Middle School at Harvest Christian Academy- Lantana

Growing in Wisdom, Faith, and Purpose

Middle school is an important season of growth. During grades 6–8, students build the academic foundation, independence, and confidence they need for high school and beyond. At Harvest Christian Academy, we encourage students to think critically, communicate clearly, explore their interests, strengthen their faith, and begin taking greater ownership of their learning.

Our goal is not simply to prepare students for the next grade. We want to help them grow in wisdom, develop their God-given gifts, build meaningful relationships, and learn to use their abilities to serve others and glorify God.

Biblical Education: Building a Biblical Worldview

Bible instruction is central to the middle school experience. Across grades 6–8, students study three complementary courses that help them understand the unified story of Scripture and Christ's central place in God's redemptive plan.

- **The Story of the Old Testament:** Students explore the Old Testament as a journey that points to Jesus Christ. They learn to recognize Christ throughout Scripture and use biblical evidence to explain how the Old Testament reveals His central place in God's plan.
- **The Life of Christ:** Students study the life and ministry of Jesus through the Gospels, exploring how He fulfills God's promises, reveals Himself as the Messiah, and advances God's kingdom. Students also develop Bible study skills that help them interpret and apply Scripture.
- **The Triumph of Christ:** Students study Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation to understand the development of the early Church, the truths that guide Christian living, the Great Commission, and Christ's ultimate triumph.

Together, these studies help students move beyond simply knowing Bible stories. They learn to understand Scripture in context, recognize the larger story of God's plan, explain their beliefs using biblical reasoning, and apply biblical truth to everyday life. Our goal is to nurture a growing faith, a biblical worldview, and a desire to become more like Christ.

English Language Arts: Reading, Writing, and Communication

Students strengthen their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills as they engage with increasingly complex literature and informational texts. They learn to analyze themes, evaluate an author's purpose, draw conclusions, and support their thinking with evidence from what they read.

Writing instruction includes narrative, informational, and argumentative writing. Students develop stronger paragraphs and essays, improve grammar and vocabulary, practice revising and editing, and learn to conduct research using credible sources. Through discussion and presentations, they also build confidence in communicating ideas clearly and thoughtfully.

Mathematics: Building Understanding and Problem-Solving Skills

Middle school mathematics helps students move from foundational skills toward more advanced mathematical thinking. Students strengthen their understanding of number operations, fractions, decimals, ratios, proportions, and percentages while developing algebraic reasoning through expressions and equations.

They also explore geometry, measurement, statistics, and probability. Throughout these topics, students practice solving multistep problems, recognizing patterns, explaining their reasoning, and applying mathematics to real-world situations. The goal is to build both accuracy and confidence as students prepare for high school mathematics.

Science: Exploring God's Creation

Science encourages students to ask questions, investigate the world around them, and appreciate the complexity and order of God's creation. Students explore concepts in physical science and life science, as well as Earth and space science, including matter and energy, forces and motion, cells and body systems, heredity, ecosystems, and Earth's place in space.

Through investigations, models, data analysis, and engineering challenges, students develop scientific reasoning and learn to support conclusions with evidence. They practice asking thoughtful questions, testing ideas, and using problem-solving skills to better understand the natural world.

Social Studies: Understanding People, Places, and History

Students deepen their understanding of history, geography, culture, government, economics, and citizenship. Their studies include Texas history, United States history, and the societies and regions of ancient civilization and the contemporary world.

Students examine how people and events have shaped communities and nations, explore the relationship between geography and human activity, and consider the foundations of government and civic responsibility. They also strengthen research and critical-thinking skills by working with maps, timelines, primary sources, and secondary sources. These experiences help students understand their place in the world and consider how they can contribute responsibly to their communities.

Electives: Exploring Interests and Building Life Skills

Middle school electives give students opportunities to discover interests, develop talents, and practice skills that support learning and everyday life. Offerings include:

Spanish

Students develop introductory language skills through vocabulary, pronunciation, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They also explore cultural traditions and perspectives, building an appreciation for people and communities around the world.

Art

Students explore creativity and artistic expression through a variety of materials, techniques, and projects. They develop an understanding of artistic elements and design principles while learning to communicate ideas visually and appreciate art from different cultures and time periods.

Theatre

Students explore storytelling and dramatic expression through character development, voice, movement, improvisation, and performance activities. They build confidence, creativity, collaboration, and communication skills while learning to work together toward a shared production or performance.

Worship Team

Worship Team allows students to use their musical gifts to serve the school community. Students may participate vocally or by playing an instrument as they prepare to help lead worship during chapel. Through collaboration, practice, and performance, students develop musical skills, confidence, and teamwork while learning that worship is about more than music—it is an opportunity to glorify God and help others engage in worship.

STEM

STEM encourages students to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through creative thinking and problem-solving. Students may investigate questions, design solutions, test ideas, and work through challenges that connect classroom learning to real-world applications. The emphasis is on curiosity, innovation, collaboration, and learning through exploration.

Equipped

Equipped takes a fresh, practical approach to study skills, organization, and life management. Students develop habits and strategies to manage responsibilities, use their time wisely, stay organized, and approach challenges with greater independence. The course helps students build the everyday skills and routines that support success in school and prepare them for the responsibilities of the years ahead.

Technology: Practical Skills and Responsible Use

At Harvest, technology supports learning rather than replacing the foundational work students do through textbooks, discussion, paper, and pencil. Students build practical technology skills as opportunities arise, learning to use digital tools thoughtfully and responsibly.

When iPads are available for classroom use, students may use them to support research, organize information, practice skills, collaborate, or present their learning. Students also develop an understanding of digital citizenship, online safety, responsible communication, and the lasting impact of their digital choices. Problem-solving, logical thinking, creativity, and basic programming concepts may be introduced or reinforced as appropriate.

Our goal is to help students become capable, responsible users of technology while continuing to value strong foundational academic skills and meaningful, hands-on learning.

Physical Education and Athletics: Movement, Fitness, and Teamwork

Middle school physical education gives students opportunities to develop physical skills, coordination, strength, endurance, and confidence through movement and active participation. Students practice fundamental movement skills and explore a variety of individual and team activities, games, and sports.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in school athletics and choose from a variety of sports, including six-man football, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, baseball, and track. Through physical education and athletic participation, students develop teamwork, sportsmanship, discipline, perseverance, and respect for others while learning to encourage their teammates and represent Harvest Christian Academy with character.

Our goal is to help students discover their interests, grow in confidence, and understand the value of commitment, cooperation, and using their God-given abilities both on and off the field.

More Than Academics: Growing in Faith, Character, and Responsibility

Middle school is about more than grades and academic achievement. It is a time when students are discovering who God created them to be, learning to navigate relationships, and developing greater responsibility for their choices.

At Harvest Christian Academy, we encourage students to demonstrate integrity, compassion, perseverance, humility, and respect. Through classroom experiences, relationships with teachers and peers, athletics, electives, and opportunities to serve, students learn to recognize their gifts and use them for a purpose beyond themselves.

Our desire is for every student to leave middle school better prepared for high school and, more importantly, better equipped to live with wisdom, confidence, Christlike character, and a growing understanding of how to glorify God in every area of life.