

Word of Faith Christian Academy

Parent/Student Handbook



"Changing the World One Child at a Time"

Dr. Orlando R. Burt, President/Founder
Mrs. Toni Burt, Vice President/Principal

Word of Faith Academy accepts applications from and admits students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnicity.

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Welcome

Dear Parent(s):

We would like to extend our warmest and most sincere welcome to you and your children. We are truly honored that God has chosen us to impart seeds that build value in your children's lives and provide the nurture and admonition necessary to foster success both now and in the future.

At Word of Faith Academy, our faculty, staff, and administration work diligently to provide the tools, both spiritual and academic, that will enable your children to be successful in all areas of their lives. We focus on ministering to the whole child and building strong relationships with families, in an effort to ensure that all students receive the necessary instruction to fulfill their God-given destiny in this earth.

Enclosed, you will find pertinent information, including policies and procedures, which will provide a better understanding of our operations and the rationale behind each. Please read this handbook in its entirety, and, as always, feel free to contact our administrative office with your concerns or questions.

Again, thank you for allowing us to play a major role in the development of your children. Our service to your family is, indeed, an honor and a privilege, and we do not take our responsibility lightly. We are looking forward to serving your family's needs.

In the Master's service,

Mrs. Toni Burt,
Principal

Philosophy

Word of Faith Academy's philosophy is one founded upon Philippians 4:13, which states, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." With this understanding of the power and abilities that are available to children as believers and followers of Christ, we rest upon the following precepts:

Foremost, all children **want** to learn. There is no such thing as a child who does not want to learn or who does not care about learning and becoming better. All children have an innate desire to learn, to blossom, and to accomplish great feats in life. It is up to the adults in their lives to find out children's interests and their God-given talents, and channel those talents from the discovery stage into the delivery stage.

Secondarily, all children **can** learn, and they can learn at accelerated paces when instructed by anyone who cares enough to teach them. When given a baseline for instruction, a specific plan of action and enough time to implement this prescriptive plan of action, accelerated student achievement is imminent, and they can learn any skill set before them.

Thirdly, all children **will** learn when placed in an environment that is conducive to learning and paired with a teacher who uses prescriptive instruction and ongoing assessment. Student achievement is accelerated when assessment, curriculum, and instruction are flawlessly aligned. This achievement is further accelerated when there is a mutual respect in the classroom, consisting of the following attitudes from the teacher: 1) I have high expectations of each student; 2) I insist that you meet all expectations, and 3) I will help you accomplish this task.

NOTE: Word of Faith Christian Academy will be referred in this handbook as WOFCA, WOFA, "the Academy," and Word of Faith Academy.

Enrollment Requirements

All enrollment requirements must be completed BEFORE any student will be allowed admittance into Word of Faith Academy.

- *Up-to-date shot records (Form 121)
- * Current proof of residency
- * Current home, work, emergency, and mobile phone numbers
- *Original birth certificate
- *Social Security Card (*if applicable*)
- *List of allergies/allergic reactions
- *Medication distribution forms, if applicable
- *Family and friends' pick-up list with their current phone numbers
- *Proof of Insurance (Medical)
- *Completed application and fee
- *Building Fund
- *Parent/child/administrator interview (if applicable)
- *Tuition, Book fee, PTO
- *Entrance examination (1st grade and above)
- *All applicable monetary investments
- * All outstanding financial responsibility from previous school
year

Payment Policy & Procedure

**Word of Faith Academy has two (2) different payment plans:
Monthly or Weekly**

MONTHLY TUITION PAYMENTS are due on the first day of each month. There is a five (5) day grace period. Any payments received on the fifth day after 5:00 p.m. will be considered late, and a \$20 late fee will be assessed; *includes internet payments and payments received by mail*. If the 5th day falls on the weekend that Monday will be treated as the 5th day.

WEEKLY TUITION PAYMENTS are due on Monday of the week of service. Any payments received after 5:00p.m. on Wednesday will be considered late, and a \$20 late fee will be assessed; *this includes internet payments and payments received by mail*.

**Acceptable forms of payment include checks, cash, money orders, cashier checks, and internet payments (requires a credit card).
Please have correct change, for no monies are kept on site.**

WRAP AROUND PROGRAM

We offer a wrap around program that starts at 7:00a.m. until 6:00p.m.

***PLEASE NOTE:** There is a **\$1.00 per minute** fee for picking up children after 6:00 p.m. **This fee must be paid upon pick-up**. This fee will be assessed per child, not per family.

