

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) REGARDING LCA SECONDARY SCHOOL

1. How is the secondary school organized at LCA?

The grade levels that make up LCA's secondary school are grade 7 to grade 12. Within secondary school, grades 7 and 8 are referred to as junior high and grades 9 through 12 are referred to as high school.

2. What is the daily schedule for high school?

Secondary students should arrive between 7:50 to 8:00 AM each morning, Monday through Friday. All secondary students gather in the gym. At 8:00 AM there will be announcements, pledges to the U.S. flag, Texas Flag, Christian flag, Bible, and prayer. The first bell rings at 8:10 AM and students must be in their classes at 8:15 AM. School dismisses at 3:15 PM each day, with afterschool activities and sports offered most school days and ending at 4:45 PM. All students are expected to exit the campus no later than 5:00 PM.

3. For high school, what are the different types of diploma programs offered?

LCA offers four separate diploma programs:

- Standard Diploma
- Honors Diploma
- Fine Arts Diploma
- STEM Diploma

4. What is the Standard Diploma?

The Standard Diploma is the regular diploma that many students choose to pursue. It consists of the minimum number of courses necessary to earn a high school diploma. For LCA, the Standard Diploma requires a total of 28 credits. Each credit corresponds to successfully completing one-year long course. No designation is attached to a Standard Diploma (it will not contain the term "Standard").

5. What is the Honors Diploma?

The Honors Diploma is more rigorous than a Standard Diploma, requiring 32 credits. The major differences of an Honors Diploma, as compared to a Standard Diploma, is an additional Language Acquisition credit, Science credit, Math credit, and Technology credit. On the transcript and printed on the diploma, "Honors" will be identified.

6. What is the Fine Arts Diploma?

The Fine Arts Diploma, requiring 32 credits, offers students who are interested in the Visual and/or Performing Arts a unique high school education that includes more Fine Arts courses than a Standard Diploma. The major differences of the Fine Arts Diploma, as compared to a Standard Diploma, is an additional Language Acquisition credit, two additional Fine Arts credits, and an additional Technology credit. On the transcript and printed on the diploma, "Fine Arts" will be identified.

7. What is the STEM Diploma?

The STEM Diploma, requiring 32 credits, offers students who are interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics a unique high school education that includes more technical courses. The major differences of the STEM Diploma, as compared to a Standard Diploma, is an addition Science credit, Math credit, three Technology credits, and one less Fine Arts credit. On the transcript and printed on the diploma, "STEM" will be identified.

8. How are secondary courses organized at LCA?

All secondary courses are organized into ten separate groups. They are:

- Group 1 – Language Literature
- Group 2 – Language Acquisition*
- Group 3 – Social Studies
- Group 4 – Science

- Group 5 – Math
- Group 6 – Fine Arts
- Group 7 – Physical Education**
- Group 8 - Technology
- Group 9 - Bible
- Group 10 - Studies

A detailed description of each group can be found in the Student Handbook. Of note, the difference between “Group 1 – Language Literature” and “Group 2 – Language Acquisition” is the intent of the different courses. “Group 1 – Language Literature” is the study of literature in Western Civilization, including American Literature and British Literature, to name two examples. “Group 2 – Language Acquisition” courses focus on foreign languages and on acquiring more skills in English language, including vocabulary, grammar, and writing. “Group 10 – Studies” courses include courses to assist students in career and college preparation, including SAT and ACT preparation, and additional courses to assist students struggling academically and in credit recovery, as needed.

9. What electives are available?

Depending on the type of diploma program, electives may vary depending on which courses have been taken. For example, a student who chooses the STEM Diploma may take additional Fine Arts courses beyond the required minimum. Those additional courses will be counted as electives.

10. What curriculum does LCA use in high school?

English, Social Studies, Science, and Bible use Bob Jones University Press (BJUP) textbooks. We consider BJUP to be the overall finest Christian textbook company in the nation. For math we use a combination of McGraw-Hill and Bob Jones University Press.

