

Student Handbook

2025-2026 (currently under revision)



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Dear Parents:

Thank you for your interest in Galax Christian School.

Our admissions policy opens our school to families who are like-minded spiritually and philosophically in understanding the great value and necessity of a Christian education. Part of the admissions process also requires that students meet our academic enrollment criteria.

Before beginning the admissions process, please carefully read our Student Handbook at GalaxChristianSchool.com under Admissions. This handbook will introduce you to many of our values, policies, and expectations for both parents and students.

Galax Christian School is unashamedly Christian. We diligently believe and practice a literal interpretation of the Bible, and Biblical principles are an integral part of every subject taught in our school. We are committed to academic excellence as well as teaching students to apply Biblical principles in every detail of their lives.

For example, if there is a question concerning Biblical lifestyles, our faculty and staff will answer those questions from a Biblical viewpoint in accordance with our Statement of Faith. If the beliefs and lifestyle of your family or church are not in accordance with the Statement of Faith that we hold, this will likely cause conflict for your child's heart and mind. While we appreciate the desire of many families to enroll their children in the best possible learning environment, if these families are not in full agreement with the values affirmed by Galax Christian School, our school may not be the best choice for your family.

If you are in agreement with our Statement of Faith and our resulting Biblical lifestyle, Galax Christian School will complement the beliefs and values taught in the home. We look forward to partnering with you as you seek God's best for your child.

Blessings,

Carrie Grubbs

GCS Administrator



Mission Statement

“To know the Truth and Live it Daily”

Galax Christian School exists to fulfill the Great Commission by thinking Biblically, living Spirit-filled lives, exemplifying academic excellence and glorifying God in all we do.

Vision Statement

Having experienced the transformational power of Christ and knowing His love in increasing measure, a Galax Christian School student will recognize the imperative command to daily fulfill the Great Commission. Each student will recognize and utilize God’s gifting to live a civically responsible, culturally relevant, and spiritually pure life. Possessing a quality academic education, the student will be equipped with the necessary skills to successfully pursue opportunities in education, vocation, and full-time ministry as a crucial part of fulfilling the Great Commission.

Purpose Statement

Christian education is one of the most strategic ministries there is for carrying out the Great Commission. The purpose of Galax Christian School is to provide a program of progressive learning experiences pledged to unswerving loyalty to God and His Word and absolute necessity of holy living. The preparation for and fulfillment of the Great Commission will occur as an essential element of daily life at Galax Christian School.

We propose to offer training to meet the student’s threefold need:

- 1. Spiritual** - We emphasis is upon the transforming power of the New Birth and Spirit-filled living. Fulfillment of the Great Commission is emphasized through teaching, discipling, and the demonstration of the necessity for disciplined, sacrificial service and separation from the world. A passionate, obedient response to the command of the Great Commission is a prioritized component of all teaching at Galax Christian School.
- 2. Intellectual** - The student is to become grounded in the Bible by intensive personal study guided by academically competent and godly teachers. The student is to become equipped to serve locally and globally as academically competent and godly teachers. The student is to become equipped to stand against faith-destroying influences of modern world view, skepticism, liberalism, and compromise. The student is to be stimulated to his highest possible development in absolute consecration to Christ.
- 3. For Life** - A life of Christian dedication, discipline, and unselfish service is our chief objective. Being is more essential than doing. Preparing laborers for the whitened harvest fields is of special emphasis. Our primary purpose is to lay a foundation for each student for Christian living irrespective of one’s chosen vocation.



Philosophy of Galax Christian School

Every school has an underlying philosophy that expresses its worldview and is manifest in every detail of its operation. Because all truth is ultimately God's truth, all practices, philosophies, and beliefs must be based on the inerrant Word of God and must be meticulously lived out in daily life.

Final and absolute truth centers in a Creator God. This is revealed in the Bible and the created universe, and is personified in Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God. Education is a Christ-centered, biblically-integrated, process of developing students spiritually, mentally, and physically. The ultimate aim of life is not adjustment to the age, but conformity to Christ.

The home, school, and church complement each other, promoting the student's spiritual, academic, social, and spiritual growth. In the classroom, the teacher stands *in loco parentis*, in the place of the parent. God has given differing abilities to each student. It is the teacher's responsibility to challenge each child according to his ability and to teach him at his academic level. This objective is achieved by a disciplined life of sacrificial service patterned after Him who pleased not Himself, but who came for others.

Galax Christian School Offers:

1. A Unique Education

No one can be exposed to an educational environment without being affected by the basic philosophy underlying the institution. Therefore, it is logical that Christians should seek an education in an atmosphere permeated with right philosophy. It is Biblical to pursue excellence in all we do. (II Peter 1:5, Colossians 3:23) Galax Christian School seeks to offer academic excellence that honors Christ. We seek to achieve excellence as God designs it for each unique individual that He has created. Galax Christian School is also unique in its specific emphasis on the Great Commission. All learning originates and has as its purpose to more effectively complete the Great Commission.

