



ENROLLMENT

INFORMATION



NORTHUMBERLAND
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

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OUR MISSION

Northumberland Christian School empowers the development of character and conviction with formative experience and Biblical Worldview instruction in a safe, supportive community. Students are equipped to influence and transform their world on a personal, local, and global level.

OUR VISION

At Northumberland Christian School, students are actively **engaged** in learning, **hopeful** in their future, and **flourishing** socially, physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

OUR CORE VALUES

Christ-Centred Excellence
Empowering Self-worth and Self-esteem
Responsible and Responsive Leadership
Community of Grace and Integrity
Critical Thinkers and Active Participants



Welcome to Northumberland Christian School!

For over forty years, NCS has been providing quality Christian education and serving families in Northumberland County. Whether you are new to the community or are already connected to the school, know that the staff, administration, and board are so glad you are considering NCS for your child's educational journey.

Families choose NCS for a wide variety of reasons. Perhaps you are an alumnus, or you are looking for an alternative educational setting for your child. Maybe our unique approach to Biblical worldview instruction is what you have been looking for, or you know that our strong sense of community is the kind of environment your child will thrive in. Whatever the reason, we hope that your experience with us exceeds those initial expectations.

From the moment you enter the front doors, know that we will embrace your family and provide a holistic approach as we help your child learn and grow. As a parent your presence and contribution are valued in our community. We see education as a partnership between home and school. You have chosen a setting where your child will be known and appreciated for their unique gifts and abilities. NCS is truly a *Community of Belonging* where each child has a place and a role.

At NCS, we educate from a reformed Biblical worldview. This means that the grand narrative of God as the creator and sustainer of life frames each subject and topic. Every child is seen as a precious gift, created in the image of God, and an active member in God's Kingdom where love for neighbour reigns. We are not a denominational school but hope that our broad approach to Biblical teaching means every child can develop character and conviction in the context of a safe, inclusive community. Even if you do not identify as a Christian, the teaching and values that are presented will likely resonate with your family's beliefs and we hope you feel included too.

As you take this first step, know that we are here to help you every step of the way. It is a pleasure for us to walk together with you in this journey.

On behalf of the NCS community,
Welcome!



REGISTRATION PROCESS

REGISTRATION PROCESS:

Enrolment may occur at any point during the school year at the discretion of the Principal. Students are enrolled according to their age as of January 1st. Junior Kindergarten students must be a minimum of 4 years old as of this date. Students are not admitted to grades above their age level at the time of admission, as advancement/retention decisions are based on a minimum of one year of full-time enrollment at the school.

Once you have decided to pursue registration, you will be booked for an admissions conference with the principal.

The goals of the conference between principal and the family are to:

- Fully describe the purpose of NCS and its history.
- Present and ensure an understanding of the distinct philosophy of NCS.
- Demonstrate the NCS curriculum and teaching practices.
- Allow the parents/guardians to ask questions regarding the philosophy and practice of NCS.
- Provide a tour of the facilities.

After the admissions conference, the principal will wish to investigate the student's academic progress and educational background. For students who are enrolled in another school the most recent report card(s), any testing or documentation of the student's needs, and a conversation with the child's current principal (with parental consent) will be required. Homeschool parents may be asked to provide examples of student work and testing results. If your child is just beginning school, parents are asked to fill out the Kindergarten Readiness Survey as thoroughly as possible.

The school must be made aware of any learning, social-emotional, or behavioural needs prior to enrollment. Failure to disclose these needs not only prevents the school from ensuring they can adequately care for your child, but it could also negatively affect the other students and families in the school. It is always best for everyone involved if new families are transparent about any challenges their child may be facing. NCS does provide school level assessment of new students as part of the admissions process. In addition to this, the principal may request an educational assessment before admission is approved. The cost of external testing is at the applicant's expense. Our hope is always to work with parents to provide for your child's needs. If EA support is required for example, this is permitted but not provided for financially by the school.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

All new students are considered to be under a two-month probationary period, especially where there may be learning or behavioural needs, to assess whether NCS is the best fit for your child. If admission cannot proceed past the probationary period, parents will be contacted in-person and tuition pre-paid for the months after the probationary period, will be returned.

And finally, the school would also like to...

- Learn of the spiritual background of the parent(s)/guardians i.e., active church attendance or testimony of faith.
- Be Assured the parents/guardians have realistic expectations of enrolment in NCS.
- Explain the responsibilities of being a member of the NCS society.
- Ensure the parents/guardians become aware of the responsibilities of enrolling their child in NCS.
- Fully explain the tuition agreement and any bursary assistance plans that may be available.

After the admissions conference, the parents/guardians will:

- Sign a tuition pledge form and meet with the financial administrator to go over a tuition payment plan.
- Provide a firm commitment to keep payments current.
- Agree to serve in a volunteer area according to their gifts and talents.
- Provide the school with immunizations records, a copy of birth certificate(s), and any custody agreements where applicable.
- Fill out all required forms: family contact, student information, and photo and information release.



