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# Parent Information Packet



C H R I S T I A N A C A D E M Y

What are your BIGGEST PRIORITIES as you consider school options?

Alignment with your family's Christian faith? Community? Academic quality? Safety?

I believe our core values have something to offer you won't find elsewhere, and I'm delighted you're considering Westminster Christian Academy.

A commitment to Christ, character development, and an individualized approach to education permeate everything we do in and around the classroom. This approach enables us to educate the whole child — body, mind, and spirit — as we develop their academic foundation for a lifetime of learning.

We want to help you experience Westmintser — our connected, faithful, thriving community. We serve grades 7-12 because we believe these are critical years for establishing a strong spiritual and academic foundation; if done properly, that grounding influence will serve students well as they attend college, pursue careers, and grow as followers of Christ. We give our students the opportunities to engage in leadership, mentorship, service, challenging academics, and individual interests, as well as the tools to strengthen any areas of need through academic intervention. The result is a graduate who is a confident, capable leader ready to serve in their community, church, and career.

Partnership with parents, community, a rigorous curriculum, and honoring Christ all foster the most important things you could give your child: a strong start in life, an excellent education, and a servant's heart. We hope to meet you and your child soon. After reading this overview of Westminster Christian Academy, <u>schedule a tour</u> so you can see what we're about firsthand.

Sincerely,

HEAD OF ENROLLMENT

# **Our Commitment to Families**

Westminster Christian Academy honors Jesus Christ by providing an excellent education rooted in biblical truth. This is accomplished through our strong partnership between home, church, and school. We want to be in lock-step with you, connecting with your child's God-given gifts, amplifying their strengths, and helping them realize their dreams. We want to be a home away from home. At Westminster, our H.O.U.S.E. represents so much more: Honor Christ, Own the Outcome, Unite in Gratitude, Set the Example, and Empower Each Other. Welcome to our H.O.U.S.E.!

### Our goal is that by the time students graduate from Westminster, they:

- Love the Lord with all their heart and know that He created them with beauty and purpose
- Honor the Lord by honoring their families and serving their communities
- Are academically prepared for college, and able to think critically and make connections across subjects

## How do we put our mission into action to accomplish these goals?

### Serve our community.

Westminster students engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ inside and outside the classroom. Service is integrated into student life; all students, from 7th grade to senior year, are required to complete community service hours in order to graduate.

### Partner with parents.

We encourage families to be involved in our Westminster community. Parents Advancing Westminster (PAW) provides parents the opportunity to help organize various social events throughout the school year. Our Westminster parents also have men's and women's prayer groups that meet weekly on campus.

# Place a strong emphasis on nurturing and safety.

We have licensed counselors on staff for any students in need of counseling. An anonymous tip line is available for students to privately report any concerning matters to school security and the Westminster administration. Our campus is secured by locked exterior and classroom doors, as well as a full-time security guard.

> Continue reading to learn more about our educational philosophy and approach to middle school and upper school. When you're ready, schedule a meeting or campus tour with our admissions team.

# Middle School (Grades 7-8)



# **Nurturing Their Emerging Gifts and Academic Interests**

Our middle school students are vibrant, budding scholars and confident pre-teens who will become tomorrow's leaders. We challenge them to become more engaged and self-advocating learners capable of handling a more rigorous curriculum in preparation of what's to come, including the option of participating in <u>WestminsterYOU</u>, an innovative program tailored to their individual interests and needs.

### **Core Subject Areas**

- Bible (Essentials of the Christian Faith: Old Testament, Biblical Worldview)
- English (Foundations of Writing and Literature)
- History (Global Studies)
- Mathematics (Pre-Algebra, Algebra I)
- Physical Education & Health
- Science (Life Science, Physical Science)
- World Languages (French & Spanish)

### Electives

- Art
- Band
- Chorus
- Drama (Production & Design, Scripts & Styles)
- Ocean Discovery
- Orchestra
- Performing Arts
- Theatre Arts

### **Activities & Clubs**

- Archery
- Art
- Audio/Visual
- Drama
- Photography
- Scrabble & Tea
- SkyJo (card games)

# Upper School (Grades 9-12)



# A Capstone Education Experience for Young Adults

By the time our students reach upper school, they are well on their way to being independent thinkers, organized time managers, and problem-solvers. Our academic program emphasizes our commitment to reaching higher in all aspects of life. It is enriched with stimulating extracurriculars, inspiring experiences, and leadership opportunities. We see upper school as a time of bringing together all the threads of student development for academic, athletic, and spiritual formation. In all things, we want to honor God and seek a personal relationship with Him.

