



CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF CHRIST THE KING

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Does classical education overly emphasize the humanities? What about math and science?

The integrated curriculum of the Chesterton Schools Network is designed to form well-rounded students, with exposure to the skills and content of all of the core academic disciplines that will prepare them for college, for work, and for life. The rules, logic, and order of math discipline the mind in a way that clarifies and organizes thinking across the disciplines. Math at Chesterton Academy covers Euclidean geometry and algebra, all the way through advanced Calculus. Science is the study of the physical world, that is, of God's creation. We approach these subjects with wonder, beginning by looking up at the heavens, at the lights in the sky: Astronomy. Then we take a look at the world God created (Geology), the creatures he created (Biology), and the intricate substances of which all things are made (Chemistry). We end by gaining an understanding of the nature and properties of matter and energy (Physics).

2. Will your school have sports?

Inspired by Pope Saint John Paul the Great, we take as our motto *Cultura Vitae*, the culture of life. Our mission is to prepare students to triumph over the materialism and despair that pervade our culture and to accept our Lord's offer to have life and have it abundantly. We encourage athletics and extra-curricular activities as a way of fostering this fullness of life. Athletics in particular can strengthen physical and mental health as well as channel competitiveness in a way that builds teamwork and develops a sense of good natured fair play. New Chesterton Academies may begin with sports activities offered as clubs, with participation in competitive leagues coming as the schools grow and establish themselves. Particular sports are offered based on student interest as well as facility and coach availability. Sports offered by established Chesterton schools include soccer, rugby, volleyball, cross country, track and field, basketball, baseball/softball, and wrestling. Students are encouraged to form clubs according to other interests as well, such as robotics, mock trial, pro-life and service activities. All students, by virtue of the curriculum, will participate in choir, art, music, debate, and drama.

3. Is this high school co-ed?

Yes! As our enrollment and staffing grow, we hope to separate boys and girls into different sections for some of their core academic classes in order to reap the benefits of single sex learning environments within a coeducational school community.

4. Can students who are not Catholic come to this school?

Yes! Catholic faith formation is foundational to the curriculum of Chesterton Academy of Christ the King, and the whole school prays together, attends daily Mass together, and celebrates the seasons and festivities of the Catholic liturgical year. All of our teaching faculty are practicing Catholics who have taken an oath of fidelity to the magisterium. We welcome students and families from all faith traditions who seek to join our community.

5. How much will the tuition cost?

Tuition rates for 2026-2027 should be set by January of 2026. It is a pillar of the Chesterton Academy model to cut overhead costs whenever possible, such as by renting classroom space in other institutions when possible, especially when first opening. This enables us to keep our tuition as affordable as possible for our families, and to offer additional need-based financial aid as



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we are able. All of our families, through their time, talent, and treasure, are asked to participate in the annual fundraising we will need to perform in order to make up the gap between tuition revenue and operating costs so we can retain the excellent faculty we will need to offer a high quality education.

6. Where will the school be located?

Our exact location has not yet been confirmed but we plan to rent space at or near a Catholic Church in Northern Virginia, most likely in Eastern Fairfax County at a location accessible to families in Fairfax and Arlington Counties, Alexandria City and the DC area.

7. How much technology is used in school?

Chesterton Academy emphasizes human interaction and discussion as the primary mode of learning. With teachers as guides and primary source texts as anchors, the Socratic seminar discussion is the primary methodology of a classical education. Students may conduct some online research at home or type up their papers, but generally our classrooms are screen-free with the possible exception of projectors needed to display visuals to enhance class learning.

8. I don't want my child to attend a "rigorous" high school if it means hours of homework every night, sleep deprivation, and no time to just be a kid - will this school be like that?

The issue of homework in modern education has increasingly garnered attention over the last few decades. A [2013 study](#) found that at prestigious high schools, teachers reported assigning on average over 3 hours of homework every evening. However, [other research](#) has shown that for high school age students homework greater than 2 hours per evening does not have any increased benefit to student learning.

At Chesterton Academy of Christ the King, we strive to maximize our learning during the day and limit homework to two hours or less each evening. We teach our students to build good study habits, avoid procrastination, and organize their time so that they can enjoy other activities, family time, and rest.

9. How can the tuition be kept relatively low but still fund a great education?

Chesterton Academy's low tuition is a deliberate choice to make a quality liberal arts education accessible to all families, achieved through a combination of low overhead, modest no-frills facilities, prioritizing excellent faculty, and relying on fundraising, scholarships, and donations to fully fund our operations.

10. What if my child has not been at a classical school before now? Will he be behind?

While we love to build on classical foundations when possible, incoming freshmen from all kinds of schools can be successful at a Chesterton Academy. The freshman curriculum is designed to meet all students where they are and take them through four years of rigorous, exciting, energizing study that will prepare them for college as well as other post-secondary adventures. Specific recommendations to help individual students prepare for the curriculum will be provided as part of the admissions and enrollment process, as needed.



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11. Will this school prepare students for the SAT and similar tests?

Yes! The Chesterton curriculum emphasizes literacy skills, language usage, mathematical calculations, and reasoned analysis. Those skills and abilities are important for future learning and for life, and also happen to align well with the content of many standardized tests. The study of Latin, which all Chesterton students will take, has also been linked to higher standardized test scores. In addition to SAT and ACT preparation, Chesterton students will take the Classical Learning Test (CLT), which is increasingly accepted by college admissions offices. It is important to keep in mind, however, the goal of our intellectual formation is not performance on a particular test but rather to build a foundation and fuel curiosity for life-long learning.

12. How do Chesterton students fare in college admissions?

The graduates of Chesterton Network schools have a great track record of admission into many excellent colleges and universities. Especially Catholic liberal arts colleges seek out Chestertons students because of their excellent academic preparation but also because they are known to be joyful, faithful, hard-working, and resilient. In addition to the success college-bound Chesterton graduates have had, Chesterton alumni have also successfully pursued other sorts of careers. Numerous graduates have pursued the priesthood or religious life as well as the military, the trades, or other sorts of work to build up the kingdom of God.

13. Do Chesterton schools offer AP classes?

No, although if College Board regulations permit our students to sit for their spring exams, we encourage and facilitate that if families desire it. We do not teach AP courses because we do not wish to outsource our curriculum to the College Board, which has a very different approach to education than we do. We do, however, partner with Franciscan University in Steubenville so that our students are able to earn college credit for some of our coursework if they can pass Franciscan's exams on the topic. In that way, students can graduate with accumulated credits on a Franciscan University transcript that can be transferred and applied to other colleges they may attend (per the process and decisions of those schools).

14. Where do you plan to find teachers?

Chesterton schools connect with Catholic liberal arts colleges and universities like Christendom, Franciscan, University of Dallas, and others to encourage their graduates to apply for teaching positions in Chesterton schools. The national Chesterton network of more than seventy schools, and all of their graduates, also forms a great repository of men and women who know and love our approach to education and may want to join our faculty. National organizations promoting classical education such as the Institute for Catholic Liberal Education (ICLE) also have job boards for teachers and administrators to assist in networking and staffing. The Chesterton Schools Network holds an annual week-long summit attended by all of its schools that further facilitates filling positions but also intensively trains teachers and deepens their understanding of this type of education.

15. Where can I go to learn more?

Visit our website at Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org, contact us at Office@Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org, or visit the website for the Chesterton Schools Network at Chestertonschoolsnetwork.org to learn more about all aspects of the Chesterton Academies and connect with any of the Network schools all over the country. We look forward to meeting you and continuing the conversation, as you discern the best school for your son or daughter.