2. A Bible-Centered Education

The core of the curriculum is the Bible. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10), and education set apart from this foundation is largely adrift without adequate motivation, direction, or objective. Not only is the Bible the principal subject of study but all other studies are permeated and directed by the truth of God's Word. Teachers at GCS are considered as ministers of God's Word on a daily basis.

3. An Education for the Whole Person

As Christian, we are aware that human beings are more than brain and body. Education which ignores or denies this essential being of man cannot claim to be complete. Secular education is partial; therefore, it is inadequate. Any educational foundation which does not acknowledge Christ as its key component is inadequate. Christian education realizes the whole person – spirit, soul, and body – and find its completeness in Christ.



4. An Education for Living

While training and equipping for service, the school strives to prepare persons for living full lives. All God-ordained callings are sacred, and every such vocation gives ample opportunity for personally fulfilling the Great Commission. A quality, Christian education will prove invaluable for students desiring to live dedicated lives of service for Christ.

Objectives

The objectives of a Christian educational program include:

1. Academic

- a. To develop creative and critical thinking skills utilizing Biblical principles for evaluation.
- b. To promote high academic standards.
- c. To teach the student to work both independently and cooperatively.
- d. To teach knowledge and skills required for future study and occupational competence. An emphasis is placed on global skills and languages that prioritize the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- e. To develop effective communication skills.

2. Home

- a. To cooperate with the parents in every phase of the student's development.
- b. To assist families in making their homes Christ-centered.

3. Personal and Social Development

- a. To assist students in developing a wholesome self-image.
- b. To teach the student to manifest fairness, courtesy, and other Christian graces.
- c. To teach the student to maintain proper relationships with non-Christians and those with differing views.
- d. To prepare the student for wholesome use of leisure time.
- e. To promote fitness and health of the body as the temple of God.
- f. To teach a Biblical view of material things.

4. Spiritual and Moral

- a. To teach that the Bible is the only rule for faith and practice.
- b. To teach the essential doctrines of the Christian faith as revealed in God's Word.



- c. To lead the students into a personal, saving relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- d. To develop a desire to know and do the will of God.
- e. To teach that maturity in the Christian life depends upon fellowship with God through reading and studying the Bible, daily prayer, and service.
- f. To help students develop a Biblical world-view by integrating the Bible with all subjects.
- g. To foster self-discipline in the student based on reverence and respect for God and all authority.
- h. To teach students to seek the salvation of the lost and fulfill the Great Commission.

Statement of Doctrine

Galax Christian School holds to the historic faith of the Bible, including the inspiration of the Scriptures, the deity and virgin birth of Jesus Christ, the substitutionary atonement, the second coming of Christ, and the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit.

GCS holds to the Wesleyan-Arminian position of an unlimited atonement, the witness of the Spirit, and the entire sanctification of the believer as a second work of grace.

Statement of Christian Lifestyle

The school reserves the right to refuse admissions of an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a student if the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home or the activities of the student are counter to or are in opposition to the biblical lifestyle taught at Galax Christian School

Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person. (Genesis 1:26-27) We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union. (Genesis 2:18-25; 1 Corinthians 7:2-5; Hebrews 13.4) We believe that any form of immorality, including the use of pornography, is sinful and offensive to God. (1Corinthians 6:9-10; 13.)

The above statement applies to student, volunteers, and staff. It is imperative that you agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22.)



Statement of the Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in its entire dimension, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Psalm 139:13-17; Proverbs 6:16-17; Jeremiah 1:5)

Chapel Services

Chapel is an integral part of the emphasis of Galax Christian School. Chapel will be held once a week, and will feature local pastors as well as special speakers. Students should wear the dress uniform (long sleeves embroidered shirt and khaki skirt/pants). Chapel is a time that we look forward to with enthusiasm and expectation that God will speak into our lives. Students are expected to arrive promptly, show careful attention, and promote an attitude of enthusiasm for this opportunity.

Policies of Galax Christian School

Ethics Statement

In accordance with Virginia Code § 63.2-1509 all employees of Galax Christian School have a duty to report all suspected or actual cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

Notice of Duty to Report Child Abuse or Neglect.

Each public school board and each administrator of every private or parochial school shall post, in each of their schools, a notice, pursuant to § 63.2-1509, that: (i) any teacher or other person employed in a public or private school who has reason to suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child, including any child who may be abandoned, is required to report such suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to local or state social services agencies or the person in charge of the relevant school or his designee; and (ii) all persons required to report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect are immune from civil or criminal liability or administrative penalty or sanction on account of such reports unless such person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose. The notice shall also include the Virginia Department of Social Services' toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline.

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline Contact Information

In Virginia: (800) 552-7096

Out-of-state: (804) 786-8536

Hearing-impaired: (800) 828-1120

Grayson County, Virginia DSS 276-773-2452

Statement of Non-discrimination

Galax Christian School admits students of any race, color, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin, in the administration of its education, admissions, or scholarship programs.



