Middle School
Academic Handbook
Grades 6-8

Southside Christian School
2211 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681
southsidechristian.org

Transformational Learning Anchored in Christ
Welcome to Southside Christian School (SCS) and thank you for your desire to partner with us in the education and spiritual formation of your middle school student. As a Christian school, we believe that parents are ultimately responsible for the education of their children and we consider it a great joy and responsibility to partner with you and pour into the life of your child.

At Southside Christian, we are confident that God can do a greater work this year than ever before. We believe in order for us to leave a lasting legacy to our children that will transform the world, we must continue to focus our vision on Christ and be very intentional in a few areas.

First, we remain committed to transforming lives for Christ by keeping His Word as the foundation for all that we say and do. We believe that it is in “…Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” (Colossians 2:3) Therefore, God’s Word will be the foundation and focus of every subject and event as we seek to prepare and equip young people to serve the Lord.

Second, we will continue to understand the times and culture. In a world where information is constantly bombarding the minds of young people, we will constantly point them to the truth that God created each student and as they grow in their relationship with Him, they will grow in knowledge, joy, and purpose in serving Him.

Finally, we realize that God built us for relationship and community, and therefore, we desire to build a relationship with each student which allows for mutual respect and encouragement. The Southside Christian Middle School Staff loves, prays for, and desires to partner with each family here at SCS.

In Ephesians 3, Paul prays that the believers would be filled with the Spirit of God and love as they ask God to do “far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think.” As we enter into the 2021-2022 school year, we echo that prayer. We look forward to partnering with you and are believing God to do great things in our hearts and the hearts of the students.

Serving Him,


Middle School Principal
Mission Statement

The mission of Southside Christian School (SCS) is to serve as partners with Christian parents in providing an excellent education consistent with biblical truth.

Vision Statement

The vision of Southside Christian School is partnering with Christian parents to serve our community as a leader in Christian education, resulting in transformed lives equipped to reflect and extend the kingdom of God. Southside Christian School is committed to partner with Christian parents to serve our community by providing an affordable and accessible Christ-centered education. By attracting and retaining a credentialed core of spiritually vibrant master educators, SCS will continue to be a recognized leader in Christian education, offering model academics, athletics, and fine arts programs for our students. We desire to steward the resources God has entrusted to our care through fiscal prudence and by cultivating a culture of philanthropic support for the school. SCS is passionate to nurture growth in our students, participate in their spiritual transformation, and equip them to reflect and extend God’s kingdom. Remaining true to our 50 year spiritual heritage, we are committed to cultivating a biblical worldview within our students, enabling them to live effective and productive lives in service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Family-School Covenant

According to the Bible, parents are responsible for the training of their children (Deut. 6:1-7; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:1-4). Southside Christian School serves as a partner with parents in providing an excellent education consistent with biblical truth. Harmony between home and school provides the best environment for godly training to take place.

Spiritual Life

In a Christian school, spiritual formation is a deliberate and intentional plan. At SCS, it permeates every learning experience and is the heart of all we do.

Our Chapel program is a foundational component of student life at SCS. Middle school students attend a weekly chapel service designed to engage them in heartfelt worship and give them a foundation in scriptural principles that will serve them their entire lives. Small groups, led by a faculty mentor, meet twice a month. This setting provides an opportunity for students to deepen their relationships with each other and with God while learning to apply biblical truths.

SCS holds a Spiritual Life Conference both in the fall and spring. Guest speakers and praise teams from area churches and Christian colleges bring a fresh voice to the ministry of challenging students spiritually. Following the worship and messages, students gather in their small groups to explore scriptural principles in a deeper way and to develop relational bonds that enable them to support one another in their walk with Christ.
Accreditation

Southside Christian School (SCS) is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), and Cognia. SCS was awarded Exemplary accreditation by ACSI in 2019. SCS is also an approved Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) school, registered with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Academic Program

SCS recognizes the uniqueness of the middle school years and we seek to involve middle school students in challenging learning activities which help them focus their direction academically and spiritually. Middle school is comprised of grades 6 through 8. Classes meet five days a week for 45 minutes a day, with eight class hours per day. Classes begin at 8:05 a.m. and the school day ends at 3:20 p.m. Lunch is scheduled after fifth hour, from 12:15 to 12:50 p.m.

Grading System

Grade Point Average (GPA) is computed according to the 10-Point South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale (SCUGS).

