



# Brookstone Curriculum Guide

Brookstone School  
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Brookstone School admits students of any race, color, gender, national and 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, gender, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

## Mission Statement:

Brookstone School, a college preparatory school founded in the Judeo-Christian tradition and committed to academic excellence, endeavors to develop in its students a foundation for lifelong learning, integrity, personal responsibility, mutual respect, and service to others.

## Lower School

	Humanities			Mathematics and Science			The Arts		Physical Education
	Language Arts	Foreign Language	Social Studies	Mathematics	Science	Computer	Visual/Performing Arts	Library	Physical Education
PK	<p><b>Reading:</b> Students are introduced to uppercase and lower case letters, letter sounds, and Special Features of the Letter Person (a phonics tool that reinforces the letter sounds). Students match beginning sounds with pictures.</p> <p><b>Pre-Writing:</b> Students develop fine motor skills and learn to track and write uppercase and lowercase letters.</p> <p><b>Listening:</b> Students listen to stories and retell sequence of events or identify specific details. They listen to poems and identify rhyming words. Students work on following directions.</p>	<p>Spanish skills introduced are greetings and introductions, colors, days of the week, months of the year, alphabet, vowels sounds, numbers 1-10, calendar, Letter People in Spanish, counting 0-20, clothing, family members, and parts of the body.</p>	<p>Students learn basic map skills, occupations, simple geography terms, and are introduced to the states by the corresponding letter. Units are chosen to reinforce the Letter of the Week.</p>	<p>Focus is on number recognition, writing the numbers 1-20, one-to-one correspondence, and rote counting to 100. Focus is on pattern recognition, copying and producing a simple pattern. Students are introduced to graphs, and identify more or less in a graph.</p>	<p>Science units emphasize animal habitats, weather, life cycles (frog and butterfly), insects, health, and basic body parts. Units are chosen to reinforce the Letter of the Week.</p>	<p>Basic computer skills include: locating and learning the purpose of the space bar, enter key, arrow keys, backspace key, and letter keys on the computer keyboard; using a mouse to point, click and drag, selecting desired icons, scrolling within a scroll box; using menus and learning basic computer parts. Students learn basic LAN skills such as user ID and password.</p>	<p><b>Art:</b> Students experience various art activities including: playdough, painting, drawing, cutting, gluing, and printing with objects.</p> <p><b>Music:</b> Music appreciation is taught through songs, rhythm instruments, movement, and dance. Songs are chosen to reinforce the Letter of the Week.</p>	<p>Library skills include listening to stories, sharing and choosing books, reading/looking quietly, following directions, sitting in place, checking out books on teacher's card, fiction, arrangement of easy fiction books, parts of a book, care of books, spine label and its parts (E fiction), keeping a classroom library and returning books from the room, author and illustrator, what and where are libraries, and sections of the library.</p>	
K	<p>Students learn concepts of print, letter sound relationships; identify and orally manipulate words and individual sounds within spoken words; read orally with accuracy and expression; acquire and use grade-level words to communicate effectively; gain meaning from orally presented text; understand the principles of writing; and use oral and visual skills to communicate.</p>	<p>Spanish skills introduced are greetings and introductions, colors, days of the week, months of the year, alphabet, vowels sounds, numbers 1-10, calendar, Letter People in Spanish, counting 0-20, clothing, family members, and parts of the body, conversational questions and answers, counting by 2s and from 0-30, general commands, items in the classroom, weather and seasons, and birthdays.</p>	<p>Kindergartners develop an awareness of the school environment and classroom rules, families, friends and self image, homes, traditions, Native Americans, Christmas around the world, weather, basic map skills, and countries of the world.</p>	<p>Math skills include number recognition, one-to-one correspondence, rote counting to 100 by 1s, 5s, and 10s, patterns, sorting and graphing, estimation, counting money, addition and subtraction, time, calendar, measurement, classification, and greater and less than.</p>	<p>The science curriculum is designed to make students aware of the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science and exhibit these traits in their own efforts to understand how the world works. Students use tools and instruments for observing, measuring and manipulating objects in scientific activities and learn to compare the similarities and difference in groups of organisms. Health and safety issues are stressed.