



Eastside Christian School

ECS CURRICULUM GUIDE

KINDERGARTEN OVERVIEW

Classroom Structure: Self-contained for core subjects and art. Specialists: art, music, physical education.

Student/Teacher Ratio: 15-20 students : 1 teacher, 1 aide

School Day	8:40 am – 3:00 pm
Morning recess	15 minutes
Lunch/recess	30 minutes plus 20 minutes
Afternoon recess	15 minutes

BIBLE and CHAPEL

Kindergarten

Kindergarten BIBLE THEME: God Loves Me

The Kindergarten program focuses on the familiar children’s stories of the Bible: Creation, Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Moses, David, Jesus, and many others. Students will appreciate the lives of famous heroes of the faith who, by example, provide a foundation for living. Students memorize a new Bible verse each week.

Chapel program includes weekly worship, exposure to Christian beliefs, and a focus on monthly character traits. Monthly participation in our ACTS program provides additional understanding of the character traits and a wonderful multi-age team-building experience.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Kindergarten

Kindergarten teachers use the A Beka Phonics/Reading program. Structured literacy activities enhance oral language, phonological awareness, book and print awareness, letter-sound knowledge, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing skills. Using shared group experiences, modeling, and practice, students progress through letter recognition, blend recognition, word recognition, and sentence recognition.

The ABeka printing program is implemented to continue correct formation of letters (upper/lower case), blends, words, sentences, numbers, and Child’s name. Students learn to express themselves in group settings through songs, show and tell, answering a question, making a comment, and poetry.

Reading Readiness Skills:

- Sequencing
- Rhyming
- Opposites
- Cause / Effect
- Inference
- Visual Discrimination
- Auditory Discrimination
- Listening

- Following Directions
- Visual Memory
- Auditory Memory
- Sight Vocabulary

MATH

Kindergarten

Emphasis is on recognition and use patterns, number values, measurement and spatial concepts, time measurement concepts, and denominations and use of coins. The students will gain an understanding of God's orderly system to solve problems.

Additional Math concept/skill strands:

- Position and Location
- Sorting and Classification
- Graphing and Patterning
- Solids and Shapes
- Using a Calendar
- Forming Numbers Correctly
- Adding and Subtracting
- Weight and Capacity

SCIENCE

Kindergarten

Kindergarten teachers use the Foss: Materials in our World curriculum. Students learn and investigate the following subjects:

- Plant Life
- Seasons
- Weather
- Seeds
- Wood
- Paper
- The Five Senses (Our Body)
- Fabric
- Earth Materials
- Bird Identification

SOCIAL STUDIES

Kindergarten

Emphasis is on developing respect for others, appreciating holidays and their meaning from a Christian perspective, appreciating and learning about different cultures, respect for our country and Christian heritage, and a respect for God's creation. These concepts are integrated into the language arts curriculum and other activities, such as field trips, art projects, music and Chapel.

VISUAL ART

Kindergarten

Study, design, create and enhance subjects being taught by using the following skills:

- Cutting
- Gluing
- Using crayons, pencils, markers, paint, water colors, primary colors

Students also learn from an art specialist 40 minutes every other week, practicing art appreciation, communication and critical thinking skills through Visual Thinking Strategies. They study artists and create work in their styles. Artists include Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Frida Kahlo, Leonardo Da Vinci, Georgia O'Keeffe, Claude Monet and Marc Chagall. Kindergarten students learn skills relating to the art elements of color, line, shape, texture, value, and the principles of balance and pattern.

SPECIALISTS

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students participate in a varied schedule and see specialists in the following areas:

Music: 30 minutes – twice a week

- Students will respond to music with movement and creativity through dances, games, and song
- Rhythm: Understand and demonstrate the feel of a steady beat, recognize different tempos
- Melody and Harmony: match pitch, identify pitch by listening and repeating notes using solfege alphabet. Develop voice by recognizing high and low and major and minor sounds
- Timbre and Form: Understand the use of the body and voice as an instrument through breathing and projection and listening; experience phrasing and use instruments.
- Theory: vocabulary, solfege alphabet, sound, dynamics, notes, beat and rhythm, rounds, composers, musical history/style/genre, orchestra and instrument study
- Style and Expression: Worship/seasonal/patriotic/short action songs and singing games/warm up and performance songs/thematic songs, and drama.
- Group/Performance and Culture: Weekly chapel and worship, patriotic program, Spring musical, special projects, Christmas program

PE: 30 minutes – twice a week

Art: (see Visual Art section above)