ACADEMICS FAITH VIRTUE BUILDING a FOUNDATION for LIFE

Parent Information Packet



What are your BIGGEST PRIORITIES as you consider

school options?



Alignment with your family's values? Excellence in academics? A safe learning environment? A classical foundation?

Dear Prospective Families,

We are delighted that you are considering Veritas Christian Academy of Houston! As you explore our community, we trust you'll discover why Veritas is a special place for your child's growth — both academically and spiritually.

As a non-denominational, covenant Christian school, education is about more than academics—it's about shaping the whole person. Rooted in the classical tradition, we encourage deep thinking and meaningful connections between faith and learning. By weaving a biblical worldview into every subject, we guide students to see God's hand in all of life, preparing them to make wise decisions and lead lives of integrity.

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Our close-knit community offers opportunities for well-rounded growth — from robust academics to fine arts, athletics, and unique experiential learning through travel. Veritas students leave well-prepared for high school, equipped with strong academic foundations, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills they'll need for their future.

We invite you to <u>schedule a tour</u> and experience firsthand the vibrant community at Veritas Christian Academy. Our teachers are passionate, our programs are enriching, and our mission is clear: to develop future leaders with wisdom, virtue, and academic excellence to impact the world for Christ. We look forward to partnering with you on this journey.

Soli Deo Gloria. Sincerely,

Kim Berger

Head of School

Why Choose Classical Education?

Building Strong Minds and Faithful Hearts

When it comes to raising your child, there's always that moment when you realize just how quickly they're growing right before your eyes.

You've spent years making sure they're surrounded by good influences, teaching them the right values, and now, as they get older, you want their school to do the same. You're searching for more than a school that helps in getting good test scores — you want your child to grow into a critical thinker, a leader, and a person of deep faith.

A Foundation for Life.

That's where Veritas Christian Academy comes in. We've created an environment where academic rigor meets spiritual growth, and your child's development goes far beyond the classroom.

With our **classical education model**, your child will excel academically while being immersed in a Christ-centered community. Here, they develop wisdom and virtue through studying classical literature, the liberal arts, and Scripture. Our students cultivate critical thinking and a deep appreciation for truth, goodness, and beauty, all grounded in a Biblical worldview, becoming wise, compassionate, and confident individuals.

Grammar Stage

Preschool – 4th Grade

In this critical Grammar Stage, students lay the groundwork for future learning by **mastering core subjects**, including reading, history, Latin, math, science, and Bible stories. Your child will be introduced to learning in a way that is both fun and foundational, through engaging, handson lessons that involve songs and storytelling.

5th – 8th Grade

As students enter the Logic Stage, they begin to question the "why" of their learning. This phase emphasizes **critical reasoning, logical analysis, and connecting ideas** across subjects. Students enjoy activities such as debates, discussions, and complex problem-solving, helping them build a deeper, more thoughtful approach to learning.

Logic Stage

At Veritas, our focus on early and middle school education through the classical model provides a strong foundation for high school and the **Rhetoric Stage** of learning, where students will articulate their knowledge and faith confidently.

By the time your child finishes middle school, they'll have developed the solid academic foundation needed to articulate their knowledge and faith confidently. In addition, we also introduce elements of the Rhetoric Stage by offering select courses, ensuring your child is well-prepared for the next step in their education.



Timeless Values

Teaching truth, beauty, and goodness through a biblical lens.



Challenging Academics

Developing critical thinking, problem-solving, and crosssubject connections.



Strong Communication Skills

Building confidence in writing and speaking.



Litelong Learning

Encouraging curiosity and deep, thoughtful inquiry.



A loving, safe environment where creativity and playful learning meet

Our primary goal at this age is to help children experience the fun and joy that leads to an early excitement about learning.

At Veritas, your child will:

- Learn through play, with a structured curriculum that nurtures both fine and gross motor skills
- Discover enrichments like music, fine arts, and our Early Education Library, rich with classical children's literature
- Explore foreign languages, starting with French and moving towards Latin in Lower School
- Find a loving and supportive Christian atmosphere that allows them to develop socially, spiritually, and cognitively

As an early education parent, you can expect:

- Your child will be known and loved by dedicated staff who model loving kindness
- Academic readiness and hands-on learning in a nurturing environment where your child will come to love learning
- A strong emphasis on spiritual development, including weekly chapel, Bible classes, scripture memorization, and Biblical integration in all subjects

Early Education Programs

PreK3 & PreK4

- 3 Full-Day Program (M/W/F 8am-3pm)
- 5 Half-Day Program (8am-12pm)
- 5 Full-Day Program (8am-3pm)

Kindergarten

■ 5 Full-Day Program (8am-3pm)

Grammar Stage in Early Education

Preschool introduces the Grammar stage of classical education, fostering a love for learning through memorization, organization, and positive habits. In kindergarten, children gain momentum in their intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional growth — all grounded in Christian faith.