</p>	<p>Basic computer skills include: locating and learning the purpose of the space bar, enter key, arrow keys, backspace key, and letter keys on the computer keyboard; using a mouse to point and click, click and drag, selecting desired icons, scrolling within a scroll box; using menus and learning basic computer parts. Students learn basic LAN skills such as user ID and password.</p>	<p><b>Art:</b> Small motor skills are developed as kindergartners experiment with various art mediums and materials. Students enjoy creating self-portraits and holiday and seasonal pictures and crafts. Native American art is explored and art appreciation is encouraged through the study of famous paintings and artists.</p> <p><b>Music:</b> Music appreciation is taught through songs, rhythm instruments, movement, and dance.</p>	<p>Library skills include listening to stories, sharing and choosing books, reading/looking quietly, following directions, sitting in place, checking out books on teacher's card, fiction, arrangement of easy fiction books, parts of a book, care of books, spine label and its parts (E fiction), keeping a classroom library and returning books from room, author and illustrator, what and where are libraries, and sections of the library.</p>	<p>Students are introduced to four main areas of physical education: movement education, ball skills, rhythmic skills, games and activities. Emphasis is placed on flexibility, muscle strength/ endurance, body and spatial awareness, balance, locomotor skills, and eye-hand/eye-foot coordination. Improvements are assessed through different activities such as target toss, hula hoops, striking skill stations, and basic tumbling skills.</p>
1	<p>Through reading activities, students develop phonemic awareness, develop sight vocabularies, use context clues, make inferences and predictions, recognize story element, sequence, restate main ideas, recognize cause and effect, and draw conclusions. Writing skills focus on correct formation and spacing of letters and words, punctuation, capitalization and journal writing. Listening focuses on comprehending stories and poems and listening for information to perform a task.</p>	<p>New Spanish skills introduced are gender of nouns with definite and indefinite articles, numbers 1-20 by 10s, 5s, and 2s, phone numbers, addresses, prices, classroom items, our community, directions, home, foods, description of self or friend, professions and occupations, descriptive and possessive adjectives, Spanish speaking countries in the Americas (geography, foods, cultural facts), and holiday celebrations in Latin America and Spain. First graders concentrate on listening and oral expression.</p>	<p>Students focus on rules and responsibilities in school, attributes and responsibilities of good citizens and the role of citizens in helping people in our community. Students learn patriotic songs and national symbols. A study of our American heritage includes Native American culture, lifestyle, and history and Thanksgiving. They learn that the United States is a country of many cultures.</p>	<p>Math skills include counting numbers to 100, ordinal numbers, mental math and counting strategies, place values, addition and subtraction concepts and facts to 18, fractions, coin values, time, measurement, estimation, problem solving, and real world applications.</p>	<p>A study of plants and animals encourages students to observe and describe characteristics of living things. A study of Earth and Space teaches that Earth is made of land, air and water, and students observe and describe the sun, moon, phases, and stars. When studying physical properties of matter, they identify solids, liquids, or gases, describe materials by color, size, shape, odor, flexibility and composition and measure by nonstandard units of measurement.</p>	<p>Computer class focuses on basic LAN and computer skills (key locations, mouse, menu, hardware terms), word processing skills (saving in a specific folder and printing), critical thinking and problem solving skills, and learning to work with a partner to complete a task.</p>	<p><b>Art</b> focuses on some of the basic elements of art: line, color, shape, pattern, value and texture. Different types of art and artists are introduced. Students learn the use and care of art materials and create art from imagined and real experience while using a variety of media.</p> <p><b>Music</b> focuses on production of good tone with the singing voice and concepts including high, middle and low pitches, tempo, beat, and rhythms. Students learn seasonal and fun songs, songs for the first grade play, and songs with movements and simple dances.</p>	<p>Library skills reinforce Kindergarten skills and review the spine label and its parts (E Nonfiction). Skills include an introduction to media for illustrations, matching illustrations to the story, recognizing perspective of the story, and parts of a story. Students are introduced to the Junior Section of the library, encyclopedias, dictionaries, holiday books, and Accelerated Reader Program.</p>	<p>First grade physical education builds upon the skills learned in Pre-K and K movement education with an emphasis on more advanced locomotor and manipulative skills. Improvements are assessed through rope jumping, ball handling activities, variations in balancing techniques, and spatial/body awareness.</p>