Admissions Policies

It is understood that attendance at Galax Christian School is a privilege, not a right. All students are accepted on a trial basis. No one is guaranteed re-enrollment each year. The decision to accept a student for re-enrollment will include consideration of parent/student cooperation and of acceptable academic, social, and spiritual progress.

Applicants for admission will be considered without regard to race or ethnicity. It is important that both parents and students be in harmony with the Academy's educational philosophy, behavioral standards, and ethical standards. Galax Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.

Enrollment Procedure

Parents should:

1. Receive an application packet
2. Complete and return:
 - Application packet
 - Application fee (nonrefundable)
 - Medical form
 - Immunization records and/or medical/religious exemption statements
 - Copy of child's birth certificate
 - Copies of any court ordered custody arrangements
 - Covid 19 waiver/statement of understanding
3. Have transcripts sent to GCS
4. Interview with the principal
5. Receive a written letter of acceptance from Galax Christian School.



Attendance Policies

General Attendance Policies

School hours are 8:20-3:05 Monday through Friday

Regular attendance is important if students are to make educational progress. In case of absence, the parent must call or write a note which the student should present to the principal who will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused. Virginia Statute 22.1-254, 22.1-98 specifies a minimum number of hours of instruction that must be given to meet mandatory attendance requirements.

Excessive absences (excused or unexcused) have a negative influence both on the student, and on the school as a whole. Therefore, the following ***Principal Review Policy** is in place.

Principal Review Policy

Ten absences (excused or unexcused) will require a review by the principal. The principal will evaluate the absences and have the option of referring the absences for a board review.

Absences for the following reasons will generally be considered excused absences:

- a. Personal illness
- b. Death in family and other funerals
- c. Absences approved by the principal in advance. The principal may excuse absences that do not count toward either the Principal Review* (noted in bold above) or personal days. These absences may be for planned educational events, Men Arise, youth conventions, required parental business travel, college preview days, mission trips, and conferences/camps, etc.
- d. Parents may request an exception to the attendance policy.

Students may take up to seven personal days per year. *These personal days should be taken with the goal of not exceeding ten total absences (excused or unexcused) per year.* For example, a student with five sick days should only take 5 personal days (for a maximum of 10 missed days) instead of the permitted seven days. All personal days must be prearranged with the principal and teacher at least a week ahead of time. Arrangements must be made with teachers for classwork to be made up. Failure to gain approval in advance may result in an unexcused absence. Personal days may not be taken during standardized testing week or during a scheduled school program with required attendance.

Tardiness – Excused and Unexcused

Being tardy gets the entire day off to a poor start. Students must be on time. Students will be considered tardy if they are not inside the classroom, ready to begin desk work at 8:20 a.m. when the bell rings. If tardiness is inevitable due to an emergency, a note from home must be brought or the parent must call. The principal will determine if tardiness is excused or unexcused. Chronic tardiness to school will require a parent-principal meeting and the appropriate remediation will be enforced. Repeated tardiness may result in the student's dismissal from



school. For elementary students, the fourth unexcused tardy is \$10 and all following tardies is \$25. For high school students, the third tardy is \$10 and all following tardies are \$25. After the first three tardies, **five unexcused tardies are considered an unexcused absence and may be included in the principal review.**

Late End of Day Pickups

Any parent who has an unexcused tardy pickup (past 3:10 p.m.) may be charged a late fee of \$10.

Tardiness for the following reasons will be considered excused tardiness:

- a. Sudden illness affecting the child's ability to arrive promptly.
- b. Unavoidable transportation delays (accidents, break downs, weather).
- c. Scheduled dentist or doctor appointments.

Oversleeping, misplaced homework or uniforms, or failure to plan ahead will not be considered excused absences.

Students must be in school at least a half day to be counted present. Any dismissal before noon will be considered a half-day absence.

Release from Classes

When it is necessary for a parent to take their child out of class for doctor or dental appointments or other reasons during the day, a note, phone call, or a visit to the principal must precede release. Please endeavor to make these appointments as late as possible in the day.

Withdrawals

Withdrawals from school must be made through the principal's office and the business office. All tuition charges continue until the withdrawal is completed. Records will not be released to another school if any part of the school bill is unpaid. In event of withdrawal or dismissal, no fees are refunded. Tuition refunded is based on number of remaining months in the school year.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

When you are concerned about your child's progress, please call the teacher to schedule a conference. You may make an appointment to see teachers immediately after school each day. Teachers are not permitted to hold conferences during class hours as this interferes with the educational process of the entire class.

Scheduled parent-teacher conferences are held at scheduled times throughout the calendar year.

If you have any questions regarding grades, school functions, classroom practices, or disciplinary action, please contact your child's teacher. If the problem remains, a three-way conference will be arranged with the parent, the teacher, and the principal.



Transportation Policies

Careful consideration of safety must be taken when dropping off or picking up students. Only those authorized in writing may pick up students.

When dropping off or picking up students during normal hours, parents should enter from Edmonds Road, form a line in front of the school and exit via Fishers Gap Road. Any parent who needs to speak with a teacher or have a delay should park at the far end of the school (near the garage).