11. What are the class sizes?

Class size in high school depends on final enrollment for each grade and the classes taken. Our average class size are 12.

12. How does Physical Education work?

Junior high students all take Physical Education classes. For high school students, 2 credits of Physical Education are required over four years. 1 credit must be in a regular Physical Education class, which is typically taken during grade 9. The second credit may also come from a regular Physical Education class or the student may receive credit by participating in a total of three varsity sports. One sport must be in the fall, another in the winter, and the third varsity sport must be in the spring. It is possible to earn the credit in one year, without attending a formal class, or the three varsity sports can occur over four years in high school. However, students must qualify for a specific sport and must fully participate in order to earn the credit.

13. On the website there is a Student Handbook (located under Campus Life, Student Handbooks tabs) and an Academic Planning Guide (under Academics, Secondary tabs). What is the difference between them?

The Student Handbook is designed to give basic information about student life, such as dress code and school regulations. The APG is designed to give specific information regarding graduation requirements, college planning, program options, other academic information, and brief course descriptions.

14. How can I track assignments and grades for my child?

Each parent is assigned an account with password to be able to access this information on Gradelink, our data management software. In addition, the secondary school uses a learning web portal that teachers use in the classroom for student instruction. Parents will be given access so they can see what is being taught in class, what assignments are due, and they can see the progress their child is making in their courses.

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

LCA is fully accredited with both ACSI and AdvancED. All transcripts are acceptable by any other public or private school in the U.S. and internationally. Our graduates credits are accepted at public and private colleges in the U.S. and internationally, due to our accreditation.

16. Are teachers specialized?

Yes, teachers are assigned classes based on their strengths, certifications, and areas of expertise.

17. Do I need to buy special school supplies?

Typical school supplies are sufficient for most classes. Students who take Fine Arts or STEM classes may have additional supply needs. Chromebooks are provided to students, in order to standardize technology within the school and to provide basic technology tools for all students. Check the school supply list on our website under Academics, Secondary, Resources, School Supply List for any specific items needed.

18. Do students wear uniforms?

Yes, uniforms may be purchased from Parker Uniforms either online or at one of their stores (closest is in Carrollton, just off I-35). Locker Room Sports also sells some uniform parts but not the polo shirt.

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

Like many other Christian schools, LCA has adopted 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. No major changes are expected for the new school year.

20. 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 weekly, geared specifically for secondary students. Christian worldview is found in every class and subject.

21. How does lunch work?

For the new school year, students must bring their own lunch to school. Lockers are provided or students may keep their lunches in the classroom. In order to minimize contact during the COVID-19 pandemic, new procedures are in place to protect our students.

22. Are there advisors?

We do not have specific advisors, since all teachers advise and help students. However, the secondary principal is qualified to assist students in spiritual and academic areas, as well as advise seniors in their college preparation.

23. How is attendance handled?

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

24. How is discipline handled?

A variety of means is used to counsel, warn, and/or punish students when misbehavior or irresponsibility becomes an issue. The focus of the discipline procedures is to redirect behavior rather than punitive. 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. The secondary principal handles discipline matters. A new addition in the new year's student handbook is a discipline chart that succinctly identifies potential misbehavior and the responses and consequences.

25. 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 problems among students. 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 all students. Discipline may be administered as necessary. However, bullying accusations are rare in our school.

26. Are there lockers for students?

New this year, lockers are located on the 3rd floor for all secondary students. Junior high lockers are located in the back section of the school and high school lockers are located in the main hallway, near the main elevator and stairs.

27. What sports are available for secondary school students?

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.

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

We offer a wide range of afterschool activities, ranging from eSports to Fine Arts.

29. What is NHS and how do I sign my child up?

NHS stands for National Honor Society and is designed for high school students who have demonstrated superior scholarship, leadership, character, and service. One does not "sign up" to join. Students interested in being part of NHS 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.

30. 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.