# At Westminster Christian Academy, upper school students:

- Work with our full-time college counselors throughout grades 8-12
- Choose from academies and enrichments through <u>WestminsterYOU</u>, giving them access to subjects and material that interest them personally and encourage professional pursuits
- Find the academic structure that best challenges and supports their learning goals, whether it's through our Concepts, Core, or Honors paths, or earning college credit through AP courses, Missouri Baptist University, and St. Louis University
- Lead and serve as part of the Spiritual Leadership Team, Peer Counselors, Student Ambassadors, Student Council, and more
- Experience a service-oriented community culture that gives back through Faith in Action, Senior Service Program, and In the Spirit of Giving

### WestminsterYOU

An Innovative Program Tailored to Individual Interests and Needs

- Four Academies (Business, Law & Constitution, Fine Arts, and Student Council Leadership)
- Enrichment Opportunities (Creative Writing, Beginning Violin, Guitar, Theatre, Audition and Concert Prep, Coding, Exploration of Great Questions)
- Academic Intervention when extra help is needed

"My daughter came home after day one just giddy about how incredible the experience was for her... I think we were most touched and even cried a bit when she came home the other day, hugged both my husband and myself and said, 'Thank you both so much for finding a way to make Westminster work. It is just perfect for me.""

- New WCA Parent

Character. Excellence. Perseverance.

> Athletics at Westminster

# RECENT

# **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Volleyball 2022 / Swim & Dive 2023

### On and off the field or court — we're always proud of our athletes. Our first priority is for our teams and athletes to honor God and convey a positive witness to those around them. Our athletes uphold the 10 Pillars, which emphasize Christian character and sportsmanship, honoring Jesus Christ in all we do on and off the field. With 26 sports teams for grades 7-12, all middle school and upper school students are encouraged to participate in athletics.



### Athletics include:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cheer
- Cross Country
- Dance
- Esports
- Field Hockey
- Football
- Golf

Ice Hockey

Sports Teams

- Lacrosse
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

Visual Arts, Music, Theatre, and Other Electives and Clubs Creativity. Innovation. Greatness.

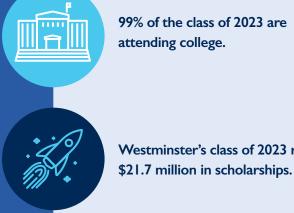
The resources we offer provide students with the opportunity to explore interests outside of their core academic strengths. In our robust Visual Arts, Music, and Theatre programs, students learn to see and express the beauty of God's creation and pursue excellence through performances and art. Other electives include entrepreneurship, where students operate our Pawprint Coffee Shop; video storytelling; and yearbook. Our 18 clubs include rock climbing, and archery.



# **Building Confidence**

# What does a Westminster graduate look like?

Consider our graduates — over 4,000 since we opened our doors in 1976! While Westminster alumni are diverse in their passions, abilities, and professional pursuits, they demonstrate a collective record of achievement that underscores the benefits of their Christian education.

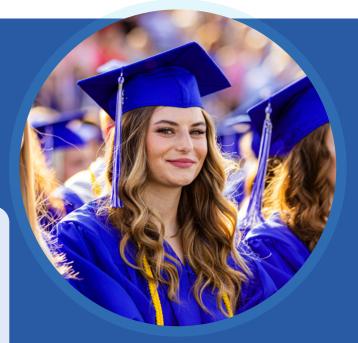


Westminster's class of 2023 received

More than 8,000 community service hours were completed by Westminster's class of 2023.

71% of our upper school students participate in athletics.

In addition to becoming followers of Christ, our graduates are responsible, community-minded leaders prepared for college and careers.



# A look at where our graduates go next...

**Baylor University Butler University** Calvin University **Covenant College Northwestern University Purdue University Texas Christian University** Vanderbuilt University Washington University in St. Louis Wheaton College



# We can't wait to meet you.

When it comes to choosing a school for your child, nothing compares to experiencing the learning environment firsthand! Our campus tours will give you the best sense of what we have to offer and provide you with the opportunity to connect with someone who can answer your specific questions.

### What to Expect On Your Personal Tour

Explore our beautiful campus virtually, or <u>schedule a family</u> <u>tour</u> with our admissions team. On your tour, you will have the chance to see our state-of-the-art campus:

- The newly renovated Hub for creative discussions, studying, student meetings, or just hanging out with friends
- More than 75 classrooms, eight science labs, four music rooms, three art studios, two media labs, a broadcast studio, our robotics suite, and our Arena, which is used for everything from sports to worship services
- The Pawprint Coffee Shop where students can catch up before and after school
- Our athletics facilities, including our indoor swimming pool, six sports fields, and two additional gyms, and our fine arts facilities, which include the Black Box Theatre

### We can't wait to meet your family!

# **Questions?**

Please contact our admissions team at 314-997-2900 or <u>admissions@wcastl.org</u>.