These fees also apply to half days, when students are released at 12 noon.

Payment Policy & Procedure (continued)

DISCOUNTS

The following discounts are offered for families:

- 10% discount to all Word of Faith Christian Center members who have a valid membership card.
- 10% discount to families with more than one child in attendance.
- 10% discount for families who pay 100% of tuition on or before August 1.
- 10% discount for Word of Faith Academy employees (Full-time teachers only)
- 5% discount for children of active military (Must present proof of guardianship through tax returns and birth certificates).

***PLEASE NOTE: No discount(s) can be combined.**

Parents are responsible for completing a tuition envelope and placing payment inside. Payments may be turned in at the front office or mailed to the following address:

Word of Faith Christian Academy
2105 Country Club Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

- Online Payments can be made at www.wordoffaith-hburg.com
(click on WOFA in the bottom right corner)

***PLEASE NOTE: The first time a Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) check is received it will resort in a NSF charge of \$40.00 as well as refusal of any further checks for this student, for the remainder of the present school year. This includes the use of checks from a spouse, significant other, etc. Payment then would need to be made using money order, cash, and credit card via internet service.**

Payment Policy & Procedure (continued)

Service	Monetary Investment	Age groups eligible	FYI
Tuition	\$85/ week \$340/month	All	NR/NT* (*Non-refundable/transferable)
Wrap-around Program	\$15/week \$60/month	All ages	This program is considered after-school care for elementary students and is separate from weekly tuition.
Registration Fee <i>(See brochure)</i>	\$75 after 12/01 \$100 after 5/25 \$125 after 7/16 \$150 after 9/01	Per Child	This fee is NR/NT and due at time of registration. Without this fee, guaranteed placements are not available. This fee is assigned yearly.
Book Fee	\$85 \$100	K3 K4	This fee is assigned yearly and is designated for consumable books that accompany the instructional program.
Book Fee	\$110	K5	This fee is assigned yearly and is designated for consumable books that accompany the instructional program.
Book Fee	\$210	First Grade	This fee is assigned yearly and is designated for consumable books that accompany the instructional program.
Book Fee	\$225 \$245	Second Grade Third Grade	This fee is assigned yearly and is designated for consumable books that accompany the instructional program.

Payment Policy & Procedure (continued)

Service	Monetary Investment	Age groups eligible	FYI
“Building the Now and Future” Fair Share	\$175 per family/per school year	All levels	This investment is a parental investment into our building needs and fund. It is non-refundable and is viewed as parents’ contribution to the school and lives of children. This fee is assigned yearly.
Late pick-up <i>(After 6:00 p.m. and !2 noon on half days)</i>	\$1.00 per minute/per child	All levels	There are no exceptions to this charge, and it is due upon picking up the child.
Late Payment Fee	\$20	All levels	There are no exceptions to this charge. See page 14.
PTO Membership	\$20 per family/school year	All levels	Due at registration

Parental Involvement

VISITS

We believe that parents are one of our most valuable assets, and that it truly takes three parties to make our school successful—the parents, the students, and school personnel. The Bible even states that a three-fold cord is not easily broken. Word of Faith Academy's parental involvement guidelines are based upon the Word of God.

Parents who would like to visit a classroom are asked to call the school and setup a classroom observation appointment. The maximum time is 15 minutes, and you must sign in at the receptionist's office. Observation should be in a manner that will not cause upheaval in the classroom. These observations should not encompass conferencing, as it is only fair that during class time, teachers remain active in teaching children.

Parental Involvement

(continued)

CONFERENCES

Formal Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled in October and March. (PTO)

Other conferences may be scheduled with the classroom teacher. While we will make every effort to accommodate parental requests for conferences, it is important to note that parents may only speak with teachers during pre-arranged conferences. Parents may visit at other times, but cannot speak with teachers about their child's progress, as discussions are designated to conference times.

While the administration will remain open for conversation involving parental concerns, parents are encouraged to speak with the teacher first and allow time to work through issues before bringing the issues to the administrator's attention. This process helps to preserve the relationship between the parents and teacher.

In order to schedule a conference with the administrator/principal, please contact the administrative office. Please make certain that every effort has been made to rectify the problem and sufficient time has been given to corrections before involving the administrator.

