



METROLINA

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

At Metrolina Christian Academy, we are committed to our mission to “**lovingly lead and equip students for Kingdom living.**” In keeping with that mission, we seek to lead our students to personally own their faith and to not only possess but live out a biblical worldview. It is our belief that we should seek to develop a detailed portrait of what a graduate of Metrolina Christian Academy should look like.

The administration and staff of Metrolina Christian Academy have prayed, sought God, and planned meticulously in the development of this portrait. We have used Luke 2:52 as a guidepost for developing this plan. This verse of scripture describes the maturation of Jesus as a young man in four areas. The Bible says in this verse that Jesus grew in **wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with man.** We seek to follow this model in developing our students.

From this approach, we prayerfully commit to leading our graduates to be true Warriors for Christ who will possess:

Worldview that is Christ-centered and biblically based

Academic foundation that prepares them for God’s open door at the next stage of life

Redemption that is biblically based and personal

Responsibility that is guided by Scripture and encompasses the individual, culture, and evangelism

Integrity that influences all of life’s decisions

Ownership of the Faith that is personal and transformational

Readiness to engage culture, proclaim the Gospel, and live life to the Glory of God

STANDARDS-DRIVEN CURRICULUM

Metrolina Christian Academy utilizes a standards-driven curriculum model that is meticulously crafted and designed to prioritize the alignment with specific educational standards rather than being reliant solely on textbooks or resources. Of paramount importance is the selection and integration of standards that assist in our students’ holistic development, which results in a comprehensive and dynamic educational experience. This approach allows us to draw from diverse resources, methodologies, and materials in order to ensure our curriculum is adaptive, engaging, and aligned with the most effective educational practices.

BIBLE COURSE PHILOSOPHY

The Bible curriculum at MCA aligns with and supports our mission, vision, and purpose to lovingly lead and equip students for Kingdom living. This is accomplished as MCA graduates are equipped with a biblical worldview based upon established spiritual disciplines, sound academic thinking, and appropriate skill development. Articulation of a biblical worldview solidifies the truth; therefore, an immersion of speech and communication arts will be woven into the curriculum. The biblical worldview at MCA will be based on the principles and resources of:

- An intellectual defense for the truth.
- Biblically-minded administrators, faculty, and staff.
- Applications and implications of truth.
- Biblical saturation in every discipline, classroom, extra-curricular, and school activity.
- The need for ethics and apologetics to address contemporary cultural issues.
- Chapel programs with experts in the field of evangelism, apologetics, biblical worldview, and discipleship.
- Spiritual retreats in grades 8, 9, and 12 which remove the students from daily responsibilities and distractions to provide intentional and intensive Bible study and corporate worship.
- Expository and persuasive speeches presented in Bible classes are developmentally appropriate and measured according to a clearly defined rubric.
- Service opportunities through the MCA Project Serve Program and mission trips where students apply the principles of truth through practical service and evangelism.

LOWER SCHOOL BIBLE

In Lower School, students will complete a survey of the Bible using God's Word as our sole guide with both Twelve Stones curriculum (K-3rd) and BJU Press (4th-5th) as a supplement. Integrated daily lessons constructed in a spiral sequence, thought-provoking questions, and guided assignments will embed an overview of biblical content on student's hearts and minds. In addition, students will be involved in the *Friendzy* program in which they will learn the tools they need to navigate the world and friendships with confidence through the lens of God's word.

Some of the Biblical Truths Covered:

- God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit
- God created His image-bearers to love and serve one another
- God is truth and always tells us what is right and true
- Jesus died to bring His image-bearers into a new family and nation of harmony called God's church
- God created people in His image
- God holds His creation together by His power
- God created people to need Him for everything
- Jesus died to restore fellowship/harmony between people and God
- Jesus died to restore harmony between God's image-bearers and the earth

LOWER SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

A strong foundation in reading, writing, and communication is built through a comprehensive and balanced literacy program that includes phonics, reading, writing, handwriting, spelling, and grammar. Students practice and apply these skills through hands-on experiences guided by a combination of whole-class, small-group, and one-on-one instruction within a reading and writing workshop format. Literacy skills are intentionally integrated across content areas, providing students with meaningful opportunities to read, write, research, and communicate as they engage with topics in science, social studies, Bible, and other areas of learning. All students in kindergarten through fifth grade will focus on writing narrative, persuasive, and informational essays with progressive sophistication. The following is a list of resources we integrate into our standards-driven literacy curriculum.

