

# HAYWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

## MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6-8) – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Where is your Middle School Campus located?**

Our Middle and High School classrooms are housed on the second floor of the Main Campus facility located at 77 Sutton Loop in Waynesville.

### **How long is your school day?**

The school day operates between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday – Friday with carline beginning at 3:05 PM. Students may arrive as early as 7:30 AM; classes begin promptly at 8:00 AM.

### **When does the school year start and end? Does your school calendar follow the Haywood County Public School calendar?**

Usually, we start in mid-August and finish the year in late May. HCA sets its own calendar – independent of other school systems in the area with the exception of Christmas break and Spring break, which we intentionally try to keep the same as the public system for the convenience of our families.

### **What is the dress code? Do students wear uniforms?**

At present, HCA has a modesty policy. Students may wear their own clothes to school as long as they are modest and not distracting. Our modesty policy provides specific guidelines on tops and lengths of shorts and skirts. See separate policy in our *Student and Family Handbook* for details.

### **What is your discipline policy?**

The student code of conduct is outlined in our *Student and Family Handbook*.

### **Are your teachers certified and/or licensed to teach?**

All of our full-time teachers are college graduates and are certified through the Association of Christian Schools International. Several of our teachers have obtained their master's degree or are in the process of completing their master's. All part-time teachers are certifiable by the ACIS.

### **What is your student to teacher ratio?**

Generally speaking, our average class size is 8-12 with one teacher per class. Rarely do we exceed 15 students in a particular class.

### **What curriculum do you use?**

HCA acknowledges and references the N.C. common core standards and McRel when creating course standards and objectives. Teachers have the flexibility to utilize Christian and secular curriculum and resources when teaching objectives. A Biblical worldview is interwoven into all academic disciplines.

**Do you have a cafeteria?**

No, currently HCA does not have a cafeteria. We receive daily meals delivered hot and fresh from local vendors. Students may choose to order or they may pack lunch from home. The current lunch cost ranges from: \$1.25-\$7.00.

**Is Haywood Christian Academy accredited?**

Haywood Christian Academy is dually accredited through AdvancEd. HCA is accredited through the Association of Christian Schools International as well as the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. We are the only accredited K-12 Christian School in WNC located west of Asheville.

**What about after school sports and activities?**

HCA is a member of the Western Carolina Christian Middle School Conference (WCCMSC). HCA's middle school athletics program offers soccer, basketball, cheerleading, and volleyball. An athletic fee of \$110 per student is due per sport played at HCA.

**Do you have a regular chapel program?**

HCA students attend a weekly chapel program. HCA's chapel coordinator invites area pastors and youth pastors to be guest speakers. HCA's student praise band leads in worship. Parent are welcome to join us for chapel services.

**Do you have a PTA or other parent organization?**

Yes, we do have a Parent Advisory Committee called The Pac. This group of parents serve the school and its staff by supporting the school's mission, supporting and planning social engagements, assisting in fundraising efforts, and finding unique ways to boost and enhance the overall community of HCA supporters.

**How do your test scores compare with the public school End of Grade Tests?**

HCA does not administer End of Grade (EOG) tests like the public school system. EOG tests are curriculum-based tests which measure the acquisition of learning benchmarks. HCA offers the Terra Nova 3 (TN3) which is an achievement/ability nationally normed test which helps us compare the progress of our students by age and grade in the US and with other ACSI schools. Questions are not specific to the curriculum we use, but identify generally what is taught in each grade level and subject. We are able to view potential as well as achievement so adjustments can be made to close gaps in skills and abilities.

Students in grades K-10 take the full battery TN3 in the spring while students in grades 11-12 take the PSAT and SAT. High school juniors are given the PSAT and/or ACT, high school seniors take the ACT and/or SAT. We also use the HCC Accuplacer for reading and math.

**Do you have an honor society?**

HCA has a National Honor Society and a National Junior Honor Society. Requirements for acceptance are detailed in our *Student and Family Handbook*.

### **Do you have a learning center for students that struggle?**

HCA's Bridge Learning Center provides additional support to the student with average to above average cognitive ability who may be having difficulty in language-based areas of study. Our center also provides support in math. The tutoring support is an additional cost to our families but we do offer a reduced rate to the students of HCA.

### **Do you have scholarships or financial assistance?**

The school has a limited amount of need-based financial assistance available for grades K-12. There is a formal application process (with a processing fee) through FACTS Tuition Management which must be completed online. Families may apply at:

The ideal time to submit the financial aid application is early March for the following school year. Tuition assistance will be awarded in June prior to the start of the new school year.

Qualifying families may also apply for the NC Opportunity Scholarship. This is a state-funded scholarship offering funds of up to \$4,200.00 per school year to qualifying families.

**Eligible families** must apply for the NC Opportunity Scholarship PRIOR to applying for a scholarship through the school. Families may not receive funds from both programs.

To be a qualifying family you must meet ALL of the eligibility standards in part 1.

#### Eligibility Part 1

- Student is 5 years old on or before August 31
- Lives in an eligible household
- Has not graduated from high school
- Is a resident of NC

#### Eligibility Part 2: Must meet at least 1 standard of part 2

- Received an Opportunity Scholarship last year
- Was a full-time student attending a NC public school last spring semester
- Is entering kindergarten or 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- Is in foster care
- Was adopted within the last year

### **What is the standard for admission and how do I enroll my child?**

New students entering 3-12<sup>th</sup> grade are expected to take an entrance assessment and must score a minimum of 60%. Grades should be mostly C level or above. The student should have a clean history and have a desire to be a student at HCA. Students who qualify must understand the commitment level of an HCA student as well as the school's core values and doctrinal beliefs.

#### STEPS TO ADMISSION:

- Contact the Admissions Office of HCA at **828-627-0229** to schedule a tour or fill out the online inquiry at [www.haywoodchristianacademy.org](http://www.haywoodchristianacademy.org).
- Following the tour, the family must complete the online application and submit it with a non-refundable application fee.
- The office will contact you and an entrance assessment will be scheduled.
- The Admissions Committee makes final decisions about enrollment.