Volunteer Opportunities

Parents are asked to volunteer time each month. These volunteer hours may be completed on or off-site. Examples of volunteer tasks are as follows:

- 1) Reading to children
- 2) Working with center groups
- 3) Constructing bulletin boards
- 4) Arranging shelves
- 5) Organizing field trips and special activity days
- 6) Career orientations
- 7) Constructing board games that center around learning
- 8) Filing
- 9) Assisting during field trips and field days
- 10) Designing scrapbooks
- 11) Coaching sports teams
- 12) Copying papers
- 13) Planting flowers

Any parents volunteering in the classroom or on field trips must be cleared through a background check.

Dress Code

All students at Word of Faith Academy will wear uniforms daily. These uniforms may be purchased from French Toast Uniforms via the internet at www.frenchtoast.com (enter source code: QS5BAFT) or 1-800-373-6248. Every day is a uniform day, unless noted by Administration in writing.

We discourage any altering of the school dress code. This includes, but is not limited to tattoos (temporary), cosmo hair extensions (e.g. Libby Lou's), altering the school logo in size or shape, or color.

If a child comes out of uniform, the parent will be called to bring a change of clothing. He/she may not attend classes until the correct uniform is brought to the school. We expect our students to maintain a Christian testimony through dress code.

All items marked with an asterisk (*) must have the WA logo embroidered on left chest with monogramming **only** through French Toast.

K-2, And Up

Girls

White or light blue blouse*

White Peter Pan shirt*

Light Blue or White polo*

Plaid jumper or skort

Solid White or Navy knee socks or tights

Black, Black and White, navy, or Brown saddle shoes

Gym shoes (all white, or all black) no patterns, loafers

**Sandals, backless shoes, or Velcro shoes are not permitted

Navy or khaki slacks (purchased through French Toast ONLY)

Uniform pattern tie is mandatory with all shirts (exception: polos)

Black or Brown belt

Jacket*

Undershirts (solid white only)

Dress Code (continued)

K-2, And Up

Boys

White or Light blue oxford shirt* (long or short sleeve)

Navy, Brown, or Black shoes, loafers

Gym shoes (all white, or all black) no patterns

Uniform pattern tie is mandatory with all shirts (exception: polos)

Navy or khaki slacks (purchased through French Toast ONLY)

White or Light Blue polo*

Black or Brown belt

Navy or Black socks

Jacket*

Undershirts (solid white only)

Note:

-All blouses, shirts, and khaki pants **must** be purchased through French Toast.

-Any and all jackets or sweaters worn **in** class must be WOFA apparel with logo, otherwise outer garments must be removed upon entering the classroom and hung in designated area.

Drop-off & Pick-up Procedures

Students should not be dropped off any earlier than 7:00 a.m. The circular drive in front of the school is a “NO PARKING ZONE.” Do not park or leave your car unattended in this area. This space is used for drop-off service in the morning hours. Staff members are there to assist with drop-offs from 7:00 to 7:45. To keep the car line moving expediently, please have your child ready to exit the vehicle before you pull into the circular drive. Should you have to exit your car for any extended period of time, please park in the parking lot and refrain from using the circular drive.

The school day officially begins, for elementary students, at 8:10 a.m. If a child arrives after this time, he/she is considered tardy and must be brought to the office for an admission pass. Three tardies are equivalent to one absence, regardless of reason. Due to the loss of learning time that tardiness can cause, habitual tardiness can result in suspension and/or termination, as it is unfair to the child, classmates, and teacher to continue to re-teach portions of lessons missed for tardy children. However, any child arriving to school after 11:00 a.m. will be considered absent unless a written excuse is presented by parent.

All parents will be instructed about pick -up cards during orientation. This card will have the child’s name and class level listed on it. The card must be posted in the window or dashboard of the parent’s car during the pick-up time. Parents are asked not to get out of their cars during pick-up time, in order to keep traffic moving. Should a parent need to exit the car, the parent must park in the parking lot. The personnel on duty will ensure that your child/children are brought to your vehicle in a timely manner.

Drop-off & Pick-up Procedures

(Continued)

No child will leave Word of Faith Academy seated in the front of a vehicle. Seat belts and car seats must be used prior to leaving the campus, according to state law.

Only adults listed on the “Friends and Family Dismissal Permission List” will be allowed to sign a child out. If a child is to be dismissed to a non-authorized adult, please notify the teacher in a written and signed letter outlining the date, time, and frequency of this dismissal. In cases of emergency, parents may call the office before 3:00 p.m. and provide written verification the next day. Emergency cases are to be approved by administration. Authorized persons should be prepared to present picture identification before being allowed to sign a child out.

