



OUTDOOR CONNECT CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

"BEYOND ACADEMICS"

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General Information 2019-2020

"The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands..." ~Psalm 19:1

Thank you for your interest in Outdoor Connect Christian Academy! We are so excited to share with you all about our school and our admission process. Please read below about the specific requirements for the program of your choice. Before applying, keep in mind the nature of our school and its philosophy of education. Visit our *More about Our School* page for more information.

Mission: "Beyond Academics"

Our mission is to provide a truthful holistic instruction by creating an educational atmosphere where students can grow academically and emotionally with an individualized curriculum connected to academic content, the outdoors, God, and daily hands-on experiences.

Goals:

- To help students gain and model Christian values and principles interlinked in their daily curriculum
- To better our students learning through meaningful experiences in our outdoor classroom
- Aid to the development of independent thinkers, problem solvers, caring and loving individuals, academic achievers, emotionally intelligent individuals, productive members of society and servers of God.
- To prepare students to the real world through our entrepreneurship and leadership program
- To form individuals that care for nature, the environment, and the well-being of others
- To give students opportunities to appreciate life and find happiness in the simplest things

Philosophy:

OCCA's philosophy of education is based on Christian teachings and the value of learning outdoors. We are also advocates of the existing "Outdoor Classroom Project" co-founded by Eric and Nelson in 1979. The project started in classrooms that were part of a former elementary school. Teachers learned how to organize themselves to supervise the children outdoors, and began to take traditionally indoor activities outside. With the understanding of the value of learning outdoors; today, our school has embraced the same approach for students in the Elementary School grades.

General Characteristics of OCCA:

- Individualized curriculum
- Small school and classes that facilitate a family caring environment
- The practice of exercise and healthy eating habits
- Character building
- Age integrated classrooms (the One-Room School of the 21st Century)
- Promotes social and emotional skills
- Promotes appreciation for education
- Promotes appreciation for the environment
- Develops interest in learning Science and Math in connection with natural elements
- Foster Emotional Intelligence along with Intellectual
- Foster learning through self- initiation, control, and personal responsibility
- Wide, expansive view of how the world works
- Stronger language, problem-solving, and communication skills through projects and group activities
- Passionate, Christian, and professional teachers that truly care for the development of the whole child.

Why OCCA might be a good fit for your child? Because we care and practice the development of **the whole child**. Rather than confining young minds to 4 walls to learn for long periods of time, our outdoor philosophy and Christian values provide an environment where students can grow physically, spiritually, mentally, and socially. As a result, academic content is easier to grasp and learn.

Basis of OCCA's Curriculum:

- Use of Bible as our first text book
- Use of nature as our second textbook
- The Outdoor Classroom Project
- Jesus' teaching methods
- Brain power through exercise and music learning
- Emotional Intelligence
- Christian Curriculum and common core
- Accreditation through NAPS (National Accreditation for Private Schools).

Benefits of Age Integrated Classrooms (the One-Room School of the 21st Century):

- Children spend longer periods of time with the same teacher. This allows the teacher to develop a deeper understanding of a child's strengths and needs, and is therefore in a better position to support the child's learning.
- Children are viewed as unique individuals.
- Children are not labeled according to their ability and learn at their own rate.
- Children develop a sense of family with their classmates. They become a "family of learners" who support and care for each other.
- Older children have the opportunity to serve as mentors and take leadership roles.
- Children are more likely to cooperate than compete.
- Children are invited to take charge of their learning by making choices at centers and individual work.

Areas of Study: Bible, P.E., Art/Music, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Gardening, STEM activities, Sustainability, Entrepreneurship, and Spanish.

Programs:

Transitional Kindergarten:

Our TK program accepts 4 year-old children who can successfully demonstrate academic and social-emotional readiness for the program. Our TK is part of our elementary school program (unlike Pre-K which is part of preschool) and is considered the 1st year of Kindergarten. We offer full time and part-time. The program introduces students to the alphabet, numbers, colors, bible stories, music, and second language (Spanish) through hands-on experiences and songs. Students' Academic and Emotional intelligence is simultaneously boosted with our enrichment activities that involve, dealing with emotions, Christian Values, planting, music, and caring for nature.