Grades

Report cards are issued approximately every 9 weeks (once per quarter). Two quarters comprise one semester, and two semesters comprise the school year. At the end of the semester, cumulative tests are given in core academic classes.

Semester Exams

Throughout the semester middle school students will be taught different test-taking strategies, study skills for cumulative tests, and organizational skills for keeping notes and tests. Middle school students will be introduced to “exam style testing” in a gradual process in order to prepare them for success with exams in high school.

Teachers will help students by:

- Explaining different test-taking strategies
- Teaching strategies for using notes and books to study for Semester Exams
- Providing study guides with specific content included on the Semester Exams

These Semester Exams may be projects or tests that cover the current semester content. Each Semester Exam will count as 10% of the semester grade. The following criteria will be applied for middle school Semester Exams:

1. Middle school will follow the same exam schedule as high school.
2. Sixth grade students will be permitted to use notes and books to take exams. Since this is the first time most middle school students take exams, we want to minimize anxiety and help them understand what exams are like for the future.
3. Students will use their study guides, notes, books, and previous assessments to prepare for exams. The teacher will provide the necessary resources and communication that students need to prepare for the Semester Exam.
4. Exams will include writing portions along with the typical exam style questions (multiple choice, matching, short answer, fill in the blank, and true/false). The writing portion may include using good sentence structure, forming paragraphs, or constructing essays that communicate details and understanding of certain topics.
Technology in the Classroom

Southside Christian School has implemented a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for the SCS Middle School. All students in Grades 6 - 8 will use a device compatible with Southside Christian School’s educational technology platform, which allows the school to provide enhanced filtering to protect students from online threats. Access to course work online and a secure testing environment ensure that educational standards are being met.

With the use of technology in the classroom, teachers are tapping into the power of educational tools that support classroom instruction. Technology provides opportunities for young people to be introduced to diverse perspectives, research deeper content, and appreciate various cultures while teachers guide them through a biblical worldview. Our desire is that middle school students become safe and knowledgeable users of 21st Century skills while practicing biblical discernment as they experience vast amounts of information in this Digital Age.

Expected Student Outcomes

Spiritual Development/Formation

Southside Christian students will have a personal belief in Christ as their Savior and will seek to live a life of faith and obedience in relationship with Him as evidenced by:

- possessing and being able to articulate a thorough knowledge of scripture that results in an integrated Biblical worldview (Col. 1:9-10)
- displaying a consuming love for God and love for all people regardless of gender, race, ability, age, culture, or economic status (Mark 12:29-30)
- developing spiritual habits that produce an intimate relationship with the Lord and with the local body of Christ (John 15:4; Heb. 10:24-25)
- demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)
- living as responsible stewards of their minds, bodies, gifts, resources, time and talents (Luke 16; 1 Peter 4:10)

Academic Excellence

Southside Christian students will be prepared for college and vocational excellence as evidenced by:

- developing lifelong learning habits that produce competency (Prov. 10:14; Phil. 1:6; 2 Tim. 2:15)
- developing their intellect to the fullest ability in order to think analytically and employ problem-solving skills (Prov. 18:13,15,17; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 5:8-16; Phil. 4:6; James 1:5)
- recognizing, developing and utilizing God-given abilities to the fullest extent (Ex. 31:2-5; Dan. 1:17)
- maturing as Christian leaders to serve in their respective disciplines (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Titus 2:1)

Cultural Engagement

Southside Christian students will impact the community and culture with truth as evidenced by:

- living and sharing the gospel by making disciples (Matt. 28:19,20)
- understanding, engaging, challenging and/or supporting the current social, economic and cultural ideologies in a spirit of love and grace (1 Sam. 16:7; 2 Chron. 7:14; Hos. 14:9; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:15)
- contributing positively to the community through civic responsibility (Neh. 4:6; Prov. 6:6; Prov. 28:7; Ecc. 9:10; Jer. 29:7)
- fostering a spirit of community service and a missionary mindset while serving others with a heart of compassion (Matt. 28:19; Eph. 5:21; Phil. 2:3-11; James 4:10)
- appreciating and influencing the arts, literature, media, and the sciences through the lens of scripture (Ex. 35:30-35; Psa. 150:1-5; Eph. 2:10; Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:16)
Full-Time/Part-Time Status

In Grades 6-12, students who attend five or more classes at SCS are considered full-time and are to pay full tuition. Full-time status is required for students to participate in extracurricular activities and sports.