Please notify your child’s teacher in advance if your child will regularly, arrive after 8:10 a.m. or leave before 3:10 p.m.

Parents that are not participating in the wrap around program are responsible for picking up their child(ren) by 3:30 p.m., otherwise there will be a daily wrap around fee applied to tuition.

Any parent who picks up his/her child after 6:00 p.m. twice in any two-month period will receive a written warning and placed on probation for the next month. Any parent who continues to pick their child up late will be subject to termination.

If a child has not been picked up by 6:00 p.m., a person from the “Friends and Family Dismissal Permission List” will be called to pick up the child. If the child has not been picked up by 6:30 p.m., Hattiesburg Police Department will be notified. When the situation is resolved, the child will be subject to termination.

Health & Medical Information

No ill child/children will be allowed to attend school. If a child has symptoms of illness, including fever, diarrhea, yellow or green phlegm or nasal discharges, or an unidentified rash, please keep him/her at home. A child should be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school. Should your child become ill at school, you will be notified immediately to pick up him/her.

If your child has a communicable disease, please notify the school so that other parents can be advised. A child that has been absent due to a communicable disease may not return to school without a signed physician's release.

Please notify Word of Faith Academy staff if your child has severe allergic reactions or any other serious medical conditions so that we can meet his/her needs. "Over the counter" medicine should only be given by the parent.

Should a child become ill at school, every effort will be made to determine the nature of the illness, and the administration's professional judgment will be used to determine whether a parent should be contacted.

In the event of an illness, accident, or injury to the child, first aid will be administered to the child, and the parent (s) will be notified immediately. An accident/incident report will be forwarded to the parent upon pick-up. If a parent/guardian is not available, the listed emergency contact will be notified. The administration will use its professional judgment in notifying medical personnel for medical attention. Should the child need to be escorted to a medical facility, a staff member will accompany the child until the parent/guardian arrives.

If a staff member suspects child abuse, he/she will immediately submit written documentation to the principal. The principal will investigate the report. Pending the results of the investigation, the principal will send written notification and/or contact via telephone the Mississippi Department of Human Services, as required by law. The principal will not notify parents or discuss the matter with the parents.

Weather & School Evacuations

In the event of inclement weather that is most severe in its nature, Word of Faith Academy will dismiss school in an effort to provide security and safety for all students. Please stay tuned to local weather channels for information regarding school closures before school hours.

Should inclement weather require that school discontinue during a scheduled school day, every effort will be made to contact parents via telephone and radio/television advisories.

Should there be a need to evacuate the facilities of Word of Faith Academy, staff and students will evacuate to Word of Faith Christian Center at 2111 Country Club Road Hattiesburg, MS 39401. The telephone number for this facility is 601.544.7007. If the need arises for relocation, staff and students will relocate to:

The American Red Cross
606 Hutchinson Avenue
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
(601) 582-8151

Birthday Parties/Field Trips

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Birthday parties are allowed, but we ask that you refrain them to our 30 minute lunch period. Parents may join and take pictures, if they desire to do so. Please make celebration arrangements with your child's teacher at least one week in advance. Late notice may lead to disapproval of your request.

FIELD TRIPS

The best way to build foundations in children is to allow them to experience and actively participate in activities that involve the specific subject matter being taught. To this end, field trips are planned by teachers to enhance the Word of Faith Academy's curriculum. These field trips may be used to build foundational skills or provide a culmination of activities that solidify the skills that have been taught.

Parents will be notified of these field trips well in advance and are expected to support our efforts in providing these meaningful experiences. At registration, a field trip waiver form will be signed by all parents. Should a child forget his permission slip for a specific field trip, the administration will default to the waiver form signed at registration to allow the child to participate, unless specified by the parent that a child is not to participate.

Only registered children in the proper class will be allowed to participate.

While on any field trip, ALL students remain under the jurisdiction of their teacher, and will conduct themselves as mandated in the student handbook.

