

Overview of Middle School Curriculum

The Middle School program for sixth through eighth graders at Christ Chapel Academy provides a unique transitional experience from elementary grades to departmentalized program of a high school environment.

BIBLE

Walking in Truth (6th-8th), Summit Ministries: Walking in Truth trains students to defend their faith and respond to counterfeit worldviews.

- *The Christian Worldview* (6th grade) covers answers to the “big questions” about God, the universe, human beings, truth, and morality.
- *Competing Worldviews* (7th grade) compares and contrasts the key tenets of Christianity to Islam, naturalism, and new spirituality.
- *Christianity in Action* (8th grade) helps students understand how they can live out their Christian worldview in a post-Christian culture.

LANGUAGE ARTS

English (6th Grade) Abeka Publications

English 6 continues the study of sentences, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions as well as practice in reference skills. Students use the Writing Process to write personal narratives, newspaper editorials, instructions, research reports, historical fiction, compare-contrast essays, limericks, free verse, and cover letters for submitting work to a publisher.

Writing and Grammar (7th & 8th Grade) Pearson/Prentice Hall and Abeka Publications

Writing and grammar develops and reinforces skills through an easy-to-follow, three-part chapter organization: Writing—Guided writing instruction walks students through each step of the writing process. Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics—Comprehensive instruction, practice, and application ensure skills mastery. Academic and Workplace Skills—Help students develop test-taking skills, as well as real-world workplace competencies.

Literature (6th, 7th & 8th Grades) Pearson/Prentice Hall

Literature combines fresh, contemporary selections with classic favorites. This Student Edition delivers explicit instruction within a student-friendly design to create the new standard for today's literature classroom. Prentice Hall Literature is organized around Big Questions and on the Understanding by Design model by Grant Wiggins. Grant worked closely with the Pearson editorial team on developing the unit Big Questions. The Big Question is introduced at the beginning of each unit and is integrated into the unit with activities, videos and assessments. It provides unity and focus to both the content and the instruction throughout the unit.

Vocabulary Workshop (6th Grade) Sadlier- Oxford

Students learn 300 key words, in 15 units, that systematically increase their vocabulary and vocabulary-building skills. They are challenged to work with analogies, classical word roots, and using vocabulary in context, which prepares them for the vocabulary strands of college entrance and standardized tests.

Vocabulary Power Plus (7th & 8th Grade) Prestwick House

Vocabulary Power Plus will help students score higher on the SAT's. Each unit alternates focusing on the critical reading and essay portions of the test with questions focusing on sentence completion, reading comprehension, inference, essay, root practice, and more.

MATHEMATICS

Math 6 (6th Grade Six) Bob Jones University Press

Helps students through the transition between elementary and secondary math, reviewing previously taught concepts and introducing new ones. A handbook section contains a glossary of terms and definitions along with illustration of math concepts for student reference, and a daily review section provides exercises for the reviewing of previously taught concepts.

Fundamentals of Math (7th Grade) Bob Jones University Press

Covers concepts such as whole numbers, decimals, number theory, fractions, and an introduction to algebra and geometry. Each chapter contains "Dominion thru Math" exercises that apply mathematics to everyday life, "Mind over Math" and "Problem Solving" sections that promote critical thinking skills, and a chapter review section.

Pre-Algebra Bob Jones University Press

Algebraic expressions and linear equations are applied throughout a thorough review of operations on integers, fractions, decimals, percents, and radicals. Students explore relations and functions using equations, tables, and graphs. Chapters on statistics and geometry extend foundational concepts in preparation for high school courses.

Algebra 1 Honors (HS Credit) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Algebra 1 is taught as the first of the high school mathematics courses. Both eighth and ninth grade students are eligible provided that they have met all the math pre-requisites. The intention of this course is to provide a basic introduction to function families, mainly linear and quadratic. It uses these concepts to symbolize and solve real-world problems and serves as a foundation to the upper-level math courses. Beyond that, it continues to provide the student an understanding the God that created each of them and loves them with an unending love and His hand in our world.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

History of our Nation Beginnings Through 1877 (6th Grade Six) Pearson/Prentice Hall

This edition was developed specifically for courses covering up to the Civil War or Reconstruction.

History of our Nation Civil War to the Present (7th Grade Seven) Pearson/Prentice Hall

This edition was developed specifically for courses covering the Civil War to the present era.

World History 1: Ancient through Early Modern Times (8th Grade) McDougal Littell

The student edition was developed specifically for the way middle school students learn and middle school teachers teach. The text fosters historical literacy through; essential questions that provide a big picture framework of global issues in history connections and comparisons to other cultures through historical and geographic perspectives.

