipped with tools necessary to become life-long learners.

We invite you to listen to the experts—our graduates. For over 25 years, graduates of Faith Christian School consistently report that as a result of the distinct offerings of our Christian and classical education, they have been better prepared than their peers in the following areas:

- **Academical Preparedness**
- **Stronger Writing Skills**
- **Confidence Engaging New Material**
- **Ability To Handle Rigorous Requirements Of College-level Work**
- **Comfort With High Standards For Excellence**
- **Ease In Approaching Professors**
- **Confidence Defending Their Faith**
- **Poise In Public Speaking & Presentation**
- **Ability To Reason, Make Sound Judgments, & Think On Their Feet**
- **Ability To Handle Rigorous Requirements Of College-level Work**
- **Greater Level Of Personal Responsibility**

Note: For the results of a national study on the results of Christian classical education compared to other educational models, see the Good Soil Report by Notre Dame Research Center at classicaldifference.com/good-soil.

For more on What Is Classical Christian Education, visit fcsva.com.

The Value Of Continuity In Education

To be skilled at life, one must be skilled at learning. At FCS, students hone the necessary skills of learning: asking good questions, parsing the answers into data, scientifically testing and proving the data, and applying the results to solve problems.

In classical education, subjects are also integrated to demonstrate through cohesion an intentional and purposeful Creator. This increases the relevancy of subjects in the minds of the students, giving them a comprehensive context for their world, including past and present.

This formation culminates in a thesis presentation in the student's senior year. The student presents and defends their thesis on a level many college students would find challenging.

To develop these skills to the extraordinary degree of excellence required, each grade builds upon the foundation of previous grades as well as:

- **Latin** - The foundation for most languages, science, and mathematics
- **Logic** - The ability to reason well and the foundation for all problem-solving skills needed in STEM careers
- **Rhetoric** - The ability to convince others and win them to a way of thinking

80/20

HANDS-ON LEARNING:

80% of class time is spent on teacher-initiated/lead engaging, hands-on activities. Only 20% is teacher-directed/led instruction.



COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Students (and their families) engage in community service projects, leadership opportunities, and caring team or class activities.

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE: 21



INTEGRATED EDUCATION:

Subjects are integrated to demonstrate an intentional and purposeful Creator and increase relevancy for students.



ENRICHMENT COURSES:

Logic, Rhetoric, Latin, Theology, and Thesis are exclusive offerings typically not found in other K-12 educational institutions.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Athletics (See section)
Chess Club, Fides, SGA, and Latin Club, Events, Field Trips, Community Service, and Leadership Opportunities

I am thankful for the wonderful teachers at Faith. While they do an outstanding job with academics, it's the way that each teacher invests so deeply in the spiritual growth of every student that has a profound and lasting impact in the hearts and lives of our students.

- A. Caywood, 10th Graders

PROGRAMS & CLUBS

The following represent some of the opportunities available to students for leadership and service and provide yet another robust avenue to prepare students for the next steps in their lives.

As parents, we all desire our children to become mature, thoughtful adults with a thriving faith. A significant step in that journey, for children of all ages, is to take on responsibility.

- Peter Baur, Head of School

Cavatina

Beginning in 2nd grade and ending in 6th grade, students may audition for this exceptional select choir. The choir holds several formal concerts each year and performs at the weekly chapel services and other special occasions.

Chess Club

Chess takes a day to learn and a lifetime to master. Chess Club is for all skill levels, from beginners to experts. Students meet every other week to improve their chess game and to challenge their schoolmates.

Fides (Latin for Faith)

Fides members help shape and contribute to the planning and leading of weekly chapel and other activities to encourage our community spiritually. Students with particular gifts, talents, and a desire to help are encouraged by the Fides members to contribute to chapels whether speaking, performing, leading worship, teaching, or praying.

Debate

Debate participants enjoy discussing a wide variety of topics from silly to serious. In addition to learning the rules and regulations of formal debate, students enjoy playing speech and debate games together like "Just a Minute," where competitors have one minute to speak on a topic without any "ums," "likes," "uhs," etc. Debate is an excellent way to sharpen reasoning and thinking skills alongside friends!

HOBY (Hugh O-Brian Youth Leadership)

Founded in 1958, HOBY's mission is to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service, and innovation. This opportunity is available to Faith juniors and seniors.

Ministerium (Latin for Ministry)

Ministerium, a school service club, allows students to specifically direct their growth in leadership and responsibility. Projects have included serving dinner at the Ronald McDonald House, making shoes for children in Uganda, writing cards for Veterans, making blankets for the elderly and children in foster care.