Discipline

Effective classroom discipline is a necessary key ingredient for a good learning environment. Discipline at WOFCFA is not only to achieve this goal but also to help our students learn self-discipline and good character traits. The teacher is responsible to maintain appropriate classroom behavior. To maintain a good learning environment, we expect students to conduct themselves appropriately. Students are expected to abide by the Biblical principle, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

Certain behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The following is not a complete list, but is representative of unacceptable behavior: talking without permission, failure to complete assigned work, fighting, lying, stealing, disrespect, cursing, forging another’s name, cheating, and deliberately damaging school or another’s property. The Academy has adopted a “zero tolerance” policy toward violence, fighting, or threats of any kind. This includes possession of anything that could be used as a weapon. Students may be expelled for any action or statement associated with violent behavior including a joke which could be interpreted as a threat. Students’ lockers, book bags, or other storage areas are subject to search, upon reasonable suspicion, for prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects. Students who do not report wrongdoing may be subject to disciplinary action. Word of Faith Christian Academy expects full cooperation from both student and parent in the education of the student.

Discipline (continued)

When misconduct occurs, corrective measures will be used to help the students change his/her behavior and attitude. Examples of typical corrective measure are a student-teacher conference, a parent-teacher conference, a student-administrator conference. The student will be given a note to inform the parent, indicating that action needs to be taken at home so that teacher's time is not consumed with behavioral problems but rather academic instruction. When the school feels that student/parent cooperation is lacking, the student may be requested to transfer out. In addition, if the behavior of the student indicates an uncooperative spirit, he may be requested to transfer.

Word of Faith Christian Academy is above all else a Christian institution in both philosophy and practice. We firmly believe there is no place at WOFA for worldly practices or division. Word of Faith Christian Academy has a reputation of having families, and a student body with an excellent spirit with every student treated equally and fairly regardless of nationality, race, or background. Therefore, any student who promotes division or a divisive spirit through secret clubs, symbols, pictures, writing, flags, banners, slogans or any divisive activism is out of harmony with the standards and Christian philosophy of Word of Faith Christian Academy and may be withdrawn or refused reenrollment at the discretion of the administration. Attendance at Word of Faith Christian Academy is a privilege and not a right. Students or family members forfeit this privilege if they do not conform to the standards and ideals of work and life at Word of Faith Christian Academy.

Discipline (continued)

Every effort will be made to retain all students. However, if there are problems that harm others or constantly disrupt the daily routine, parents will be asked to meet with the principal and teacher, and the child will be placed on probation or suspension. If the problem cannot be corrected or is repeated, parents will be asked to withdraw their child. The manners in which disciplinary actions will be addressed are at the discretion of the principal. Parents are asked to give at least two weeks notice before withdrawal. This timely notice will allow the child's space to be filled.

Withdrawal & Termination Information

Word of Faith Academy reserves the right to terminate a student's enrollment if all efforts to solve a problem have been unsuccessful, and does not admit students with behavioral/academic problems within the last twelve months from other schools.

Grounds for termination include the following:

- *Unresolved discipline issues
- *Failure to pay tuition
- *Habitually-late payments
- *Habitually-late pick-ups
- *Inappropriate parent actions on campus
- *Endangering students and/or disrupting the safety of students and school environment
- *Failure to adhere to school policies and procedures

The termination process includes the following steps:

- 1) Written warning from the Principal
- 2) Three day suspension
- 3) Termination

Students with a history of behavioral/academic problems within the last twelve (12) months will be refused admittance into Word of Faith Christian Academy.

In situations of immediate urgency or those involving health or safety concerns, these steps may be modified, or eliminated at the discretion of the principal.

Curriculum & Instructions

Literacy: Reading, writing, and oral language is the basis for literacy instruction. These skills are taught daily in a variety of contexts and practiced across the curriculum. Our curriculum combines an emphasis on decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension of written text; for, it is only when a child can explain what is read that he/she is truly a reader. Writing is integrated into all subject areas, and is connected strongly to reading. Furthermore, students will learn to speak fluidly and publicly in an effort to build oral communication, which holds such an impact upon future successes.

Higher-Order Thinking Skills: Students at Word of Faith Academy will receive explicit instruction. This instruction is teacher-directed. In order to foster reasoning and thinking skills, students will receive the bulk of instruction using Bloom's Taxonomy's higher-order thinking objectives. These objectives move beyond the literal into expanded comprehension that requires children to rely upon background knowledge, use of data sources and other resources, and implicit and explicit reasoning skills. Students will be required to construct projects, evaluate works, and apply skills learned in a variety of contexts.

Servant Leadership, Christian Discipleship, Global Awareness, and Character Education: It is of the utmost importance that we foster the foundation of Christian principles, a love of God, a love for humankind and a respect for the environment. Therefore, we provide **Principles of the Christian Faith** as a mandatory course. This course allows us to foster a deep love for God and His infallible Word. While learning the Word of God, we expect children's lives to be mirrored by the life of Christ, which was characterized by a love for humankind, and God's creation of the Earth. Students will participate in outreach service projects.