2	<p><b>Reading:</b> Second graders continue to develop phonemic awareness, increase sight vocabularies, use context clues, and reinforce and expand comprehension skills.</p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Focus is on refinement of manuscript skills and introduction to cursive writing, writing paragraphs, book reports, stories, and letters. Spelling focuses on consonant and vowel rules, homophones, singular and plural nouns, and irregular and sight words.</p>	<p>Second graders concentrate on listening and oral expression. Spanish skills reinforced are greetings and introductory remarks, alphabet and vowels, general commands, gender of nouns with definite and indefinite articles, numbers and counting, phone numbers, addresses, prices, days of the week, months of the year, items in the classroom, parts of the body, clothing, our community, directions, home, foods, family, description of self or friend, professions and occupations, descriptive adjectives, possessive adjectives, weather, seasons, Spanish speaking countries in the Americas (geography, foods, cultural facts), and holiday celebrations in Latin America and Spain. Second graders concentrate on listening and oral expression.</p>	<p>Geography skills include map and globe skills, continents, oceans, and landforms. Civics focuses on government, rules and laws, and citizenship. Cultural activities study Native American Indians and contributions of significant individuals. History concentrates on American symbols, heroes and historical events. Sociology introduces communities, community leaders, natural resources and conservation. Economics focuses on goods and services, needs and wants, products made from natural resources, and occupations.</p>	<p>Math skills include problem solving, adding and subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers with and without regrouping, understanding multiplication as repeated addition, division as repeated subtraction, multiplying one digit numbers, simple fractions, mental math and counting strategies, fractions, measurement, time, elapsed time, estimation, money, and interpreting graphs.</p>	<p>Life Science focuses on living things, food chain and webs, habitats, kinds of animals, spiders, conservation and recycling. Earth Science deals with attributes of types of rocks, soil, and fossils; cause of day and night, cause of seasons, sun, moon phases, and planets. Physical Science includes light and heat energy, and magnetism.</p>	<p>Computer class continues to build basic computer skills (key locations, mouse, menu, hardware terms) and word processing skills (basic formatting techniques, saving in and retrieving from a specific folder), critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students learn to work with a partner to complete a task.</p>	<p><b>Art</b> expands the understanding and implementation of the elements of art and the use of various media. Second graders learn to express opinions about art. They view art from a variety of artists and create art in a variety of styles using various media.</p> <p><b>Music</b> focuses on singing with good tone and concepts including pitch, melodic movement, tempo, sounds of the major scale, dynamics, and simple rhythms. Students learn seasonal and fun song, songs for the second grade play, and songs with movements and simple dances.</p>	<p>Library skills reinforce previously learned skills and review the spine label and its parts (J Fiction). Skills include arrangement of J Fiction, sections of the library, magazine articles, using the automated card catalog for researching the database, three types of searches, biography and poetry.</p>	<p>Students continue mastering the previously learned skills in first grade. Focus is on the specific aspects of each skill. Not only are skills evaluated individually but more group activities such as four square, ball handling stations, Newcombe, and Rallyball are introduced with an emphasis on teamwork and cooperation. Students participate in a pre and post physical fitness test called Fitnessgram.</p>
3	<p>Phonemic awareness is reinforced. Vocabulary emphasizes the use of grade appropriate words with multiple meanings. Reading comprehension requires students to interpret literary and informational texts and incorporate new words into oral and written language. Students read a variety of texts for information and pleasure applying more advanced comprehension strategies.</p>	<p>Third graders concentrate on written expression and reading in Spanish. Spanish skills introduced are greetings and introductory remarks, alphabet and vowels, general commands, gender of nouns with definite and indefinite articles, numbers and counting, colors, phone numbers, addresses, prices, days of the week, months of the year, items in the classroom, parts of the body, clothing, our community, directions, home, foods, family, description of self or friend, professions and occupations, descriptive adjectives, possessive adjectives, weather, seasons, Spanish speaking countries in the Americas (geography, foods, cultural facts), and holiday celebrations in Latin America and Spain.