High school students may not drive on the school grounds without prior, written approval from the principal. Students displaying any lack of maturity and carefulness while driving on school grounds will lose the privilege of driving on the GCS property. High school students may not arrive or leave from GCS property accompanied by other students (outside of family members) without prior written permission from the principal and parents.

Health Policies

Well-Child Policy

For the protection of the students, please adhere to the following guidelines when determining if you should bring your child to school. A well child has:

No fever over 100.6 degrees (without medication) in the past 24 hours

No vomiting or diarrhea (without medication) in the past 24 hours

No skin infections (impetigo, ringworm or unexplained rash)

No eye infection

No childhood diseases such as chicken pox, measles, etc.

If your child has any of the above symptoms, the teacher will not accept him/her into class. If a child develops any of the above symptoms during the school day, the teacher will notify the office, who will in turn notify the parent.

Students who are unable to participate in physical education class must have a note from home or from a doctor.

Medicine

All medications (prescription and non-prescription) must be kept at the principal's desk and may not be shared among students. A record of all medicines dispensed to students is maintained by staff.



Communicable Disease Policy

Galax Christian School desires to maintain a healthy school environment by instituting controls designed to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. A "communicable disease" is any illness which arises as a result of a specific infectious agent which may be transmitted either directly or indirectly by a susceptible host or infected person or animal to other persons.

A teacher or administrator who reasonably suspects that a student or employee has a communicable disease shall immediately notify the school principal.

A full list of reportable diseases may be found in Appendix A.

Any student or employee with a communicable disease for which immunization is required by law, or is available, shall be temporarily excluded from school while ill and during recognized periods of communicability. Students and employees with communicable diseases for which immunization is not available shall be excluded from school while ill. If the nature of the disease and circumstances warrant, Galax Christian School may require an independent physician's examination of the student or employee to verify the diagnosis of communicable disease. Galax Christian School reserves the right to make all final decisions necessary to enforce its communicable disease policy and to take all necessary action to control the spread of communicable diseases within the school.

Articles Prohibited in School Policy

Students are not permitted to bring to school any of the following: cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, alcoholic beverages, any narcotics, gambling paraphernalia, pocket knives, guns, explosives of any kind, inappropriate pictures/magazines/books, water guns, play guns, any electronic listening device, or other related items. Students are not permitted to bring pets except when permission has been granted from the teacher.

Dress Policies

Each child is required to wear the uniform prescribed by the school.

Galax Christian School believes it is important to dress appropriately and modestly. Christian young people should dress and act differently from unbelievers.

- No jewelry or makeup may be worn. This includes all fingernail polish and toe polish.
- There will be no ear/body piercing during the school year, and students are not permitted to have tattoos of any kind.
- In order to minimize injuries, all students must wear athletic shoes for P.E. classes.



Expectations for Girls

Skirts are to be below the knee, whether sitting or standing.

Shoes for the school day are to be an oxford-style or a loafer-style school shoe with heels no higher than two inches. Sandals may be worn. During cold weather, boots may be worn to school and then changed for the day.

Leggings may be worn with the uniform but must not be visible (above the knee). Leggings attached to a skirt for P.E. may be visible. For modesty, young ladies should wear underskirt shorts when participating in physical activities. Footed tights or hose may be worn.

GSC believes that I Corinthians 11:14-15 be followed with respect to long hair for girls. Young ladies with short hair shall let their hair grow during the school year. All students must retain their natural hair color.

During cold weather, coats will be taken off outside the classroom. A nice, navy sweater, jacket or sweatshirt may be worn in the classroom. Other colors may be considered if it promotes a professional look.

Expectations for Boys

A belt must be worn with the uniform pants. Shoes for the school day are to be an oxford-style or a loafer-style school shoe. During cold weather, boots may be worn to school and then changed for the day.

During cold weather, coats will be taken off outside the classroom. A nice, navy sweater, jacket or sweatshirt may be worn in the classroom. Other colors may be considered if it promotes a professional look.

Boys should maintain a clean, conservative hair cut with hair off the collar. No extreme hairstyles will be permitted, and all students must retain their natural hair color.

Emergency Policies

Weather/Natural Disaster Emergency Closings and Reopening

Because our students come from a variety of locations in and outside of Grayson County, each parent is responsible for deciding if current weather conditions are safe from travelling. If school is not cancelled or delayed and a parent deems it unsafe and promptly lets school officials know, the absence will be excused. School closings, delays, and re openings will be announced by text, call, or by Facebook. "Hearing it through the grapevine" is not sufficient proof of official school action. GCS does not necessarily follow the Grayson County or Carroll County school system weather emergency cancellations or closing. A closing or delay by either of these school systems does not mean a closing or delay for GCS.

Dangerous weather conditions or other emergencies during the school day where students are deemed unsafe may occur. In such a case, parents will be notified as soon as possible. Keep in mind that communication will only come after action is taken to assure the safety of the children and only if communication is possible.