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

In addition, students are required to participate in discussions concerning current events and show relationships between world events and their local surroundings. Lastly, **Character Counts**, a character education curriculum is taught, and children are held accountable for the daily use of each lesson's content.

Technology Integration: As our world moves toward a heavy reliance upon technology, it is imperative that we allow our children every opportunity to be successful in a fast-paced, ever-changing, global society. To this end, Word of Faith Academy places a high priority on the use and integration of technology. Up-to-date computers are used as a means to bring the world to students' fingertips. Likewise, students will use technology as a means to communicate with the world and avail themselves to research topics of study.

Integration of the Arts: Research indicates that when children are engaged in artistic expression, such as learning to play musical instruments, engaging in creative movement, speaking a foreign language, and developing a deep appreciation of music of a wide array of genres, they become better rounded and score higher on high-stakes tests, as these activities require higher-order thinking skills. To this end, many facets of art are a part of our curriculum, including, music appreciation, expressive art, and foreign language.

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

K2-K3

The preschool program at Word of Faith Academy is not a babysitting service, but one that is filled with fun, structured learning and new experiences.

The A Beka program is taught in an orderly environment that is conducive for learning.

Concepts taught:

Speaking and listening skills
Building relationships and friendships
Building character
Developing motor skills
Developing memory skills
Pouring, filling and emptying
Drawing, tracing and coloring
Foreign Language
Phonics
Numbers
Letters
Shapes
Sizes
Manners
Socialization Skills
Introduction to Math

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

K4

The K4 program at Word of Faith Academy is one of new beginnings, excitement, and anticipation. During this year in school the student will be introduced to phonics, the written language on paper, the subject Math, and the world in which we live.

The A Beka phonics-based curriculum is geared towards deciphering phonemes to allow the student to be able to decode any word they may come across, even if never seen before. The focus is "Learn to read." knowing that the following year will be "Read to learn."

Concepts taught:

Speaking and listening skills
Building relationships with other children and adults
Anticipating events
Expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting, and matching
Reading various genres of literature
Cursive writing
Decoding
Ordering number sets
Pouring, filling, and emptying
Using quantitative words
Ordering days, months, and events
Telling time
Development of Coordination
Comparing and contrasting
Foreign language
Drawing
Measurements
Classify & Sort

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

K5

The K5 (kindergarten) program at Word of Faith Academy is one that is filled with challenges, fun and learning. This program truly sets the stage for accelerated learning throughout a child's academic career, and it is expected that each child leave kindergarten as an avid and fluent reader, as well as a mathematical problem solver who possesses higher-order reasoning skills.

The A Beka phonics-based curriculum is used to provide instruction on letter sounds and blending. Emphasis is placed on deciphering phonemes to allow the student to decode any word read.

The focus is two-fold: 1) learn to read, 2) read to learn.

Concepts taught:

Speaking and listening skills
Expressing thoughts in writing
Building relationships with other children and adults
Anticipating events
Expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting, and matching
Reading various genres of literature
Cursive and manuscript writing
Decoding and fluency
Ordering number sets
Pouring, filling, and emptying
Using quantitative words
Ordering days, months, and events
Telling time
Graphing

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

FIRST GRADE

The first-grade program at Word of Faith Academy is one that is endowed with much rigor in order to aggressively prepare students for the world around them. The A Beka Phonics reading program will be utilized to ensure that all students exit first grade reading above grade level. Furthermore, Saxon math will be used. Saxon is a rigorous, repetitious program that, when used effectively, yields awesome results in the area of computation, problem solving, and reasoning skills.

Speaking and listening skills
Expressing thoughts in writing
Building relationships with other children and adults
Anticipating events
Expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting, and matching
Reading various genres of literature
Cursive writing
Decoding
Ordering number sets
Multiplication
Using quantitative words
Comparing numerical values
Telling time
Graphing
Comparing and contrasting
Foreign language
Drawing

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

SECOND GRADE

The second-grade program at Word of Faith Academy is one in which student acceleration can be witnessed at its peak. Students will be taught using A Beka and Saxon Math. Much preparation is done in order to prepare students for high-stakes testing.

In the second grade, students focus on paragraph writing, computation, problem-solving, and geometrical concepts.