</p>	<p>Geography focuses on map skills, continents, oceans, hemispheres, rivers, deserts, mountain ranges, and landforms. Economics includes goods and services, resources, trade, and transportation of goods. Civics deals with local, state, and national government, leaders, and national symbols. Culture includes Native Americans, pioneers, urban, suburban, and rural communities, and cultural celebrations around the world. History studies historical events including Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, Lewis and Clark, Birthday of Martin Luther King, and Presidents' day.</p>	<p>Math skills include whole numbers through hundred thousands, adding and subtracting numbers through thousands, multiplication facts, multiplying 4-digit numbers by 1 digit number, dividing up to 3 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers, adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators, measuring with customary and metric units, simple algebraic and geometry concepts, data analysis and probability, and problem solving.</p>	<p>Life Science focuses on living things, food chain and webs, habitats, kinds of animals, spiders, conservation and recycling. Earth Science deals with attributes of types of rocks, types of soil, fossils; cause of day and night, cause of seasons, sun, moon phases, and planets. Physical Science includes light and heat energy and magnetism.</p>	<p>Computer class focuses on advanced basic computer skills (use key locations by touch, higher-level mouse and menu skills, hardware terms-peripherals), advanced word processing skills (formatting techniques-fonts, graphics, tabs, spacing, alignments, and proofreading), critical thinking, and problem solving skills.</p>	<p><b>Art</b> students study elements of art, art appreciation, art history, studio techniques, drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, ceramics, and sculpture. Perspective and depth, movement and motion are added to students' work. Third graders learn to judge various styles: realistic, abstract, and expressive.</p> <p><b>Music</b> focuses on melodic movement by step, skip and repeated note, reading rhythms with notes and rests, following words and notes written on the staff, identifying the sound of the major, minor, and chromatic scale, and developing a vocabulary of musical terms.</p>	<p>Previously learned skills are reinforced. Students learn the arrangement of J Nonfiction, spine label and its parts. They discover how to find a book on the shelf using the automated card catalog, find a number in the card catalog, and call numbers for books, folk literature, and short story collections. They learn about the Dewey Decimal System, atlases, mythology, almanacs, and genres.</p>	<p>Third grade physical education reinforces the skills learned in second grade. There is increased emphasis on physical fitness and conditioning. A concentration on team building activities increases the student's understanding of team concepts such as cooperation and sportsmanship. Some of these team activities are sideline soccer, long jump roping, and floor hockey. Students participate in a pre and post physical fitness test called Fitnessgram.</p>
4	<p>Fourth Grade reading continues to stress phonological awareness and guided instruction through guided reading. Students are encouraged to apply multiple reading strategies for increased comprehension and fluency. Reading skills are integrated with other subject areas.</p>	<p>Fourth Graders concentrate on written expression and reading in Spanish. Spanish skills reinforced are greetings and introductory remarks, alphabet and vowels, general commands, gender of nouns with definite and indefinite articles, numbers and counting, colors, phone numbers, addresses, prices, days of the week, months of the year, items in the classroom, parts of the body, clothing, our community, directions, home, foods, family, description of self or friend, professions and occupations, descriptive adjectives, possessive adjectives, weather, seasons, Spanish speaking countries in the Americas (geography, foods, cultural facts), and holiday celebrations in Latin America and Spain.</p>	<p>Focus is on our country's regions including the southwest, southeast, northeast, middle west, mountain states and the west. Students study the environment and develop geography skills (globes, maps, map scales, circle and line graphs, latitude and longitude, etc.).</p>	<p>Fourth graders focus on more advanced skills of place value and money, estimation, negative numbers, addition and subtraction, data, statistics, and graphing, time and elapsed time, line plots, range, median, mode, and mean, multiplication and division, customary and metric measurement, geometry, fractions and probability, decimals, problem solving, and algebraic concepts.</p>	<p>Students practice scientific methods and investigate whether things sink or float, identify living and nonliving things, list basic parts of plant and animal cells and use microscopes to observe cells, describe protists, bacteria, fungi, and viruses, classify organisms into kingdoms of life, describe reasons organisms become endangered or extinct.