Homeschool students who wish to take one to four classes are considered part-time and will pay pro-rated tuition.

SCS Testing Program

Testing data is a key element for our teachers in their instructional goals and strategies. Middle school students participate in ACT Aspire testing each spring. The ACT Aspire achievement test is a career and college readiness assessment for Grades 3 through 9 and is designed to measure students’ progress toward college and career readiness over the course of formal schooling in the elementary, middle, and high school years. A detailed score report is given to each student providing predicted ranges on the ACT college admissions test, as well as an average of all of the test scores called a Composite score.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM – CORE COURSES

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<td>Math 6 Advanced</td>
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<td>07/08 Algebra 1 Honors**</td>
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<td>Heritage Studies: Ancient History</td>
<td>World Studies: Renaissance to the Present</td>
<td>State Studies: South Carolina in US History</td>
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<td>Science 6</td>
<td>Physical and Life Science</td>
<td>Earth and Physical Science</td>
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<td>Intro to World Language - semester</td>
<td>Spanish 1* or French 1* Academic Support Class or Writers Workshop</td>
<td>Spanish 1* or French 1* Academic Support Class or Writers Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Skills - semester</td>
<td>Math Exploration</td>
<td>STEM Fundamentals of Computing*</td>
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<td>Academic Support Class - all year</td>
<td>Strings</td>
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<td>PE/Health</td>
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*Placement in Advanced and Honors levels are based upon qualifying test scores, final math grade and teacher recommendation.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

GRADES ARE CALCULATED BASED ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=59 and below

ELECTIVES: STUDENTS SELECT ONE FULL-YEAR ELECTIVE OR TWO SEMESTER ELECTIVES.

**Grade 6**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Full Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Band</td>
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<td>Choir</td>
<td>Strings</td>
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**Grade 7**

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Full Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Exploration</td>
<td>Strings</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>Web Exploration</td>
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**Grade 8**

<table>
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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Full Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math Exploration</td>
<td>Strings</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Computing*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web Exploration</td>
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*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.
6th Grade

Bible 6- Apologia
Students will explore the good news of who God is and who they are. As they grow in a clearer understanding of the gospel, they will learn to function in relationship to Him and others according to His design. The first semester focuses on the content of who God is and how He shapes us. The second semester will deepen students’ knowledge of Christian character formation.

This course will aid students in answering the following essential questions:
• How does this lesson, unit, story, or passage call a person to lovingly respond to God?
• How does this lesson, unit, story, or passage call a person to lovingly respond to others?
• How does the call from this lesson, unit, story, or passage shape one’s identity in relation to God and others?

English 6- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford
English in 6th grade continues the students’ growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection. Reading strategies, critical-thinking skills, grammar usage development, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instruction. The focus for writing instruction includes narrative, informational, and argumentative writing.

Literature Foundations 6- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford
English in 6th grade continues the students’ growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection. Reading strategies, critical-thinking skills, grammar usage development, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instruction. The focus for writing instruction includes narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on state standards and designed for success on ACT ASPIRE (and later, ACT) testing. The overall goal of the class is to nurture and develop God’s gifting, calling, and equipping of each student while increasing their literacy and writing ability.

Class sizes are intentionally smaller allowing for more individual attention to instruction in reading and writing skills.

Math 6- McGraw Hill
Students are taught that the patterns and principles of mathematics were designed and established by God when He created the world and that mathematics demonstrates God’s orderliness, precision, dependability, infinitude, and systematic character. This standards-based course places an emphasis on mastering basic facts and skills, problem solving, and real world applications. Concepts covered include: operations in whole numbers, decimals and fractions, number theory and fractions, statistics and graphing, geometric figures, symmetry and transformation, and solid figures.

Math Foundations 6- McGraw Hill
Students cover the same core concepts as those covered in 6th grade math but move at a slower pace. Emphasis is placed on foundational skills and automaticity of math facts. Class sizes are intentionally smaller in order to provide individual attention while developing math proficiency.

Math 6 Advanced- McGraw Hill
Students cover the same concepts as those covered in 6th grade math but move at an advanced pace. There is a strong emphasis on higher-level problem solving. Specific entrance requirements must be met to enroll which include teacher recommendation, final math grade in 5th grade, acceptable scores on a placement test given at the end of 5th grade, and performance on the ASPIRE test.