WHAT MAKES US SIMILAR...

Northumberland Christian School offers a program beginning with Preschool and ending with Grade 8 graduation. Conversations with local secondary schools indicate that our students are well prepared to continue at the secondary level with the same degree of academic success they enjoyed in elementary school. NCS is committed to providing educational quality at least equivalent to, or better than, public school standards. We follow the academic guidelines from the Ministry of Education but operate under an alternative value system to what is presented in the Ontario Curriculum.

Students at Northumberland Christian School are evaluated on a regular basis using a wide variety of formative and summative assessment strategies in accordance with the Ministry Growing Success document. NCS emphasizes individualization of programming for the unique needs of each student, and teachers use a variety of diagnostic tools to ensure that students are reading and spelling at their own developmental level. Our resource teacher is qualified to administer further placement testing for students when required, and IEPs are developed for all our students with learning exceptionalities. NCS employs an online, adaptive test called MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) three times each year for grades SK-8 to map student performance and learning growth. This aids the teacher in setting personal learning goals for each student and classroom curriculum goals in each subject area. The school also assesses the effectiveness of its program by participating in math contests sponsored by universities, and in science fairs and speech contests sponsored by local organizations. We continually monitor how our graduates do in high school and beyond, with student surveys and regular communication with high school personnel. The results of student assessment are provided to the parents through progress reports, three term report cards, and parent-teacher conferences.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT...

The difference is most noticeable in the presence of a Bible program at each grade level, and the use of Biblical Worldview as a guide for curriculum development and implementation. Whether it be the perspective from which a unit is taught to how educators carry out assessment and evaluation of students, every aspect of the curriculum is influenced by and infused with Biblical Worldview. This perspective is based on the understanding that God is the creator of all things, that everything in creation has been affected by the fall of humanity, and that through Christ, God seeks to redeem and restore all things back to Himself. The Kingdom of God, established in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is built through the redemptive acts of people toward God, others, self, and creation as a whole. We have an active role and responsibility to make this world a better place!

The ultimate goal of Christian education is for students to see God in all areas of life and to find their role within His Kingdom, not just for the future, but here and now. Our hope is that NCS students grow to desire this kingdom of love, goodness, and service, rather than the opposing forces of individualism, greed, and materialism so present in our culture today. The practical application of these ideas is found in the study of Biblical Throughlines, or common threads. The 10 Throughlines that are woven throughout our curriculum and teaching are: Creation Enjoyers, Beauty Creators, God Worshippers, Justice Seekers, Earth Keepers, Order Discoverers, Idolatry Discerners, Image Bearers, Servant Workers, and Community Builders. These concepts form the basis for how students are taught to live in the world and in relationship with others. Making these concepts formational to who a student is, not just how they act, is the heart and soul of Christian Education. This formational process is seen through the following:

- Conviction – students develop a value system based on the truth found in Scripture.
- Character – students practice daily how to act and respond appropriately to others and the world.
- Community – students can develop character best in the safety and security of a trust community.

**"STAND AT THE CROSSROADS AND LOOK;
ASK FOR THE ANCIENT PATHS.
ASK WHERE THE GOOD WAY IS, AND
WALK IN IT."
(JER. 6:16)**



GRADUATE PROFILE

The student who has completed the Northumberland Christian School program has been given the opportunity to: understand the essential truths of the Christian faith, be academically equipped, act as a good steward of God's creation, develop a strong sense of personal value, and be an agent of change in his/her area of influence.

Understanding the essential truths of the Christian faith means

- developing a personal relationship with Christ.
- demonstrating their personal relationship with Christ within the school community.
- becoming Biblically literate.
- being equipped to lead and serve in the greater Christian community.

Being academically equipped means

- demonstrating the skills of lifelong learning.
- using current technology effectively and ethically.
- appreciating and demonstrating creativity in artistic expression.
- exhibiting fundamental knowledge and competence in academic disciplines.
- being authentic and effective verbal and written communicators.

Acting as a good steward of God's creation means

- understanding that being stewards of the planet is fulfilling a calling to care for what God has entrusted to us.
- making personal environmentally conscious choices.

Developing a strong sense of personal value means

- accepting who we are as children of God in both our strengths and weaknesses.
- being critical thinkers and active listeners.
- demonstrating compassion, integrity, and honesty.
- balancing conscientious work with generous service, enjoyment of leisure, and balanced rest.
- developing a strong sense of curiosity and wonder.

Being an agent of change in our area of influence means

- seeing and interacting with the world on a local, national, and global level.
- collaborating with other agencies to achieve a greater goal.
- appreciating diversity and demonstrating cultural sensitivity by valuing others as equal in the eyes of God.