Speaking and listening skills
Expressing thoughts in writing
Building relationships with other children and adults
Anticipating events
Expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting, and matching
Reading various genres of literature
Cursive and manuscript writing
Decoding and fluency
Ordering number sets
Pouring, filling, and emptying
Using quantitative words
Ordering days, months, and events
Telling time
Graphing

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

SECOND GRADE (continued)

Comparing and contrasting
Foreign language
Drawing
Geometrical Concepts: perimeter, area
Multiplication and division
Scientific method
Labeling, categorizing, and sorting
Expanded comprehension: Main Idea and Details, Vocabulary, and Inferential Skills
Characterization

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

THIRD GRADE

The third-grade program at Word of Faith Academy is one of much excitement and hard work. The student is taught using A Beka and Saxon Math to further cement their learning and love for math as well as reading, through expressive and creative writing.

At this stage the focus is on research and creative writing, story problems, and critical thinking.

Speaking and listening skills
Expressing thoughts in writing
Building relationships with other children and adults
Anticipating events
Expressing creativity in movement, singing, sorting, and matching
Reading various genres of literature
Cursive and manuscript writing
Decoding and fluency
Ordering number sets
Pouring, filling, and emptying
Using quantitative words
Ordering days, months, and events
Telling time
Graphing

Curriculum & Instructions

(continued)

THIRD GRADE (continued)

Comparing and contrasting
Foreign language
Drawing
Geometrical Concepts: perimeter, area
Multiplication and division
Scientific method
Labeling, categorizing, and sorting
Expanded comprehension: Main Idea and Details, Vocabulary, and Inferential Skills
Characterization
Integration of the Arts

Benchmarks

Reading and Language Arts Benchmarks

K-2-K3	K-4	K-5	First Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Letter recognition *Phonics * Colors *Controlled motor skills *Penmanship *Listening *Alphabet recitation and recognition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Letter recognition *Phonemes *Phonics *Decoding *Reading fluency *Sequencing *Main Idea/Details *Vocabulary *Making Predictions *Synonyms *Penmanship *Workplace Data *Listening/speaking *Spelling *Sentence structure and writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Reading *Editing *Writing Process *Comprehension strategies *Workplace data *Listening/speaking *Decoding *Fluency *Alphabetical Order *Penmanship *Vocabulary *Grammar/usage *Synonyms/antonyms *Spelling *Sentence structure and writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Root words, suffixes, and prefixes *Synonyms/Antonyms *Homophones *Homonyms *Use of resources *Listening/Speaking *Parts of speech *Comprehension strategies *Quotation marks *Editing *Writing Process *Vocabulary *Spelling *Grammar and usage *Writing to oral, written, and picture prompts

Benchmarks

SECOND GRADE

- *Homophones
- *Homonyms
- *Use of resources
- *Workplace Data
- *Parts of Speech
- *Comprehension Strategies
- *Quotation Marks
- *Editing
- *Writing Process
- *Vocabulary
- *Spelling
- *Grammar and usage
- *Writing to oral, written, and picture prompts
- *Syntax
- *Phonics
- *Penmanship

THIRD GRADE

All of the above, plus:

- *Punctuation
- *Creative writing
- *Dictionary usage
- *Research
- *Penmanship mastery
- *Speed reading and comprehension

Benchmarks

MATHEMATICS

Word of Faith Academy uses the A Beka Curriculum in order to provide instruction in math. In addition, students are immersed in the Saxon curriculum, which provides repetition in mathematical concepts in order to establish foundations. These programs, coupled, provide multiple opportunities to master mathematical concepts, such as manipulation of figures, computational skills, critical thinking and problem solving skills that enable students to apply mathematical concepts.

Mathematics Learning Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of mathematical concepts using manipulatives
- Complete mathematical computations by adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing
- Use reasoning skills in order to apply mathematical concepts

Benchmarks

MATHEMATICS (continued)

Mathematics Concepts

K-2 and K-3	K4	K-5	First Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Counting *Shapes *Sizes *Numeric Recognition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Counting *Numeric recognition *Numbers and Number theory *Patterns *Geometric concepts *Money Values *Skip counting *Addition *Subtraction * Telling Time *Measurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Skip counting *Numbers and Number Theory *Computation of whole numbers *Patterns and sequencing *Time*Measurement *Probability and statistics *Money Values *Re-grouping *Test preparation *Reasoning and problem solving *Number sentences *Algebraic thinking *Geometric concepts *Modeling, reading, and writing fractions *Graphing *Multiplication facts and theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Skip counting *Multiplication facts and theory *Division facts and theory *Time *Computation of whole numbers *Patterns *Measurement *Probability and statistics *Money (price tags) *Re-grouping *Test preparation *Reasoning and problem solving *Algebraic thinking *Geometric Concepts *Modeling, reading, and writing fractions *Graphing *Multiplication facts and theory *Theory of division *Place Value