Heritage Studies- BJU Press
Heritage Studies 6 is an overview of world history focusing on the ancient cultures of Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. From the creation of the world to the close of the Middle Ages, Heritage Studies looks at people, practices and events, noting how the beliefs of a people affect its culture. Learning to think and write clearly on these issues is emphasized.

Science 6- BJU Press
Science 6 covers content in earth, physical and life sciences. Students are challenged to consider science from a biblical worldview. In earth science, students learn about the unique interactions within the earth’s systems which regulate weather and climate. Physical science covers the properties of energy, the transfer and conversion of energy, and the relationship between energy and forces. Simple machines, electricity, and magnetism are also explored. In life science, students learn how scientists classify organisms and how God’s unique design allows survival of these living things based on their organization, life processes, and relationships to each other.

Introduction to World Language
Course length: 1 semester
An introductory course in two significant World Languages: Spanish and French. Students will spend a quarter learning the basic characteristics in each language to prepare them for further study in the language of their choice. Studies will include basic conversational vocabulary, basic phonetics, and cultures.

Study Skills
Course length: 1 semester
Study skills is a course that equips 6th grade students with necessary skills and strategies to assist them in becoming independent learners. During this 45-minute period, students will concentrate on study skills for 15-20 minutes and have study hall the remaining 25-30 minutes. This class is offered for one semester only. Introduction to World Language will be offered the other semester.

Academic Support Class
Course length: 1 year
The Academic Support Class is provided through the Student Success Services Center where students receive assistance in study skills, test preparation, and fulfillment of classroom accommodations for those with diagnosed learning needs.
**6th Grade Electives**

**Art**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
Middle School Art is a one-semester elective that enables students to be exposed to a variety of artistic media. Students work with drawings in pencil, ink pen, calligraphy, charcoal, and pastel. Working with watercolor, acrylic, and oil are explored as well. Other possible media include chalk compositions, wood burning, 3D art, scratchboard, string art, and origami. This class creates an important foundation for High School Art I.

**Band**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
The fundamentals of playing an instrument are taught in 6th grade band, and *no prior experience is necessary.* A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year.

**Choir**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
Vocal range and choral blend are introduced in 6th grade choir. Sight singing is taught using the solfege movable “do” approach. As an ensemble, they perform in several public concerts throughout the school year.

**Strings**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
Students in 6th grade may choose to play violin, viola, cello or string bass and *no prior experience is necessary.* In this beginning class students learn the fundamentals of playing an instrument. A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year.

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**7th Grade**

**Bible 7- Summit Ministries**  
Students in 7th grade Bible will study the principles, truth, and applications found in the biblical worldview sourced in the Word of God. Students will be encouraged to discern their own worldview as well as to become aware of deviations of truth found in the culture and world in which they live. The study of the Sermon on the Mount will clarify life lived on this earth by Kingdom citizens. Planting God’s truth in hearts, facilitated by Scripture memory, provides students the wisdom to give an answer for one’s hope and faith in Christ. Goals of the year are to value the vital importance of God’s Word, building a relationship with Christ, growing in wisdom, learning to live as light and salt in a dark world, and valuing what is eternal.

**English 7- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford; Various Novels**  
Students concentrate on reading, writing, listening, and communicating in 7th grade English. These areas and their related skills are explored and detailed in comprehensive thematic units. The students are provided with many opportunities to grow as perceptive readers, critical thinkers and competent writers through literacy fluency, writing with a purpose, speech and vocabulary, and grammar fundamentals.

**Literature Foundations 7- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford**  
Students concentrate on four areas of study in 7th grade English. These areas and their related skills are explored and detailed in comprehensive thematic units. The students are provided with many opportunities to grow as perceptive readers, critical thinkers and competent writers through literacy fluency, writing with a purpose, speech and vocabulary, and grammar fundamentals. Class sizes are intentionally smaller allowing for more individual attention to instruction in reading and writing skills.