Behavior and Discipline Policies

The Bible teaches that parents are primarily responsible for children, and teachers act with delegated authority. Galax Christian School expects respect toward God, others, and property to be maintained at all times. Demerits will be given for inappropriate behavior. Three demerits in a day requires an in-school detention or service served either during the day or after school hours (at the principal's discretion.)

Parents will be notified if there is a disciplinary problem that continues after classroom remediation of demerits or loss of privileges. If the parents are not able to rectify the problem and consistent, proper classroom behavior is not maintained, the student will be dismissed. No student is guaranteed the privilege of attending GCS. While most correction has the godly transformation of character as its goal, significant disregard for school expectations may require immediate dismissal of a student. The principal reserves the right to make those decisions on an individual basis.

Searches

The school reserves the right to search for drugs and other illegal materials, without notifying students, this includes the student's personal affects.

The school also reserves the right to check for materials that are inconsistent with the school's rules and standards.

Anti-Bullying Policy

All school personnel are committed to making GCS a safe and caring place for all students and employees. Bullying is not tolerated in any form.

Examples of bullying include, but are not limited to repeated actions of:

- Malicious intent to cause physical or emotional harm
- Ganging up on someone
- Teasing, humiliating or intimidating actions/language
- Insulting someone's race, family status, culture, gender, size or appearance
- Degradation through the use of technology, social media, etc.

Students who have been determined to have bullied others will be subject to immediate disciplinary action, which may include suspension or expulsion.

Students at GCS will be taught to:

- Refuse to bully others or to let others be bullied.
- Refuse to join in when another is bullied.
- Report bullying to an adult. Parents who suspect bullying may be taking place should report it to the principal
- Understand that bullying is a behavior that is inconsistent with the biblical philosophy of GCS.



Technology Policies

Cellphones

Cellphones are not to be used by students on the GCS grounds. If a student needs a cellphone for communication before or after school hours, the phone is to be stored at the principal's desk immediately upon arrival. The phone may not be used on school grounds without specific permission from a teacher. The phone will be returned to the student at the parent pick up line. Students found with a cellphone (using it or not) during school hours will face immediate disciplinary action. Parents should use all possible means to avoid needing to store a device with the principal. This option should only be used for legitimate and necessary communication needs (babysitting or work after school).

Smart Watches

Smart Watches may not be used or worn by students on the GCS property. If a parent decides that a student needs a smart watch for communication either before or after school, the watch is to be stored at the principal's desk immediately upon arrival. The watch may not be used on school grounds. The watch will be returned to the student at the parent pick up line. Students found with a smart watch (using it or not) during school hours will face immediate disciplinary action. Parents should use all possible means to avoid needing to store a device with the principal. This option should only be used for legitimate and necessary communication needs (babysitting or work after school).

Calculators

Calculators will be used by some junior and senior high school students. Unless a student is officially authorized to use a calculator, the use of a calculator will be considered a form of cheating. Students should ask permission if they are unsure about the appropriateness of using a calculator.

Internet Enabled Technology

Personal internet enabled devices (tablets, computers, etc.) may not be brought on GCS property without express permission given to a parent. Parents must request permission from the principal, and the device must be stored at the principal's desk until afternoon dismissal time.

Students who use internet enabled devices owned by the school (tablets, computers, etc.) or used with the school's permission will use the devices under supervision and filtering will be maintained. The device may only be used for teacher-directed purposes. Accessing sites not directed by the teacher (even if the sites are not morally objectionable) will be cause for termination of internet privileges. Students may not check email, access social media or any other activity not specifically authorized by the teacher.

Electronic devices that are not internet enabled should not be brought on campus. This includes mp3 players, non- internet enabled phones, etc.

Headphones

Unless specifically used for assigned academic purposes, headphones, ear buds, etc. will not be used on the GCS property.



Books, Music, and Media

Any media brought on the property of GCS in any form will be subject to approval and must meet the highest standards of godliness. Music may not be listened to or exchanged between students. Any books or magazines brought on campus must meet the standards of media allowed in the GCS library. If in doubt, ask. No media will be exchanged between students without express permission.

Social Media Standards

Any social media presence is a part of a Christian testimony. Before acceptance at GCS, social media may be reviewed for adherence to godly principles. Any student who posts material that does not meet godly, Christian standards may jeopardize their enrollment. Posts or text messages that are critical or that cause disunity at GCS are inappropriate and may jeopardize enrollment. Sexting or accessing inappropriate or pornographic sites is a serious disciplinary offense.

Graduation Policies

Early Graduation

Students with sufficient credits to graduate may complete their requirements one semester early. Anyone wishing to graduate any earlier than one semester must complete the Honors or the College Preparatory course of study. It is strongly recommended that no student graduate before their seventeenth birthday.

Note to Seniors

If a senior has more than one-half year's work unfinished by second semester, no cap, gown, diploma, or other graduation supplies will be ordered for them. All graduation requirements must be met before the last day of school or the student may not walk in the graduation.