Kindergarten:

Children are eligible for Kindergarten if they turn 5yrs. old on or before September 1st. The program introduces students to the elements of reading, writing, and Math. The use of learning centers, manipulatives, and hands-on activities. Our Outdoor Classroom provides students with a strong foundation for 1st-grade Academic content and boosts Emotional Intelligence (EQ). In addition to core academics, OCCA offers the following enrichment programs, which are integrated into our everyday curriculum and activities: Bible, Music, Spanish as a Second Language, Music, STEM activities, Gardening, Sustainability, and Entrepreneur skills.

1ST-6TH GRADES

In addition to the core areas of study, students are educated in the following areas: Christian values, Spanish as a Foreign Language, STEM activities, Sustainability, Entrepreneur skills, Music, and personal emotional traits. Students receive an individualized curriculum according to placement test results given at the beginning of the school year. Students may complete the curriculum at a faster pace to advance to the following grade level. We have high expectations for each one of our students, therefore; they must obtain a minimum of a B to be promoted to the following grade level and continue in our school. Our curriculum continues to encourage our students to spend time outdoors and move as needed as they complete their daily activities and projects.

Admission Requirements:

Transitional Kindergarten:

Available to 4-year olds who can demonstrate academic and social-emotional readiness for the program. A complete teacher's evaluation form must be submitted if the child has attended Preschool. If the child has not attended preschool, you must make an appointment for a short interview and evaluation of your child. Pre-enrollment period is April 1-June 28 (\$50 discount on Registration). Regular registration July 1st – July 31st scheduled appointments).

Kindergarten:

Children are eligible if they turn 5 years of age on or before September 1st. Students must complete a placement test to receive an individualized curriculum. A complete teacher's evaluation form must be submitted if the child has attended Preschool. If the child has not attended preschool, you must make an appointment for a short interview and evaluation of your child. Pre-enrollment period is April 1-June 28 (\$50 discount on Registration). Regular registration July 1st – July 31st scheduled appointments).

1st - 6th Grades:

New students must submit a **copy of report card** from the previous school along with application form. After application form is submitted and accepted, new students must complete the placement test to receive an individualized curriculum. Placement Test fee \$35.

Pre-enrollment period is April 1-June 28 (\$50 discount on Registration). Regular registration July 1st – July 31st scheduled appointments). We have high expectations for all our students, therefore, all students must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA throughout the school year.

Homeschool Combination TK-6th:

In addition to our regular school attendance, we offer a combination of actual school attendance and homeschooling. Students come 3 full days a week (Monday-Thursday 8 am-3pm). Teachers and parents co-teach. While in school, students will benefit from the outdoor classroom approach and the other enrichment activities.

Tuition & Fees 2019-2020**Full Time TK-6th:** Monday-Thursday 8am-3 pm, Friday 8 am-12 pm

Student Registration	Yearly tuition	Monthly tuition (August-June)	T-shirt Uniform	After care
\$320.00	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$11.00 each	\$6.00/hour

Part-Time offered to TK and K only: Monday-Friday 8 am-12 pm

Student Registration	Yearly tuition	Monthly tuition (August-June)	T-shirt Uniform	After care
\$320.00	\$3,500.00	\$350.00	\$11.00 each	\$6.00/hour

Our Homeschooling Combination: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8 am-3pm

Student Registration	Yearly tuition	Monthly tuition (August-June)	T-shirt Uniform	After care
\$320.00	\$3,600.00	\$360.00	\$11.00 each	\$6.00/hour

DISCOUNTS: Available to Full-time students ONLY

\$50.00 discount on Registration	When registered by June 28
10% Discount on year's tuition paid in full	Must be paid by June 28
5 % for 2 or more siblings	Discount on total year's tuition applied to family if registered by June 28
5% for referrals	Family that refers to other families and registration is done by June 28
5% OCCA's aid	Returning students /Registration before or on June 28
5% Volunteered parents	Apply on Registration Day

After Care School Hours/extra hours:

- Monday-Thursday: 3:00 pm- 5:00 pm

- Friday: 12pm- 1:00 pm

Uniform:

- Green shirt with logo and blue jeans
- Shirts can be order on registration day

Registration Steps:

1. Review Information packet and application
2. Request Quote
3. Schedule a visit and interview
4. Submit application form and registration fees.
5. Complete other forms
6. Take placement test fees (New students)

Important dates:

- Regular Registration Day: August 15
- August 19th: Schools Resumes

Using God's creation as the classroom, OCCA is committed to growing students and adults towards a deeper relationship with God by helping them understand His creation and how it reflects the nature and attributes of a personal God (Romans 1:20).