**Math 7- McGraw Hill**  
The purpose of this class is to bridge the transition in mathematics between primary and secondary education years. This course exposes the student to a diverse array of mathematical concepts, both previously mastered and newly introduced. Successful completion establishes a firm foundation in basic skills necessary to take high school algebra and beyond. Subject material covers the following concepts: integers, rational numbers, ratios and proportions, percent and consumer applications, expressions and equations, inequalities, two-dimensional geometry and measurement applications, three-dimensional geometry, data analysis and statistics and probability. This study reflects greater appreciation for God’s precision and complexity in creation. (Rom. 1:20)

**Math Foundations 7- McGraw Hill**  
Students cover the same core concepts as those covered in 7th grade math but move at a slower pace. Emphasis is placed on foundational skills and automaticity of math facts. Class sizes are intentionally smaller in order to provide individual attention while developing math proficiency.
Math 7 Advanced- McGraw Hill
Students cover the same concepts as those covered in 7th grade math but move at an advanced pace. There is a strong emphasis on higher-level problem solving. Specific entrance requirements must be met to enroll which include teacher recommendation, final math grade in 6th grade, acceptable scores on a placement test given at the end of 6th grade, and performance on the ASPIRE test.

Algebra 1 Honors*- McGraw Hill
The purpose of Algebra 1 is to provide students with a broad foundation for more advanced high school mathematics. This course covers simplifying algebraic expressions (rational, irrational, polynomial, exponential, and radical), solving/graphing equations and functions (linear, quadratic, exponential, radical, and rational), inequalities, and systems of linear equations. Students learn that Algebra consists of basic patterns which repeat themselves, reflecting the fact that a God of order has created an orderly universe in which such patterns can be discovered and appreciated. This class may be taken in either 7th or 8th grade. Students are placed in this class by the math department based on year-end averages, standardized test scores, placement test scores, and teacher recommendation. A TI-84 calculator is required for this course.

French 1 CP*- Vista Higher Learning
Course length: 1 year
Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language skills in French. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, and narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The student is encouraged to speak to be understood, while using correct grammar and pronunciation. An online textbook, using interactive activities, equips the student to work towards mastery and have additional practice for weaker areas of language acquisition.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

World Studies- BJU Press
World Studies 7 is a continuation of Heritage Studies 6. The class covers the history of the world by eras beginning with the Renaissance and ending with current events in the Middle East. With each chapter, students learn to identify countries and geographic features from each of the continents. Emphasis is placed on the example of the people who did what they could with what they had, and changed the world for good or evil.

Physical and Life Science- BJU Press
Students are challenged to consider science from a biblical worldview. Students will use inquiry skills and analytical thinking to help them sort through scientific facts and theories, while making their own discoveries and drawing conclusions about God’s world. Through instruction, laboratory activities, and scientific inquiry, the students will learn about the structure and properties of matter and its conservation, how the levels of organization within organisms support the essential functions of life, how organisms interact with and respond to their environments, how genetic information is transferred from parent to offspring, and how the environment and use of technologies influence the transfer of genetic information. The goal of 7th grade Physical and Life Science is to glorify the Creator and to come to know Him better by studying His creation.

Spanish 1 CP*- Santillana USA
Course length: 1 year
Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language functions in Spanish. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The emphasis is on getting the message across, as well as doing it in a grammatically correct way. Therefore students will be exposed to a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will be developed as the class reads about situations in which non-native speakers demonstrate common cultural misconceptions.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

7th Grade Electives

Art
Course length: 1 semester
Middle School Art is a one-semester elective that enables students to be exposed to a variety of artistic media. Students work with drawings in pencil, ink pen, calligraphy, charcoal, and pastel. Working with watercolor, acrylic, and oil are explored as well. Other possible media include chalk compositions, wood burning, 3D art, scratchboard, string art, and origami. This class creates an important foundation for High School Art I.

Band
Course length: 1 year
A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The students continue building instrumental techniques while refining their ensemble musicianship in their 7th grade years. Participants in 7th grade are required to have completed the 6th grade band class or have 1 year of experience/private lessons on their chosen instrument. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year and participate in a theme-park music festival each spring.

Choir
Course length: 1 year
Students continue building vocal range and choral blend while broadening literacy through sight singing activities.
Sight singing is taught using the solfege movable “do” approach. As an ensemble, they perform in several public concerts throughout the school year, and the 7th grade class participates in a theme-park music festival each spring.

**Strings**  
Course length: 1 year  
Students learn the fundamentals of playing an instrument. A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The 7th graders continue to build instrumental technique while refining their ensemble musicianship. Students in 7th grade are required to have completed the 6th grade string orchestra class or have 1 year of experience/private lessons on their chosen instrument. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year and participate in a theme-park music festival each spring.