Senior Project

Each senior must have completed a Great Commission project at least one month before graduation. The student should discuss potential projects within six weeks of starting the senior school year. All preparations for the project as well as performing it must be accomplished by the senior. This includes the raising of funds for the project. Appropriate projects would be a community service event, group evangelism event, work team or short-term missions' trip. A project proposal must be submitted to the principal by November 1st of the graduation year.

Senior Schedule

During the senior year, the student may not have enough required classwork to stay busy for the complete school year. Students who complete all requirements may be dismissed from everyday classes with approval from both the principal and parents. Students must still be present for one regularly scheduled full day a week and one regularly scheduled morning a week (until lunch) unless special permission is given otherwise. If the chosen day does not coincide with chapel, the student must be present for chapel as well. Students must be present and in uniform for regularly scheduled high school



Bible class, revivals, field trips, and special events. All school enrollment expectations are still in force during the full senior year.

When all academic requirements are met, students should meet with the principal to plan appropriate coursework to take during the required weekly class time.

Academic Distinctions and Awards – Galax Christian School

Graduation Honors

The following honors will be awarded at graduation based on a student's cumulative high school GPA:

- Summa Cum Laude: GPA 3.9–4.0 (With Highest Honor)
- Magna Cum Laude: GPA 3.7–3.89 (With Great Honor)
- Cum Laude: GPA 3.5–3.69 (With Honor)

To qualify for Summa Cum Laude, students must have completed at least half of their high school credits at Galax Christian School (GCS).

To qualify for Magna Cum Laude or Cum Laude, students must have either attended one full academic year at GCS or earned at least 6 credits in their senior year at GCS.

Valedictorian

Valedictorian will be awarded to the graduate with the highest cumulative high school GPA who has no written disciplinary action in their final year of high school. To be considered for valedictorian, students must have completed at least half of their high school course credits at GCS. Cumulative GPA must be at least 3.5 to be valedictorian.

Salutatorian

Salutatorian will be awarded to the graduate with the highest cumulative high school GPA who has no written disciplinary action in their final year of high school. To be considered for salutatorian, students must have completed at least half of their high school course credits at GCS. Cumulative GPA must be at least 3.0 to be salutatorian.

Highest GPA Awards

The Highest GPA award for elementary, middle school, and high school will be presented at graduation. This award will only be given to students who have attended full-time for the entire school year and are enrolled in at least five subjects.

A Honor Roll Trophy

The A Honor Roll Trophy will be awarded to students who have either:

- Received A Honor Roll in each of the four quarters of the current academic year, or



- Earned a cumulative 'A' in every subject by the end of the year (e.g., a high 'B' in one quarter may be offset if the student earns an 'A' average for the year in that particular subject).

This award is only for students who have attended GCS all year and are enrolled in at least four subjects.

Subject Area Awards

The Highest GPA per subject area will be awarded within each classroom to students who have earned the top academic performance in that subject and have attended at least half the year.

Friends and Family Chapel Awards

Awards at the Friends and Family Chapel will focus on recognizing effort, diligence, and overall character. These awards are given at the discretion of the teachers and administration and may vary year to year.

Graduation and Awards Night

Graduation and Awards Night will highlight the school's most prestigious academic and character awards.

Courses of Study

Galax Christian School offers four Courses of Study. It is important that you carefully consider which best fits your goals and objectives for life. This is a decision that you and your parents should prayerfully consider.

Courses of Study are set up to show the required course criteria and how many credits are required for each of these criteria. Some courses will be referred to as core courses. They are required by all students in each Course of Study. Others are referred to as Electives and allow for more flexibility in your choosing.

A list of all courses to choose from is listed in Appendix B. Substitution of any other courses must be approved by the principal.



**VOCATIONAL PREPARATORY
COURSE OF STUDY**

Subject	Minimum Credits Required
Math	3
English	4
Social Studies	3
Science	3
Bible	2
Physical Education	i2
Electives	5
Minimum Required	22



GENERAL COURSE OF STUDY

Subject	Minimum Credits Required
Math 3	Algebra I and II, Geometry required
English 4	Choose from English I, II, III, IV or Literature*
Social Studies 3	World History, U.S. History, Required
Science 3	Biology, Physical Science Required
Bible 2	
Physical Education 2	
Computer Systems 1/2	
Public Speaking 1/2	
Electives 4	
Great Commission Project Completed	

Minimum Credits 22

*May count 1 literature toward the required English

Bible is part of our core curriculum. Any time we have group Bible class, attendance is required. Students may count 2 credits toward the required credits.



COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE OF STUDY

Subject	Minimum Credits Required
Math 3	Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II required
English 4	Choose from English I, II, III, IV or Lit.*
Social Studies 3	
Science 3	Biology, Physical Science, Chemistry
Bible 2	
Physical Education 2	
Computer Systems 1	
Public Speaking 1/2	
Music or Perf. Arts 1/2	
World Languages 2	
Electives 4**	

Great Commission Project Completed

88% G.P.A required

Minimum Total 25

*May count 1 literature toward the 4 English credits

**May count 1 literature as an elective. (revised 8.25)

Bible is part of our core curriculum. Any time we have group Bible class, attendance is required. Students may count 2 credits toward the required Bible credits



HONORS COURSE OF STUDY

Subject	Minimum Credits Required
Math 4	Algebra I and II, Geometry, 1 higher Math
English 4	English I,II, III, IV or Lit.
Social Studies 3 1/2	
Science 4	Biology, P. Science, Chemistry, Physics or Advanced Human Biology
Bible 3	
Physical Education 2	
Computer Systems 1	
Public Speaking 1/2	
Music/Perform. Arts 1/2	
World Languages 2	
Electives 2**	
Great Commission Project Completed	
94 % G.P.A	
Minimum Credits 26 1/2	

*May count one literature toward the required English.

**May count one literature toward an elective. (revised 8.25)

Bible is part of our core curriculum. Any time we have group Bible class, attendance is required.
Students may count 3 credits toward the required credits



Grading Scale

A+	98-100
A	95-97
A-	93-94
B+	91-92
B	88-90
B-	85-87
C+	83-84
C	81-82
C-	77-80
D+	75-76
D	72-74
D-	70-71
F	69 and below

Report Cards

Report cards for all students will be issued at the end of each quarter – 9 weeks period. Galax Christian School will be subscribing to Praxis Power, which will make report cards available to online.

The process to sign up for Praxis Power will be discussed at a meeting.

Parents may pick up a printed copy at the school.

Achievement Testing

GCS will be doing annual achievement testing. The testing dates are on the calendar (both online and in the handbook).

Students are required to attend testing and no excused absences will be granted except for emergency absences granted by the principal.

Testing will be done through Seton Testing and the Iowa or Stanford standardized tests.

Results will be held in the student's permanent record and will be available for parents to review. As required by Virginia law, reporting of test results may be required by those receiving the Virginia Education Improvement Scholarship.



Options for Credits and Diplomas

Students may choose an accredited diploma through Abeka Academy. Their requirements apply and the principal may accept the fulfillment of their requirements for the granting of a GCS diploma.

Students may choose to dual enroll with a college approved by GCS. Adjustments in the required courses may be approved by the principal. All such approvals must be in writing and stored in the student's file.

Students transferring from other high schools may have adjustments approved by the principal. All such approvals must be in writing and stored in the student's file.

Financial Policies

Tuition and Fees

Through the financial donations of generous supporters, many students receive scholarships to attend GCS. An average family will pay approximately \$350 a month (\$3500 a year).

Full tuition for those not eligible to receive any of our scholarships is \$720 a month (\$7200 a year)

The first month's payment is nonrefundable and is considered a book fee.

Breakdown of the \$7,200 Tuition

\$720	Books -- Nonrefundable
\$150	Insurance
\$75	Media Fee
\$300*	Registration
\$250**	Facility Fee
\$75	Standardized Testing Fee
\$563	Monthly tuition
7,200	Total for Year

*Semester Fees are included in the tuition.

The \$300 Registration Fee is \$150 each semester and it is nonrefundable.

**The Facilities Fee is paid to the HRBC for the use of the facilities.

Graduation fee is \$75 per graduating student in kindergarten and 12 grade. Included in the fee will be the cost of cap and gown, diploma

Tuition is due on the 5th of each month. The first of ten payments is due on August 5th and the last payment is due on May 5th. Any late payment will be charged a \$25 late fee.



Student lunches will need to be brought by each student. A refrigerator and microwave for student use will be available. Hot lunches will periodically be provided to all students and announcements will be given ahead of time.

Financial Aid/Scholarship Distribution

Families desiring financial aid will request an application for a needs-based tuition scholarship from GCS. All tuition scholarships awarded by GCS will be contingent upon the amount of monies available

Scholarships offered:

1. **Virginia Education Improvement Scholarship** for those who qualify. No multiple child discounts will be given. It may pay up to 100% of tuition.

2. Christian Workers Scholarship

This scholarship is for those who work full time at GCS and do not qualify for Virginia Education Improvement Scholarship. This is 75% off published rate for the first child.

\$1875 1st child

\$1500 2nd child

\$1200 3rd child

\$800 4th child

Free 5th child

3. Founder's Scholarship

Funds raised at \$7200 per student.

The Founder's Scholarship is funded by generous donors who believe in the value of a Christian education for every child. Available money will be distributed according to financial need and according to priorities established by the Board. Applicants are encouraged to apply to receive this scholarship.

4. Multiple Child Discount

HRBC regular attendees who do not qualify for VA Ed Improvement Scholarship will receive a 60% discount on first child.

\$2800 1st child

\$2000 2nd child

\$1500 3rd child

\$1250 4th child

Free 5th child



Students accepted at GCS who demonstrate financial need but do not attend HRBC may be eligible for the multiple child discounts. This may be given at the discretion of the Board.

\$3500 1st child

\$2500 2nd child

\$1500 3rd child

\$1250 4th child

All families making application of tuition scholarships will agree to the following statements:

I understand that any scholarship received applies only to the current school year and not future school years.