Benchmarks

MATHEMATICS (continued)

Second Grade

- *Multiplication
- *Sets and Division
- *Elapsed Time
- *Computation of whole numbers and decimals
- *Money
- *Algebraic thinking
- *Geometric Concepts (perimeter, area)
- *Modeling, reading, and writing fractions
- *Graphing
- *Place Value
- *Measurement
- *Probability
- *Test Preparatory
- *Re-grouping

Third Grade

All of the above, plus:

- *Story problems
- *Fractions
- *Equations
- *Measurement problems
- *Metric and English measures

Benchmarks

SCIENCE

Word of Faith Academy uses the A Beka curriculum as the primary source for methods are provided through the development of life, earth, physical, and health science. Students have the opportunity to develop an understanding of and demonstrate the understanding of the scientific thinking process to form hypothesis and test such educated guesses as a natural part of everyday existence and science experiments.

Benchmarks

SCIENCE (continued)

Science Concepts

K-2 and K-3	K-4	K-5 - 1st Grade	2nd and 3rd Grade
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Life Science</u></p> <p>Animal recognition, sounds and their habitat</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Life Science</u></p> <p>Animals, plants, and habitats</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Life Science</u></p> <p>Animals, plants, needs and habitats</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Life Science</u></p> <p>Plant and animal life cycles, growth, structure, and variation</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Earth Science</u></p> <p>Weather</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Earth Science</u></p> <p>Weather Concept</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Earth Science</u></p> <p>Weather, Climate, Resources</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Earth Science</u></p> <p>Solar system, relationship of weather to seasons and earth's rotation</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Physical Science</u></p> <p>Sound</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Physical Science</u></p> <p>Sound</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Physical Science</u></p> <p>Matter, Motion, Sound</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Physical Science</u></p> <p>Motion, sound, light, heat</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Health Science</u></p> <p>Body parts, food, maintaining health</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Health Science</u></p> <p>Body parts, food, maintaining health</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Health Science</u></p> <p>Body parts, maintaining health, food and nutrition, senses, hygiene</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Health Science</u></p> <p>Senses, oral hygiene, diet, and nutrition</p>

Benchmarks

SOCIAL STUDIES

Word of Faith Academy utilizes the A Beka curriculum for social studies instruction. This program focuses on the world around us and our immediate surroundings, while incorporating citizenship concepts. Additionally, the program is rich in American history and the foundations upon which the United States were founded.

Social Studies Objectives

- Develop a foundational understanding of early American History
- Develop an understanding of African American contributions
- Understand and apply geographical concepts
- Promote a lifestyle of positive, active citizenship

Benchmarks
SOCIAL STUDIES (continued)

Social Studies Concepts

K-4	K-5 - 1st Grade	2nd and 3rd Grade
<p>*Service Occupations*Holidays and celebrations of history</p>	<p>*Service occupations *Holidays and celebrations of history *Geographical concepts*Recognition of the 50 states and capitals *Recognition of seven continents and four oceans *Diversity, voting, and citizenship *Map-reading*Understanding of directions *Early American history *African American history *Natural resources *Economics *Homes, neighborhoods, and communities</p>	<p>*Map skills *Latitude and longitude *Types of communities *Earth’s Natural resources *Factories and farms *Native Americans *African American history *Multi-cultural festivals *Exploration of the founding of America *Understanding globes *Use of map keys and legends</p>

Arts and Activities

Music, Art, and Foreign Languages

To augment their personal and intellectual development, Word of Faith Academy provides all children with the opportunity to participate in and appreciate a variety of the following artistic creations:

1. Music Appreciation
2. Visual Arts
3. Spanish
4. Computer

Grading System

K-4 and up

- A - 93-100
- B - 83-92
- C - 73-82
- D - 63-72
- F - 62 and Below

K-2 and K-3 Grading Scale

- A - responds readily
- B - responds after repeating once
- C - responds after repeating twice
- D - responds after repeating three times
- F - did not respond/recognize

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