

PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

Carmel Christian Academy (CCA) was founded and designed to provide a basic and enriched instruction for grades K-3 through High School. The school will expose students to the joy, beauty, greatness, and grace of God in the classroom and in all school activities on a daily basis. It is the school's desire to help parents to follow God's directions to properly train their children and to "..... *bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*" (Ephesians 6:4)

As Christians, we believe that a true understanding of life cannot be gained apart from understanding the Bible as God's Holy Word. (John 1:1) We hold the Bible to be divinely inspired, inerrant, and infallible. (II Timothy 3:16) We believe the Biblical record to be the objective truth, valid history, and moral absolute for society.

Because of our Christian convictions, we consider any system of education must include the Bible to enable students to understand their past, live rightly in the present, prepare for their future, and to achieve the basis for moral and ethical conduct. (Proverbs 22:6)

Carmel Christian has undertaken the task of providing a distinctively Christian educational experience. CCA exists as an alternative for parents who want a Christian education for their children. The objectives of CCA are: to clearly present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to each student, to approach each subject and activity from a Christian perspective, to offer an excellent academic program, to help each student develop a world view that is consistent with the historic Christian faith, and to make ambassadors for Jesus Christ. (Colossians 3:17, II Peter 1:5)

The philosophy and objectives of Carmel Christian Academy provide the functional framework for all its programs and policies. **Every effort will be made to continually ensure that our philosophy and objectives are clearly understood, shared, and adhered to by the faculty and staff.**

The programs of CCA will address four major needs of the young person: Spiritual, Academic, Physical, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

The student's spiritual development is the highest priority of CCA. We believe God created each individual in His image. (Genesis 1:26) Since the fall of Adam, every human being has been born a sinner. (Genesis 3:15, Romans 3:23) The Holy Spirit works in the lives of individuals to reveal their need of a Savior. We seek to use our God given talents and abilities to point our students to the Savior. It is our chief desire that the students accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, confess Him publicly, and grow daily in their relationship with Him. (John 3:7, Romans 10:9) **To achieve this end, we require that each teacher and staff member be a dedicated, consecrated Christian in order for our students to have the proper role models of Christian living.**

We seek to help students in their Christian walk by providing Bible classes and chapel services. The Bible classes seek to impart basic Christian doctrine such as described in our statement of faith, while giving students the tools for personal growth and continued Bible study. (1 Peter 2:2).

The chapel services are designed to be both instructional and inspirational with the intent of helping the students in their Christian walk and growth.

ACADEMIC

CCA is an approved member of ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) and meets or exceeds all state mandates. We use the ABeka curriculum which is used in Christian Schools world-wide. Students test one to two years above the national average (both public and private). Our seniors, (100 %) are accepted to the college of their choice upon graduation.

We desire that each student at Carmel Christian Academy receive the best academic preparation possible in order for them to pursue their life goals successfully. It is our purpose that the academic achievements of our students always be within the practice of Christian thought and practice. Our objective is to guide each student's academic development in such a way as to equip them to think independently and yet arrive at conclusions that are consistent with the Bible, God's Word.

We reject the possibility of having serious scholarship and honest thinking apart from a basic understanding and application of God's word. It is our desire to help students understand history by teaching them about Jesus Christ who came into human history and revealed God the Father to us, to guide them in the development of communication skills so that they may effectively share with others about the Creator, and to equip them with mathematical and scientific skills enabling a greater appreciation for the wonders of the universe.

Academic excellence is expected of each student on the assumption held by faculty and staff that each student can learn, achieve, and be successful in his school experience "Excellence " is understood by the faculty and staff as doing one's best. (Matthew 25:15-28) Students of Carmel Christian Academy learn that working hard to reach a worthy goal gives dignity to life and glory to God. Indeed one's life work, accomplished according to God's will is a praise to Him. (Psalms 139:14, Proverbs 10:4)

PHYSICAL

Recognizing that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit directs us to teach and exemplify a proper respect toward the human body. (I Corinthians 6:19) This would include instruction and participation in exercise (1 Timothy 4:8), proper diet, and respect for the human body as a creation of God. Sports programs will be available, provided there is enough interest in the sports and number of students are available to participate.

We must carefully maintain the primary emphasis on spiritual and academic rather than athletic achievement. Every student who participates in any interscholastic competition must be academically eligible and must exhibit behavior indicative of a proper relationship with Christ. **Exceptional athletic ability is no substitute for poor testimony or poor performance in the classroom.**

SOCIAL

We are told in the scripture to let our “...*light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and Glorify your Father who is in heaven.*”(Matthew 5:16) Not only is our relationship with God important, but our relationships with other people are important too. To this end we teach our young people the principals of proper relationships, behaviors, and attitudes. Specifically, these include responsible citizenship, respect for others, courtesy, forgiveness, compassion, the value of friendships, and the Biblical ideal of love. (1 Corinthians13) We recognize the unique relationship of the family and the church as institutions of God’s design. (Genesis 2, Acts 2). They will be revered as such. The church and home are institutions ordained of God which our school specifically ordained seeks to support.

Being a responsible citizen implies one has the self discipline to act in a civil manner. Our rules regarding conduct, language, and dress will be enforced while helping students understand that discipline is administered out of love and as a vehicle to develop self-discipline or inward control. (Proverbs 19:11, I Timothy 3:16, I Corinthians 9:24).

Students are expected to follow school polices at all school events whether held on or off campus. This is to include behavior as well as appropriate dress. While CCA will hold off campus events for students, there will at no time be dancing or inappropriate music involved. Students are expected to act in a manner that upholds the moral values and standards expected in CCA.

The ultimate goal of the individual is personal maturity in Christ (Hebrews 12:11) and that how this life is lived is an outward expression of faith.

CCA believes strongly in the Biblical principles of communication as taught in Matthew Chapters 5 and Matthew 18. We believe when one has been offended (or has offended someone else) **or is concerned about the actions of someone, they should go directly to that person with a loving attitude and discuss the situation.** This principle restores relationships, and builds new relationships between staff, parents and students. Our desire is that as a school family we would be committed to building up one another and confronting one another with a loving spirit. This policy is for parents, students, and staff members. **It is a major goal at CCA to maintain close communication with parents on a regular basis. We are here to serve you and your child.** (Galatians 5:13) “...*but through love serve one another.*”