</p> <p><b>Discover: Skills for Life</b> discusses positive and negative attitudes, identifies why drugs are harmful, and develops skills for making good decisions and building relationships.</p>	<p>Computer class focuses on advanced computer skills (use key locations by touch, higher-level mouse and menu skills, hardware terms-peripherals), advanced word processing skills (cutting and pasting, spell check, proofreading), critical thinking, and problem solving skills. Students use the Internet for research and make slide presentations with PowerPoint.</p>	<p><b>Art</b> incorporates symmetry, spatial concepts and properties of color, landscapes, fantasy and abstract images. Students identify and produce works of art using the human experience to express emotions, mood, and messages. Focus remains on art history and art appreciation.</p> <p><b>Music</b> focuses on following the vocal score, recognition of basic musical form, and identifying the sound of the major, minor, and chromatic scale. Students listen and identify music of different styles.</p>	<p>Previously learned library skills are reinforced. Students learn about reference books, reports, note taking, bibliographies, the Internet as a source, types and number of sources and how to use a magazine index.</p>	<p>Fourth grade physical education expands the understanding and implementation of all previously learned skills. The rules and strategies in various team sports are introduced. Sports include basketball, whiffleball, and ultimate frisbee. An increased emphasis is placed on fundamental skill development of team sports in preparation for Cub sports and middle school athletics. Sportsmanship is stressed. Students participate in a pre and post physical fitness test called Fitnessgram.</p>
5	<p><b>Reading:</b> This course includes a study of different types of literature. Elements of a short story are discussed in relation to the stories. Students work with vocabulary and writing exercises from the stories.</p> <p><b>Grammar:</b> Students work with the eight basic parts of speech and diagramming is introduced. Concentration is on writing complete sentences and paragraphs, and students are introduced to writing a research paper.</p>	<p><b>French</b> The eighteen week exploratory French course introduces France and the vast Francophone world. Basic topics include greetings, simple courtesies, the calendar, numbers, and telling time.</p>	<p>A survey of American history and geography begins with the establishment of the first permanent English settlement and continues with a discussion of the people and events that shaped our country's history up to modern times. A theme of toleration and respect for other cultures and ideas is developed in each lesson. Map skills are emphasized.</p>	<p>Emphasis is placed upon basic skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers, operations with fractions and decimals, working with number sentences containing variables, percentages, basic geometry concepts, problem solving in all areas, estimation, and probability.</p>	<p>Fundamental steps of the scientific method are introduced. Students study energy and simple machines, muscular and skeletal systems of the human body coordinated with the nervous system, ecology, light, color, and sound.</p>	<p>Students are introduced to Microsoft Word and preparing a basic document, Microsoft Publisher where they learn basic desktop publishing. Microsoft Excel where they learn to prepare a basic spreadsheet and chart, and Microsoft Powerpoint and creating a presentation. Along with learning the basics of Microsoft Office they are also introduced to making a podcast using the Audacity software and various databases, such as Galileo and World Book, to research a topic.</p>	<p><b>Drama</b> classes focus on the development of concentration, imagination, and on proper behavior in the theater, whether on the stage or in the audience. Fifth graders study basic theater terminology, stage directions and positions, basic body movement, and the use of the voice. Projects include an individual pantomime and age-group observation scenes. During the last four weeks of the quarter, the students are involved in the production of a one-act play.</p> <p><b>General Music I</b> The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop music and basic performance skills and an awareness of the elements, concepts, language, and applications of music through vocal and instrumental performances.</p>	<p>Students are introduced to the elements of art and principles of design including two dimensional and three dimensional art. In two dimensional art, students explore line drawing, value and color and begin to identify perspective, space, and depth with one and two point perspective. In three dimensional art, they explore ceramics, learn the properties of glazing and experiment with texture, shape and form.</p>	<p>Students are introduced to rules, strategies, fundamental skills and concepts of individual and team sports such as flag football, soccer, ultimate frisbee, speedball, basketball, volleyball, whiffleball, bocce ball, track and field, table tennis, badminton, tennis, and martial. A pre and post physical fitness test (Fitnessgram) is administered.</p>

