

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING LCA JUNIOR HIGH

1. What is the daily schedule for junior high school?

The school day for both junior high school and high school students is from 8:40-3:45 each day, utilizing a standard seven-period day. Most classes meet for 52 minutes each day.

2. What classes do 7th graders take?

Students take Bible, Math, English, Life Science, World History, PE, and one elective. Descriptions for these courses, as well as other academic information, may be found in the Academic Planning Guide, which is located on the LCA website under the Academics, Secondary tabs.

3. Are there honor classes in junior high school?

There are no honor classes per se, but there are two math tracks. Students will be placed in either Math 7 or Pre-Algebra, based on sixth grade math grades, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation. However, no matter which track a student begins, all students will eventually have at least four math credits in high school, including Algebra 2. Advanced students are encouraged to take Academic Enrichment as an elective to increase their knowledge and abilities in a variety of subject areas.

4. What electives are available for 7th graders?

Students may choose from Art, Band, Choir, or Academic Enrichment (new course). Descriptions for each elective (as well as all other classes) may be found in the Academic Planning Guide (see above). Students who do not take Art in 7th grade will have it as an option in 8th grade, if desired. However, students who take Art in 7th grade will not be guaranteed the option in 8th grade, so that all junior high students receive the opportunity to take art at some point. Art is also a high school elective.

5. What curriculum does LCA use in junior high school?

English, Social Studies, and Science use Bob Jones University Press (BJUP) textbooks. We consider BJUP to be the overall finest Christian textbook company in the nation. We use Glencoe Math for all math courses. A variety of curriculum is used for Bible, including curriculum produced by LCA.

6. What are the class sizes?

Class size in junior high school depends on final enrollment for each grade. It is expected that we will have two 7th grade sections of approximately 20 students each. Math and elective class sizes may vary depending on placement.

7. How does PE work?

Junior High school students, both 7th and 8th grade, have PE first period. Our plan next year is to have a boys' class and a girls' class. Students may come to school in their PE uniform or change at school in the locker room. PE uniforms are purchased from Parker Uniforms.

8. Is there a chance that my student would have trouble transferring to another school?

That should not be a problem. Our school is fully accredited by both ACSI and AdvancED, so students would have automatic entrance into public school at the same grade. Our graduates also have their credits accepted at public and private colleges because of our accreditation.

9. Are 7th and 8th graders ever combined?

Junior high students are mixed for PE and electives. They also have chapel and lunch together. Otherwise, their classes are separate.

10. Are teachers specialized?

Yes, teachers are assigned classes based on their strengths, certifications, and areas of expertise. Some junior high school teachers teach high school courses in the same discipline.

11. Do I need to buy special school supplies?

No, ordinary school supplies are usually sufficient with one exception: only provide mechanical pencils for class. Wooden pencils take too much time and make too much noise in sharpening. Check the school supply list on our website under Academics, Secondary, Resources, School Supply List in August for any specific items needed.

12. Are there any dress code changes for next year?

Like many other Christian schools, LCA will adopt a definite length guideline for skirts. Skirts must be no higher than four inches from the crease in the back of the knee. Be sure to purchase your school uniform carefully. LCA will also be adopting a navy polo top, in addition to our red and light blue polo shirts.

13. What religious instruction will my child receive?

Every student has a Bible class. We are associated with a Baptist Church, but we teach a non-denominational evangelical curriculum. Our emphasis is on the basic truths of the Bible; especially how spiritual truth can make a practical and satisfying difference in our lives. Students attend a worship chapel monthly, geared specifically for junior high students.

14. Is there homeroom?

No, we extend first period by several minutes to make announcements and start the day with prayer.

15. Are there advisors?

We do plan on having advisors for each class next year. This will be part of our spiritual development focus, as we would like each class to adopt a service project.

16. How is attendance handled?

While each teacher takes attendance for his/her class, overall attendance is maintained by the receptionist/attendance clerk. Parents must report each absence, including part-day, by note or email, so that the attendance is properly labeled. Students returning from an absence, including part-day absence, are to pick up an admit slip from the office.

17. How is discipline handled?

A variety of means is used to counsel, warn, and/or punish students when misbehavior or irresponsibility becomes an issue. Detention may be issued in some cases, either before school or during lunch. Common reasons for detention are for gum chewing, dress code violation, frequent tardies, and a pattern of not turning in homework. Our Dean of Students handles most discipline matters.

18. Is bullying a problem?

Just as siblings often do not get along in a family, it would be impossible to find a school where there are not some inter-personal problems among students. Junior High school can especially be difficult, as young people often are in the process of discovering who they are and where they fit in their world. However, as a small Christian school, LCA takes any accusations of bullying very seriously and works hard to ensure that we maintain a wholesome environment for our students. Discipline may be administered as necessary. However, bullying accusations are rare in our junior high school.

19. Why are there no lockers for students?

Due to the configuration of our building, lockers are not practical. Therefore, we issue a second set of textbooks to keep at home so that students do not have to lug heavy textbooks around.

20. What sports are available for junior high school?

LCA is pleased that we are able to offer a wide variety of sports for boys and girls. However, in any given year, the sports offered may vary, based on student interest. Therefore, we encourage parents to check our website for more information or speak with our Athletic Director.

21. Besides sports, what other extra-curricular activities are there?

We hope to have clubs next year for junior high school. This will be determined at a later date, depending on student interest. LCA also sponsors one middle school (grades 6-8) dance each year. Plans are underway to create more group ministry opportunities as well.

22. What is JNHS and how do I sign my child up?

JNHS stands for Junior National Honor Society and is the junior high school version of the National Honor Society for high school students. LCA sponsors a chapter of JNHS and NHS. Both are service organizations that celebrate academic achievement, leadership, and character, as well as service. One does not "sign up" to join. Students interested in being part of JNHS are asked to fill out an application, and if accepted, are *invited* to join. Students not accepted the first time may reapply the next year.

23. Where can I find more information?

Parents should read the Student Handbook (under Campus Life-Student Handbooks-Secondary) and the Academic Planning Guide (under Academics-Secondary) found on our website www.lakelandchristianacademy.org for more information.