**Math Exploration**  
Course length: 1 semester  
Math Exploration is designed to be an interactive class that allows students to create, solve and discuss a wide range of interesting math problems, puzzles and games. The course is not intended to help students “get ahead” in math but is intended to encourage students to use higher-level thinking skills and energize brain activity.

**STEM**  
Course length: 1 semester  
Students learning subjects in isolation often miss seeing how the parts fit into the big picture. In STEM, the engineering design model is used to show the students the incredible synergy of asking a scientific question, deciding how its answer can meet a need, and using math and technology as tools to create something that helps others. Students develop teamwork as they collaborate and share their ideas and insights with one another. Additionally, communication skills are developed as students present their investigations and solutions to the class.

**Web Exploration**  
Course length: 1 semester  
Web Exploration is a semester course for middle school students that is topic based and explores internet applications on the web. Students will explore ways the internet presents and conveys information and will learn methods to work collaboratively and be effective team members. Examples of course topics may include elements of Google Drive, file management, virtual field trips, green screen technology, blogging, and beginning coding. The course will cover digital citizenship creating a digital footprint through a biblical worldview lens.

**Leadership Development**  
Course length: 1 semester  
God has created each of us with the ability to influence and lead others in a way that glorifies God, while taking responsibility for our own choices and goals. This semester course will utilize the Growing Leaders, Habitudes for Building Character curriculum. Students will learn to develop habits of self-discipline, learn to implement time management skills, learn to identify strengths and passions, and learn to build strong biblical character and emotional security. The ultimate goal of this course is to prepare students with the skills needed to be successful in high school and beyond and equip them to impact the culture for Christ.

**8th Grade**

**Bible 8- Summit Ministries**  
Life can be like a puzzle without the box top. Often, the different parts of your life don’t seem to fit together. You go to school, but seldom think about how the things you are learning relate to what you do when you’re with your friends. You pray before a meal, but don’t think about God while you talk with your family over dinner. Everything seems disconnected. It’s all a jumble of scattered pieces lying on the table. Those who understand how to think well about life will have the opportunity to influence the ideas that rule the world. This is shown to us in 1 Chronicles 12:32. Students will learn how to not be deceived by anti-Christian worldviews, and to instead actively seek/live out the truth of Christianity in a culture of relativism and confusion.

This course will aid students in answering the following essential questions:
- How does this lesson, unit, story, or passage call a person to lovingly respond to God?
- How does this lesson, unit, story, or passage call a person to lovingly respond to others?
- How does the call from this lesson, unit, story, or passage shape one’s identity in relation to God and others?

**English 8- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford; Various Novels**  
Through reading and writing assignments, students in 8th grade English develop their skills in literary analysis and composition. Students analyze structure, craft, and style in a variety of texts and compare biblical and non-biblical worldviews encountered in their reading. They also engage in inquiry-based research projects and write in several genres including argumentative, narrative, and informative/explanatory. Additionally, students review and master grammatical skills in both oral and written communication, while vocabulary instruction enables students to improve their communication and reading abilities.

**Literature Foundations 8- Holt Rinehart Winston; Sadlier-Oxford**  
Through reading and writing assignments, students in 8th grade English develop their skills in literary analysis and composition. Students analyze structure, craft, and style in a variety of texts and compare biblical and non-biblical worldviews encountered in their reading. They also engage in inquiry-based research projects and write in several genres including argumentative, narrative, and informative/explanatory. Additionally, students review and master grammatical skills in both oral and written communication, while vocabulary instruction enables students to improve their communication and reading abilities. Class sizes are intentionally smaller allowing for more individual attention to instruction in reading and writing skills.

**Math 8- McGraw Hill**  
The purpose of this class is to develop and prepare the student for academic success in more advanced high school mathematics. This standards-based course covers the following concepts: rational and real numbers, expressions and inequalities, linear functions, systems linear equations, proportional relationships, two-dimensional geometry, solid geometry, geometric measure and coordinate geometry, Pythagorean Theorem,
data analysis, probability and statistics. Students will demonstrate strong conceptual knowledge and strategically apply appropriate academic and technical skills and tools to model and solve problems. Students are taught that mathematical truths and concepts established by God are free from contradictions and do not fluctuate.

**Math Foundations 8-** McGraw Hill

Students cover the same core concepts as those covered in 8th grade math but move at a slower pace. Emphasis is placed on foundational skills and automaticity of math facts. Class sizes are intentionally smaller in order to provide individual attention while developing math proficiency.