# Brookstone School

LOYALTY . COURAGE . WISDOM



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## Middle School

### The Humanities

#### Language Arts

**Literature**  
Students examine the major genres in literature through analysis of various literary elements. Students respond to literature through oral and written expression. Vocabulary is emphasized.

**Grammar**  
Students work toward mastery of standard English lessons through writing, editing, and grammar "mini" lessons. Examination of the parts of speech and diagramming are continued.

Writing includes the keeping of journals, paragraph writing, summarizing, generating essays, and a research paper. Literature includes reading and analyzing short stories, poems, and novels. Spelling is studied in weekly units on a daily basis. Grammar includes the study of sentence structure, punctuation, phrases, verb forms and tenses, and clauses.

**Speech**  
In this nine-week class, students explore the dynamics of communication and are introduced to public speaking. Classes prepare and deliver persuasive and informative speeches. Effective speaking skills are established to prepare students for eighth grade speech.

**French**  
French 8 continues instruction in the French language and culture. The past tense is introduced along with more irregular verbs. Expanded vocabulary will include travel by plane, train and car, daily routine, health, sports, and cultural activities. At the end of eighth grade students are prepared to enter French 2 or French 2 honors in High School.

**Spanish**  
Spanish 8 is a continuation of Spanish 7 and covers topics such as leisure and vacation activities, home, health, community, movies and TV, restaurants, and the environment. Students continue to work on conversation, writing, and listening skills and explore cultural topics related to chapter themes. Students who successfully complete this course may take Spanish II, Honors Spanish II, or begin a new foreign language in the upper school.

**Latin**  
Latin 8 completes the first year program. Grammar includes the completion of all declensions and tenses, noun/adjective agreement, and pronouns. Cultural study covers the founding of Rome and the growth of the Empire including the contributions of the Romans to world civilization.

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#### Foreign Language

**Latin**  
Sixth grade Latin is a semester long exploratory course serving as a foundation for future foreign language study. This course introduces students to the basic structure of the language including vocabulary and simple sentence construction. The activity-based program also covers ancient Roman history, mythology, and culture as students encounter the adventures of a family in ancient Rome.

**French**  
French covers one-half of a first year program and introduces students to the French language and culture. Students learn basic communication skills using primarily the present tense, the simple future tense, and some necessary verbs. Vocabulary relates to the daily basis. Grammar includes the study of sentence structure, punctuation, phrases, verb forms and tenses, and clauses.

**Spanish**  
Spanish covers one-half of a first year program. Grammar includes subject/verb agreement, the concept of number and gender, the use of cases and simple sentence structure, and an introduction to the use of tense. Cultural study develops through translation and covers the Roman family, slavery, the founding of Rome, and mythology.

**Latin**  
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**Speech**  
In this nine-week class, students explore the dynamics of communication and are introduced to public speaking. Classes prepare and deliver persuasive and informative speeches. Effective speaking skills are established to prepare students for eighth grade speech.

**Mission Statement:**  
Brookstone School, a college preparatory school founded in the Judeo-Christian tradition and committed to academic excellence, endeavors to develop in its students a foundation for lifelong learning, integrity, personal responsibility, mutual respect, and service to others.

### The Sciences

#### Mathematics

Readiness assessments determine the level of math to be studied in sixth grade.

Sixth grade mathematics focuses on building a strong foundation of sound mathematical principles. Areas of concentration include concepts of fractions and mixed numbers, basic geometry, positive and negative integers, applying decimals, and basic algebra.