I understand that the number of available scholarships is limited, and the submission of this application is not a guarantee of a scholarship.

I understand that scholarships will be awarded without regard to the student's race, color, sex, or national or ethnic origin.

All applications for financial aid will be reviewed by the GCS board. If a scholarship is awarded, an award letter or email will be sent to the family.



APPENDIX

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List of Reportable Diseases

AIDS Related Complex (ARC)	Meningococcal
Amebiasis	Mumps
Animal bite (by a potentially rabid animal)	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning
Anthrax Botulism	Pertussis
Brucellosis	Pesticide Poisoning
Campylobacteriosis	Plague
Chancroid	Poliomyelitis
Covid 19	Psittacosis
Dengue	Rabies
Diphtheria	Relapsing Fever
Encephalitis	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Giardiasis (acute)	Rubella (including congenital)
Gonorrhea	Schistosomiasis
Granuloma Inguinale	Shigellosis
Hansen's Disease (leprosy)	Smallpox
Hemorrhagic fevers	Syphilis Tetanus
Hepatitis	Toxoplasmosis (acute)
Histoplasmosis	Trichinosis
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	Tuberculosis
Legionnaire's Disease	Tularemia
Leptospirosis	Typhoid Fever
Lice	Typhus
Lymphogranuloma Venereum	Vibrio Cholera
Malaria	Vibrio Infections
Measles (rubeola)	Yellow Fever
Meningitis	



Courses Listings

To see a detailed scope and sequence for each grade level, go to the following link:

<https://www.abeka.com/christianschool/scopeandsequence.aspx>

Preschool - 2 & 3 Year Olds	
Phonics	Bible
Language Arts	Music
Poetry	Arts & Crafts
Numbers	
Kindergarten - 4 Year Olds	
Language Arts	Numbers
Phonics	Developmental Skills
Reading	Bible
...Language	Music
...Cursive Writing	Arts & Crafts
Poetry	
Kindergarten - 5 Year Olds	
Language Arts	Social Studies
Phonics	Science
Reading	Developmental Skills
Language	Bible
Cursive Writing	Music
Poetry	Arts & Crafts
First Grade	

Language Arts	History & Geography
Phonics	Science
Reading	Health
Language	Bible
Cursive & Creative Writing	Music
Spelling & Poetry	Arts & Crafts
Arithmetic	
2nd Grade	
Language Arts	History & Geography
Phonics & Language	Science
Reading	Health
Cursive & Creative Writing	Bible
Spelling & Vocabulary	Music
Arithmetic	Arts & Crafts
3rd Grade	
Language Arts	History & Geography
Reading	Science
Language	Health
Penmanship & Creative Writing	Bible
Spelling & Poetry	Music
Arithmetic	Arts & Crafts
4th Grade	
Language Arts	History & Geography
Reading	Science
Language	Health



Penmanship & Creative Writing	Bible
Spelling, Vocabulary & Poetry	Music
Arithmetic	Arts & Crafts
5th Grade	
Language Arts	History & Geography
Reading	Science
Language	Health
Penmanship	Bible
Spelling, Vocabulary & Poetry	Music
Arithmetic	Arts & Crafts
6th Grade	
Language Arts	History & Geography
Reading	Science
Language	Health
Penmanship & Creative Writing	Bible
Spelling, Vocabulary & Poetry	Music
Arithmetic	Arts & Crafts
7th Grade – Core Courses	
English	World History
Grammar & Composition	Life Science
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Bible
Literature	1 st Semester – Exodus
Intermediate Math	2 nd Semester – Life of Christ

8th Grade – Core Courses	
English	U.S. History
Grammar & Composition	Earth Science
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Bible
Literature	1 st Semester – Book of Acts
Pre-Algebra	2 nd Semester – Joshua & Judges
9th Grade	
English	World Geography (1 semester)
Grammar & Composition	Physical Science
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Health (1 semester)
Literature	Bible – Kings of Israel
Algebra 1	
10th Grade	
English	Algebra II
Grammar & Composition	World History
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Biology
World Literature	Bible – Bible Doctrines
11th Grade	
English	U.S. History



Grammar & Composition	Chemistry
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Bible
American Literature	1 st Semester – Jesus & His Followers
Plane Geometry	2 nd Semester – Life Management
12th Grade	
English	American Government – 1 st semester
Grammar & Composition	Economics – 2 nd semester
Vocabulary, Spelling & Poetry	Physics
American Literature	Bible
Pre-Calculus	1 st Semester - Genesis
	2 nd Semester - Revelation
Electives	
World Languages	Public Speaking
Spanish 1 Grades 7-12	1 Semester – Grades 11-12
Spanish 2 Grades 7-12	Family & Consumer Science
Mathematics	1 Semester – Grades 11-12
Consumer Math	Art Grades 7-12
Business Math	

Other Elective Courses may be added at the discretion of the school Administrator

***Elective Math Courses may be substituted for Prescribed Math Courses depending on the Course of Study that is chosen. This must have the permission of the principal.**