**Algebra 1 Honors*- McGraw Hill**

The purpose of Algebra 1 is to provide students with a broad foundation for more advanced high school mathematics. This course covers simplifying algebraic expressions (rational, irrational, polynomial, exponential, and radical), solving/graphing equations and functions (linear, quadratic, exponential, radical, and rational), inequalities, and systems of linear equations. Students learn that Algebra consists of basic patterns which repeat themselves, reflecting the fact that a God of order has created an orderly universe in which such patterns can be discovered and appreciated. This class may be taken in either 7th or 8th grade. Students are placed in this class by the math department based on year-end averages, standardized test scores, placement test scores, and teacher recommendation. A TI-84 calculator is required for this course.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**Geometry Honors*- McGraw Hill**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors

The purpose of this course is to motivate students through real-world applications of geometric concepts. By learning geometry, students will see the dependability, orderliness, and omniscient character of the Creator God. Students will use deductive methods of proof in their study of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures. Reasoning skills will be more heavily emphasized through two-column proofs, paragraph proofs, flowchart proofs, and indirect proofs. Topics will include exploring geometry, reasoning, logic, parallels, polygons, triangle congruence, perimeter, area, shapes in space, surface area, volume, similar shapes, circles, the coordinate plane, trigonometry, basic graph theory, and fractals. A TI-84 calculator is required for this course. Students are placed in this class by the math department based on year-end averages, standardized test scores, placement test scores, and teacher recommendation.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**State Studies- BJU Press**

State Studies 8 covers the history of the United States with a special emphasis on the contributions of South Carolinians to the building and sustaining of our country. Along with the daily lessons, students learn and review the fifty states and capital cities of the United States during the first two quarters of the year. During the third quarter, students learn to identify the forty-six Presidents of the United States. In the fourth quarter, students learn the location and features of the forty-six counties of South Carolina. Emphasis is placed on evaluating events and practices in the history of our state in light of biblical standards.

**Earth and Physical Science- BJU Press**

Six major topics of study are covered in 8th grade science including earth’s history and diversity, earth systems and resources, earth’s place in the universe, forces and motion, properties and behaviors of waves, and the scientific method. Students are not only challenged to apply the scientific method to each area of study through scientific investigation during labs, projects, presentations, and tests but are also guided to make their own discoveries and conclusions regarding how the God of the universe is revealed through His creation.

**Spanish 1 CP*- Santillana USA**

Course length: 1 year

Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language functions in Spanish. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The emphasis is on getting the message across, as well as doing it in a grammatically correct way. Therefore students will be exposed to a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will be developed as the class reads about situations in which non-native speakers demonstrate common cultural misconceptions.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**French 1 CP*- Vista Higher Learning**

Course length: 1 year

Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language skills in French. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, and narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The student is encouraged to speak to be understood, while using correct grammar and pronunciation. An online textbook, using interactive activities, equips the student to work towards mastery and have additional practice for weaker areas of language acquisition.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**Spanish 1 CP*- Santillana USA**

Course length: 1 year

Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language functions in Spanish. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The emphasis is on getting the message across, as well as doing it in a grammatically correct way. Therefore students will be exposed to a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will be developed as the class reads about situations in which non-native speakers demonstrate common cultural misconceptions.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**French 1 CP*- Vista Higher Learning**

Course length: 1 year

Students will acquire the ability to perform basic language skills in French. They will learn to list, ask questions, describe, and narrate, etc. in many different contexts. The student is encouraged to speak to be understood, while using correct grammar and pronunciation. An online textbook, using interactive activities, equips the student to work towards mastery and have additional practice for weaker areas of language acquisition.

*High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.

**Academic Support Class**

Course length: 1 year

The Academic Support Class is provided through the Student Success Services Center where students receive assistance in study skills, test preparation, and fulfillment of classroom accommodations for those with diagnosed learning needs.

**Writers Workshop**

Course length: 1 year

The goal of the Writers Workshop class is to provide students with the framework and tools needed to enhance their communication skills. Students will explore various genres including narrative, argumentative, expository, as well as improving creative writing skills. In addition, students will use the complete writing process to develop, review, and publish their work. Through these focused areas of study, students will gain confidence in their writing and be prepared for future classes and writing opportunities.