Pre-Algebra is an introductory algebra class. It includes solving integral equations, using exponents, rational number theory, ratio and proportions, geometry, inequalities, probability and statistics and polynomials. A reinforcement of basic number operations is included throughout the year.

Readiness assessments determine the level of math to be studied in seventh grade.

**Seventh grade math** covers a wide range of topics as it continues to build on the fifth and sixth grade courses. Solving equations involving integers, fractions, statistics, geometry, proportions, percents, using the Pythagorean theorem, graphing functions and probability are topics covered. Polynomials are also introduced.

**OR**

**Pre-Algebra** is an introductory algebra class. It includes solving integral equations, using exponents, rational number theory, ratio and proportions, geometry, inequalities, probability and statistics and polynomials. A reinforcement of basic number operations is included throughout the year.

**OR**

**Algebra I** is the study of the generalized, symbolic arithmetic operations in the real number system. Topics include real number properties, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, monomials and polynomials, factoring, rational algebraic expressions, graphing, systems of equations, and radicals.

Readiness assessments determine the level of math to be studied in eighth grade. The eighth grade Pre-Algebra course is an introductory algebra class. It includes solving integral equations, using exponents, rational number theory, ratio and proportions, geometry, inequalities, probability and statistics and polynomials. A reinforcement of basic number operations is included throughout the year.

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**Algebra I** is the study of the generalized, symbolic arithmetic operations in the real number system. Topics include real number properties, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, monomials and polynomials, factoring, rational algebraic expressions, graphing, systems of equations, and radicals.

**OR**

**Honors Geometry** includes a thorough treatment of analytic and Euclidean geometry. Algebra I topics relating to the Cartesian plane are reviewed and extended. The structure of two-column deductive proof is emphasized and the following topics are included: parallel lines, triangle congruence and application to quadrilaterals, similarity of polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem and its application to an introduction to Trigonometry, circles and related theorems, areas of plane figures, and surface areas and volumes of solids. Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and departmental approval

Readiness assessments determine the level of math to be studied in eighth grade. The eighth grade Pre-Algebra course is an introductory algebra class. It includes solving integral equations, using exponents, rational number theory, ratio and proportions, geometry, inequalities, probability and statistics and polynomials. A reinforcement of basic number operations is included throughout the year.

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#### Science

Sixth grade science focuses on the Earth and its place in space. Areas of concentration include the study of the solar system, stars, Earth's crust, plate tectonics, volcanic and earthquake activity, the atmosphere, oceans and the environment.

Life Science is the study of living things. This course covers a survey of the animal and plant kingdoms as well as the life processes common to all living things. The students will study life forms from the simplest cell to the most complex, plants and animals. Included is a concentrated study of the human body systems. Students complete a science fair project as a culmination of their study of the scientific method.

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#### Computer

The sixth grade continues with Microsoft Word, concentrating on the features of the toolbar and inserting graphics into word documents. Microsoft Publisher is used to make informational brochures about countries in which they are covering in Social Studies. In Microsoft Excel they begin using formulas as well as continuing the basics of designing a spreadsheet as well as graphs. In Microsoft PowerPoint they are introduced to designing a presentation that will enhance a topic in which they will be presenting to the class.

Students learn to use Microsoft Word toolbars to manipulate documents and use headers and footers and page numbering necessary for research papers. Students create graphs in Excel to reflect data, add sound and animation in PowerPoint, and develop larger projects in Publisher such as magazines and newsletters.

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#### Performing Arts

**Drama** students add to their knowledge of theatrical terms and conventions with focus on characterization, gestures, and stage business, vocal control, and story telling techniques. Activities include simple improvisational games and exercises. Students prepare and present a complex oral interpretation and the class produces a one-act play.

**Piano Class** is designed for beginning piano students and focuses on the basics of piano and music theory. Performance practices and stage deportment are emphasized.

**General Music II**  
This course enables students to develop music and basic performance skills and awareness of the elements, concepts, language, and applications of music through instrumental and vocal performances.

**Drama** focuses on advanced scene work such as monologues and duet scenes, advanced theater terminology, and a review of staging techniques, and tech areas such as lighting, sound, costume, props, and sets. Students produce a one-act play.