SGA (Student Government Association)

Elected by their peers, SGA representatives in grades 6-12 are responsible for planning various social events for Middle and Upper School students. SGA representatives must build and manage a budget, raise funds, manage projects, create marketing materials, and consistently work toward improving their processes.

These responsibilities align with many of the skills necessary for running a business.

Theater

Students perform classic musicals and dramas, contemporary performances, period pieces and more.



Athletics: Character Formation

FCS encourages all its students to experience athletic competition because the requirements of athletics often play a powerful role in preparing them for all of life. Persistence, discipline, hard work, teamwork, fairness, camaraderie, selflessness, courage, as well as the ability to both win and lose well—all characteristics of success.

When godly coaches modeling godly behavior mold students through athletics, lasting godly character is formed. Athletic competition can give students a deeper understanding of the Gospel itself.

The goal of Faith Christian School Athletics is that the students move beyond the act of competition to deepen their biblical understanding of its purpose, pitfalls, and rewards.

In addition to these awards, our athletes have been honored with individual district, region, state, and national awards. Due to our rich history in athletics, several of our athletes have gone on to compete at the collegiate level.

14

VACA REGULAR SEASON TITLES

12

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT TITLES

11

VACA STATE RUNNER UP

13

VACA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

1

VISAA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPION

1

NACA TEAM RUNNER UP

3

NACA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

4

NACA INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS







Athletic Opportunities:

FCS has recently sent teams to national competitions, taking awards in both men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, cross country, and archery.

- Boys MS Basketball (Winter, grades 6-8)
- Girls Youth Basketball (Grades 3-6)
- Boys Varsity Basketball (Winter, grades 9-12)
- Girls Varsity Basketball (Winter, grades 9-12)
- Boys MS Cross Country (Fall, grades 6-8)
- Girls MS Cross Country (Fall, grades 6-8)
- Boys Varsity Cross Country (Fall, grades 9-12)
- Girls Varsity Cross Country (Fall, grades 9-12)
- Boys Golf Team (Spring, grades 6-12)
- Girls Golf Team (Spring, grades 6-12)
- Boys MS Soccer (Fall, grades 6-8)
- Boys Varsity Soccer (Fall, grades 9-12)
- Girls MS Soccer (Spring, grades 6-8)
- Girls Varsity Soccer (Spring, grades 9-12)
- Girls MS Volleyball (Fall, grades 6-8)
- Girls Varsity Volleyball (Fall, grades 9-12)
- Boys MS Volleyball (Spring, grades 6-8)
- Boys Varsity Volleyball (Spring, grades 9-12)



BECOME A WARRIOR! For more information on our athletics program contact our Director of Athletics or visit our athletics website at fcsva.com/fcs-athletic-program.

An Investment In Their Future

From your own experience, you likely understand the significant role school plays in shaping the minds and hearts of students. We're committed to making an excellent education affordable.



Variable Tuition

We believe so strongly in our Christian Classical education that we want to provide assistance to as many families as possible from a wide range of economic backgrounds.

Faith Christian School proudly offers Variable Tuition to fulfill our commitment to make a private, Christian, classical education affordable to families in the Roanoke area. Because of the outstanding support of others, no family at FCS pays the full cost of education through tuition.

Variable Tuition allows families to apply for affordable reduced tuition for their unique financial situations. Families apply online to an independent third party, FACTS Grant & Aid Management.

Call Cathi Weber at 540-769-5200 Ext. 148 if you have any questions!



***At Faith Christian School,
tuition is not one size fits all.***

With variable tuition, an education at FCS has never been more accessible: fcsva.com/affordable-variable-tuition.



We can't wait to meet you!

Three ways to schedule a visit:

Register online at
fcsva.com/schedule-a-visit

Email us at
cweber@fcsva.com

Call us at
540.769.5200

Admissions Process

If you have any questions about the admissions process, please contact Cathi Weber at (540) 769-5200 x. 148 or cweber@fcsva.com.

Schedule a visit. Go to fcsva.com/schedule-a-visit, call (540) 769-5200 x. 148, or email cweber@fcsva.com.

Start online application process.
Go to <https://fcs-va.client.renweb.com/oa/?memberid=2006>

Complete assessments.
Go to <https://fcs-va.client.renweb.com/oa/?memberid=2006>

EDUCATION
PREPARATION
FOUNDATION
INSTRUCTION
FORMATION

FORMATION *for life*

FORMATION
FRIENDSHIP
COMMUNITY
CONNECTION



FAITH CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

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