**Art**

Course length: 1 semester

Middle School Art is a one-semester elective that enables students to be exposed to a variety of artistic media. Students work with drawings in pencil, ink pen, calligraphy,
charcoal, and pastel. Working with watercolor, acrylic, and oil are explored as well. Other possible media include chalk compositions, wood burning, 3D art, scratchboard, string art, and origami. This class creates an important foundation for High School Art I.

**Band**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The students continue building instrumental technique while refining their ensemble musicianship in their 7th and 8th grade years. Participants in 8th grade are required to have completed the 6th grade band class or have 1 year of experience/private lessons on their chosen instrument. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year and participate in a theme-park music festival each spring.

**Choir**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
Students continue building vocal range and choral blend while broadening literacy through sight singing activities. Sight singing is taught using the solfege movable “do” approach. As an ensemble, they perform in several public concerts throughout the school year and class participate in a theme-park music festival each spring.

**Strings**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
A nominal instrument usage fee/rental is required. The 8th graders continue to build instrumental technique while refining their ensemble musicianship. Students in 8th grade are required to have completed the 6th grade string orchestra class or have 1 year of experience/private lessons on their chosen instrument. The classes perform in several public concerts throughout the school year and participate in a theme-park music festival each spring.

**Math Exploration**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
Math Exploration is designed to be an interactive class that allows students to create, solve and discuss a wide range of interesting math problems, puzzles and games. The course is not intended to help students “get ahead” in math but is intended to encourage students to use higher-level thinking skills and energize brain activity.

**STEM**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
Students learning subjects in isolation often miss seeing how the parts fit into the big picture. In STEM, the engineering design model is used to show the students the incredible synergy of asking a scientific question, deciding how its answer can meet a need, and using math and technology as tools to create something that helps others. Students develop teamwork as they collaborate and share their ideas and insights with one another. Additionally, communication skills are developed as students present their investigations and solutions to the class.

**Grade 8 Fundamentals of Computing**  
**Course length:** 1 year  
Fundamentals of Computing will introduce students to business applications and the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Students will gain valuable skills while learning Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel as well as an introduction to computer programming. Through creativity and innovation, students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills while working on projects that are relevant to students’ lives. Students will gain a fundamental understanding of the history and operation of computers and programming. Students will explore computing careers as well as examine societal and ethical issues of computing.

Virtual students will need access to a Windows computer. SCS will provide Microsoft Office through Office.com. *High school credit will be given for this course - grade will be calculated into student’s high school GPA.*

**Web Exploration**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
Web Exploration is a semester course for middle school students that is topic based and explores internet applications on the web. Students will explore ways the internet presents and conveys information and will learn methods to work collaboratively and be effective team members. Examples of course topics may include elements of Google Drive, file management, virtual field trips, green screen technology, blogging, and beginning coding. The course will cover digital citizenship creating a digital footprint through a biblical worldview lens.

**Leadership Development**  
**Course length:** 1 semester  
God has created each of us with the ability to influence and lead others in a way that glorifies God, while taking responsibility for our own choices and goals. This semester course will utilize the Growing Leaders, Habititudes for Building Character curriculum. Students will learn to develop habits of self-discipline, learn to implement time management skills, learn to identify strengths and passions, and learn to build strong biblical character and emotional security. The ultimate goal of this course is to prepare students with the skills needed to be successful in high school and beyond and equip them to impact the culture for Christ.
Extracurricular Opportunities

Clubs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Middle School (Grades 6-8)</th>
<th>Middle School and High School (Grades 6-12)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Club</td>
<td>Student Government Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Lego League Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Sabre Ambassadors</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Junior Honor Society (begins in 8th grade, based on 7th grade GPA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish Club</td>
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Sports

SCS is currently competing in the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL), Region 1-A and will abide by all rules and decisions set forth by the league at the JV and Varsity levels. Students in 7th-12th grades are eligible to try out for JV and Varsity sports teams. Students in 6th grade may try out for Middle School specific teams which are independent of the SCHSL.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Varsity Boys (Grades 7-12)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Cheerleading (9-12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football (9-12)</td>
<td>Golf</td>
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<td>Golf</td>
<td>Soccer (9-12)</td>
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<td>Soccer</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
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<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Tennis</td>
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<td>Tennis</td>
<td>Track and Field</td>
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<td>Track and Field</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
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<tr>
<th>JV Boys (Grades 7-10)</th>
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<tbody>
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<thead>
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<td>Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Volleyball (7-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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