



Middle School at Valley Christian Academy

Q: How is Middle School different from Elementary, especially fifth grade?

A: Students have more individual responsibility for their classroom assignments. Students follow a bell system and travel independently from class to class. Class periods are 42 minutes and students have a 20-minute “Rec” time after lunch. Middle School does not have Library as a class. We have two Chapels, one for Middle School and one for Elementary.

Q: How is the discipline in Middle School different from Elementary?

A: The discipline is teacher-based. When discipline is needed, the student receives marks per week in each individual class. Consequences are lunch time detention and/or writing of instructional paragraphs.

Q: What unique curriculum does Middle School offer?

A: Middle School curriculum includes Bible, English, regular and advanced mathematics, science/health, and history. Seventh and eighth grade students also learn Spanish. Unique to our school is our exclusive Bible curriculum designed for middle schoolers. This Bible curriculum utilizes 12 modules to explore the topics of God, the Bible, spiritual walk and relationships.

Q: What other classes or programs are offered?

A: Weekly instruction is available in physical education, vocal music, band, orchestra, and technology.

Q: Is the level of excellence in academics the same in Middle School as in VCA’s Elementary?

A: Yes. Stanford Achievement Test scores are more than three grade levels on average above the national norm.

Q: How much homework can be expected in Middle School?

A: The State recommendation for the amount of homework per grade level is in increments of ten minutes; sixth grade is 60 minutes, seventh grade is 70 minutes and eighth grade is 80 minutes. At VCA, most Middle School students are completing their homework assignments during study halls allotted throughout the day. Some classes do not have homework assignments every night.

Q: What specific study skills are the students taught in Middle School?

A: VCA’s study skills include: note taking, test review and studying, reading for important information, and making graphs and charts.

Q: What is the exam schedule in Middle School like?

A: Sixth grade students take third quarter exams and fourth quarter exams. Seventh grade students take first and second quarter exams and a second semester exam. Eighth grade students take semester exams.

Q: Is tutoring offered in Middle School?

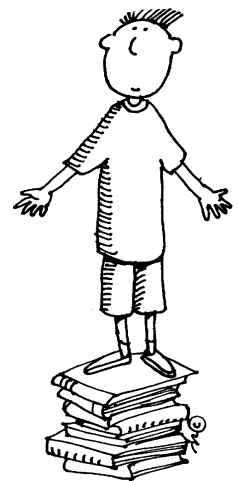
A: Yes. VCA’s Pupil Services offers remedial help, homework and test support.

Q: How many classes are in Middle School?

A: There are two classes in sixth grade with one class in seventh grade and one class in eighth grade.

Q: How is a smaller class size beneficial to students?

A: The smaller classroom experience provides a strong student to teacher ratio, giving more individual assistance and growth. The teachers know the work habits of the students and are able to build strong relationships with them.



Q: How many teachers do the students have in Middle School?

A: There are four core subject teachers in English, mathematics, science/health and social studies. There are three teachers for specials: physical education, vocal and instrumental music.

Q: How do parents stay informed about class assignments, special projects and class-related activities?

A: Class assignments can be found in the student's assignment book. Assignments, projects and class-related activities can be found on the Parents Web. The student's category grades, tests scores, quiz scores and special projects can also be viewed on Parents Web.

Q: Does VCA's Middle School offer sports?

A: Yes. Students are able to participate in the interscholastic sports program which consists of basketball, cheer squad, cross country and girls' volleyball. The students will scrimmage and play a variety of different schools and levels of competition. VCA also offers intramural sports in co-ed flag football, co-ed volleyball, boys' basketball and girls' basketball. Also available is Games Week, a fun week of various games.

Q: Are there clubs for Middle School?

A: We currently offer Drama Club and Ski Club.

For more information and a tour, please contact the School Registrar, Mrs. Kathleen Horak at khorak@valleychristian.com or 330-562-8191.