**Chorus** focuses on choral singing and tonal memory, performance procedures and stage deportment. Basic music theory includes note reading, rhythm, and musical symbols.

**Piano Class** focuses on the basics of piano and music theory. Performance practices and stage deportment are emphasized.

**Intermediate Band** develops basic music skills on wind or percussion instruments through the refinement and performance of appropriate level music.

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### The Arts

#### Visual Arts

Students continue the study of the elements and principles of art and design with more in-depth study of color theory, color and value, and intensity. Work is created in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and crafts. Students identify and use linear perspective to create depth and explore the use of expressive content in art creating works depicting specific moods.

Students create artwork in painting and drawing, sculpture, ceramics, and printmaking and crafts. They identify and define elements of color theory: hue, value, and intensity, and create artwork based on memory or imagination. Drawing skills are used to depict form and shading and the use of aerial and linear perspective. They explore landscape drawing and painting and are introduced to the human figure.

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### Physical Education

#### Physical Education

Students are introduced to rules, strategies, fundamental skills and concepts of individual and team sports such as flag football, soccer, ultimate frisbee, speedball, basketball, volleyball, whiffleball, bocce ball, track and field, table tennis, badminton, tennis, and softball. A pre and post physical fitness test (Fitnessgram) is administered.

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## Upper School

### Language Arts (4 units required)

The primary goal of English 9/H is teaching composition. Grammar and vocabulary are stressed. Literature is approached through a study of each major genre, including the short story, novel, drama, and poetry. Honors English focuses on a more in-depth study of literature and writing.

English 10/H focuses on American literature, composition, and vocabulary. Beginning with Puritanism and the Enlightenment, major literary movements are examined both as representative of their times and as contributive to shaping current American literature. Tests in Honors English 10 are composition-based, and students also prepare discussion questions similar to timed questions found on the AP exam.

English 11/H is designed to build on a student's skills in writing essays of depth and breadth in organized form with clarity and forcefulness. Literary context focuses on the literature of England. Honors students place greater emphasis on composition skills, and students probe deeply into themes, symbols, and philosophies of the works studied.

**Communications (11)**  
Students give different types of speeches (demonstration, information, argument/persuasion), use audio/visual aids effectively, and improve their public speaking skills. Students begin preparation on the Senior Speech which is an independent study project involving extensive research, the preparation of an in-depth outline and bibliography, and a presentation before an assembly of the Upper School.

**Senior Literature and Composition**  
Literature focuses on an historical approach to the world's most significant literary works in the "western tradition," from Greek Classical works through European Modernism. Composition deals with basic modes of writing, conventional and electronic methods of research and documentation, as well as the finer adjustment of mechanics and style.

**AP Literature & Composition (12) Elective**  
This is a college-level seminar course designed for students who demonstrate a proficiency in reading and writing skills expected in college. Students are expected to probe deeply into movements, themes, and philosophies of world literature; to pursue independent studies involving research and interpretation; and to master written and oral communicative skills.

**Philosophy (11, 12) Elective** Introduction to philosophy is a survey course that introduces the main ideas of Western thought from the Presocratics to the twentieth century. Topics include ontology, epistemology, ethics, aesthetics, and metaphysics, with individual students focusing on issues in religion, freedom, justice, art, and political philosophy.

### Foreign Language (3 units required)

**French I (9)** Students are introduced to the sound system, basic vocabulary, and fundamental structure of French. Emphasis is on listening and speaking skills through intensive practice in auditory comprehension and oral expression. Students study the geography, major cities and regions of France and are introduced to other Francophone countries.

**Latin I (9)** This course introduces Latin grammar in a narrative context and provides exposure to classical history and culture.

**Spanish I & 2 (9, 10)** This sequence is designed to help students attain a degree of proficiency in the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with emphasis on communication and real life situations.

**French II/H (9, 10)** This course continues to develop proficiency in the four language skills. Students study the French cultural and literary heritage. Students enrolled in Honors are required to do additional work in reading, writing, and class presentations.</