Lower School (Grades 1-4)

Building a strong foundation for lifelong learners

At Veritas, the Lower School continues the Grammar stage of classical education, where students build a strong foundation in subjects such as language, reading, science, art, and history. In a structured yet nurturing environment, students deepen their knowledge while experiencing balanced cognitive, social, spiritual, emotional, and physical growth. Our small class sizes ensure individual attention from teachers, fostering a strong partnership between parents and educators to support each child's education.

Biblical Integration:

At Veritas, our Christian faith extends beyond Bible class. All students attend weekly all-school chapel which includes learning a hymn of the month and a chapel talk. We intentionally integrate Biblical principles into all areas of school life. We partner with likeminded parents to equip students with wisdom and virtue as they mature in their faith.

Academic Development:

In the grammar stage, we teach with the grain of the child. Students at this age can recite Scripture, poetry, grammar, spelling rules, math facts, Latin vocabulary, and more. We use songs, chants, call and response, and movement to make memorization fun. Veritas also fosters a love for the good, the true, and the beautiful through Bible stories, classic literature, history, and nature studies. All students participate in music, drama, art, foreign language, and physical education classes.

Enriched Learning:

Our emphasis on teaching the whole child includes hands-on learning, celebrations, and class trips to area nature centers, museums, theaters, concerts, and cultural events. We also give students the opportunity to showcase their developing proficiency in many areas, which may include local and national competitions in spelling, math, creative writing, choir, and art.

"In Lower School, we teach the whole child foundational literacy and math skills using multisensory modes of instruction and the integration of guided auditory and visual discovery in reading, spelling, and math. Our students also learn to love God's world through the intentional exploration of history, science, and classic literature. As a lifetime educator, I have seen the benefits of classical, Christian education for over 40 years."

-Mrs. Melanie Wilson, Lower School Team Lead

Middle School (Grades 5-8)

Nurturing Their Emerging Gifts and Academic Interests

Our middle school students are vibrant, budding scholars and confident pre-teens who will grow to become tomorrow's leaders. We continue to challenge our students to become more engaged, active, and self-directed learners capable of handling a progressive classical curriculum that will prepare them for high school and college.

At Veritas, middle schoolers:

- Learn how to think analytically as they begin the second phase of classical education, the logic stage
- Develop a higher level of curiosity as they learn to view problems as challenges and accept personal responsibility of learning
- Exemplify their faith by dedicating hours in mission projects each year
- Are high achieving and have the opportunity to acquire high school credit
- Recognize the influence they have over their peers, and understand how they personally contribute to our learning community
- Are prepared to step into the plan God has for their lives

Opportunities for growth outside the classroom:

- Middle School Orientation Retreat at Carolina Creek
- Cultural Expeditions Program: London/Oxford, Texas History, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Washington D.C.
- Local Field Trips: Theater Productions, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Menil Collection, etc.
- Academic Competitions: Art, Creative Writing, Math, Speech, and Spelling
- History and Science Fair
- National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)
- International Thespian Society
- Student Council
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Logic Stage in Middle School

Middle school emphasizes the Logic stage as students learn analytical thinking and independence, building on the basics learned in lower school. Students develop self-directed learning skills, manage their time effectively, and approach challenges with curiosity. The balanced curriculum supports both academic achievement and spiritual growth, preparing them for future success.

Opportunities for Growth

Character. Excellence. Perseverance.

On or off the field or court — we're always proud of our athletes. Our Rams play hard and model Christian character while honoring God through their efforts. Athletic competition is offered as early as fifth grade and culminates with eight sports at the middle school level. In preparation for interscholastic sports, all Veritas students are encouraged to practice healthy habits through exercise learned in Music and Movement and PE, which begins in our early education program.

Boys Teams

- Flag Football
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Track

Girls Teams

- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Track

Athletics at Veritas Christian Academy



STUDENT PARTICIPATION



Creativity. Innovation. Greatness.

Electives and Extracurriculars

The collective resources we offer provide students with the opportunity to explore interests outside of their core academic strengths. Some of the favorite electives we most often hear about include band, art, drama, and journalism, or extracurriculars such as Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student Council, Thespian Society, and our Broadway Up Close Program (which features an optional trip to New York with Broadway producers!). We hope we can meet you soon to learn more about your child's interests.

Fine Arts

Your child will have opportunities to immerse themselves in diverse fine arts programs, including music, visual arts, and drama. At Veritas, students unlock and refine their creativity while growing in confidence by joining theatrical productions, musicals, art exhibits, and more.

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 Campus Tour

Explore our beautiful campus and <u>schedule a personal tour</u> with our admissions team. On your tour, you will have the chance to see:

- The caring teachers who will nurture both knowledge and Christian values in your child
- Our classrooms, Design Thinking Lab, and our centralized learning center where your child will cultivate their God-given talents
- The theater where your child can recreate classic dramas and performances for their peers and community
- Various outdoor learning spaces where students engage in a collaborative atmosphere
- All the ways we make our campus safe, including in-depth visitor screening, security cameras, and physical locks at key points

Questions?

Please contact our admissions team at (713) 265-7720 or <u>admissions@veritasca.org</u>.