SCIENCE

Science 6 (6th Grade) Bob Jones University Press

This text shows students God's wonderful creation through a study of the earth, cells and organisms, matter and energy, astronomy, heredity, and the nervous and immune systems.

Life Science (7th Grade) Bob Jones University Press

The living world with all its wonders is presented from a biblical worldview with updated content on organism classification, cellular biology, genetics, and the differences between Creation and evolution. It provides a firm foundation for the chapters on microbiology, botany, zoology, ecology, and human anatomy.

Earth Science (8th Grade) Bob Jones University Press

Students will be presented with a solid foundation of in topics in the area of Earth Science.

Presented from a Biblical perspective, this course covers the following areas:

Meteorology:	The atmosphere and weather
Oceanography:	A survey of the seas

Chemistry:	Foundations of Chemistry, molecules and Chemistry, Chemistry in Action
Geology:	Foundations of Geology, rocks and minerals, weathering and erosion, interpreting the fossil record
Physics:	Mechanics: physics of motion, waves and sound, light and color, electrostatics and magnetism, electricity, electronics

SPECIALTY SUBJECTS

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Keyboarding and Computer Application (6th & 7th Grade) Pearson/Prentice Hall

This text is designed to teach sixth & seventh graders keyboarding skills. Timed writing exercises accompany each lesson, and are designed to help students reach an ambitious keyboarding goal of 35 words a minute.

Intro to Word, Power point, Excel, and Publish (8th Grade) (HS 1 credit) Pearson/Prentice Hall

This is an intermediate course in the use of four MS Office applications – word processing and spreadsheet/databases. Using these applications, students create multiple documents, such as letters, reports, spreadsheets (with simple formulas), databases, charts, and graphs. Students learn the skills needed to create impressive newsletters and dazzling presentations using special effects, clip art, WordArt, and more. They will gain knowledge in project design and creative oral presentations. (*Prerequisite: Students should have a basic understanding of these applications.*)

Robotics/STEM

Coder Z Cyber Robotics (Introductory Course)

Coder Z is an online learning environment for coding real and virtual robots, within the STEM pathways. Students are introduced to computational thinking, basic coding, and technical ability such as controlling robot movements, creating, and using smart blocks (functions), and exploring and using various sensors.

Coder Z Python (Intermediate Course)

Coder Z Python is a class that introduces students to the Python programming language. Students will flex their coding muscles with text-based programming and syntax while further exploring the concepts learned in Coder Z Cyber Robotics.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I (8th Grade) (HS - 1 credit) McGraw Hill

This course teaches basic language patterns and vocabulary. Repetition and comprehensible input are important components of this course. Focus is on all four language skills listening, speaking, reading and writing. Culture is an integral part of the course and is introduced using media, games, adapted readings and class discussions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade Six, Seven & Eight

Middle School students continue building on skills covered in the lower grades. Incorporated into the program is an extensive unit on Health developed by ACSI. Sections of the health unit will be taught only with parent approval to boys and girls separately. All students participate in the Presidential Physical Fitness Award program. Middle School students have the opportunity to play on Christ Chapel Academy's sports teams.

FINE ARTS

Music and Drama

Grade Six, Seven & Eight

In weekly music classes, students learn the fundamentals of rhythm and music theory. They participate in two productions per year and have opportunities to learn techniques of drama and technical support for the productions. Christ Chapel Academy also offers, at an additional fee, private music lessons after school.

Choir I - Beginning/Intermediate Level

Students will receive instruction combining Beginning and Intermediate Levels. The Beginning Level standards emphasize fundamental vocal development, traditional notation, and the introduction to ensemble singing. These standards require performance, creativity, and investigation at a fundamental level. Included are some elements from the Intermediate Level standards designed for students who have achieved competency in beginning vocal/choral skills. Limited opportunities are provided for students to explore the relationship between music and the other fine arts and between music and disciplines outside the arts.

Band

Grade Six, Seven & Eight

Introduction to band and music reading at the middle school level.

Strings

Grade Six, Seven & Eight

This course will provide the tools a student needs to gain basic proficiency at playing a stringed instrument, reading musical notation, and interacting musically in an orchestra.

Art

Grade Six, Seven & Eight

Students learn about different techniques and about working with various media as well as receiving an introduction to Art History and famous artists.

Chapel

The entire Middle School joins together for a weekly chapel service for a time of praise and worship and a message from God's World.