Kindergarten

- *Simplify Writing Units of Study and Handwriting*
- *Flyleaf – Reading and Phonics*
- *Heggerty – Phonemic Awareness*

Second Grade

- *Simplify Writing Units of Study*
- *Flyleaf – Reading and Phonics*
- *Heggerty – Phonemic Awareness*
- *BJU Press Precursive Handwriting*
- *StoryWorks*

Fourth Grade

- *Writing Units of Study*
- *Interactive Grammar & Integrative Notebooks*
- *Novel Studies*
- *Story Works*
- *IXL*

First Grade

- *Simplify Writing Units of Study and Handwriting*
- *Flyleaf – Reading and Phonics*
- *Heggerty – Phonemic Awareness*

Third Grade

- *Writing Units of Study*
- *BJU Press Cursive Handwriting*
- *Interactive & Integrated Grammar Notebooks*
- *Novel Studies*
- *Story Works*

Fifth Grade

- *Writing Units of Study*
- *Interactive & Integrated Grammar & Vocabulary Notebooks*
- *Novel Studies*
- *IXL*

LOWER SCHOOL SCIENCE

Students deepen their understanding and love for our Creator and His creation while engaging in active and meaningful learning experiences working within the areas of physical, earth, and life sciences at each grade level. Through hands-on activities and investigations, children develop increasing sophistication in their scientific thinking that builds from year to year. Students are taught to evaluate scientific learning through God's word. Classroom lessons are enriched through a variety of STEAM activities that extend beyond the classroom.

Kindergarten

Science Units:

- Materials and Motion
- Trees and Weather
- Animals Two by Two

First Grade

Science Units:

- Sound and Light
- Air and Weather
- Planets and Animals

Second Grade

Science Units:

- Solids and Liquids
- Animal Life Cycles
- Insects and Plants

Third Grade

Science Units:

- Motion and Matter
- Water and Climate
- Structures of Life

Fourth Grade

Science Units:

- Physical Science – Energy and Matter
- Earth and Space Science
- Natural Disasters and Resources

Fifth Grade

Science Units:

- Life Science – Cycles and Ecosystems
- Human Body – Balance and Wellness
- Earth Systems

LOWER SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies curriculum and instruction provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become educated and responsible citizens. The goal is to enable students to understand, participate in, and make informed decisions about their world locally, nationally, and globally with a biblical worldview. The social studies program is created by using quality literature-based units integrated with biblical concepts.

Kindergarten

- Changes Over Time
- Me on the Map
- Economic Concepts
- Citizenship
- All About Me

First Grade

- Historical Thinking
- US Holidays
- Map Skills
- Citizenship
- Economics

Second Grade

- Citizenship
- Maps and Symbols
- Economics and Government
- Environmental Awareness

Third Grade

- Local and State History
- Government and Economics
- 13 Colonies
- American Revolution
- Traditions: Culture, Character, Language, and Food

Fourth Grade

- North Carolina History
- NC's Role in Major Roles
- State Symbols and Landmarks
- Geography and Map Skills

Fifth Grade

- From the Roaring 20s to Present Time: People, Events, Values, and Ideas
- Geography and Map Skills
- Economics
- Government Structure

LOWER SCHOOL MATH

The math curriculum provides a purposeful progression of skills and concepts from kindergarten through fifth grade, building a strong foundation of mathematical understanding. Students engage with a variety of materials, tools, and strategies to develop conceptual understanding and apply their learning across key domains, including operations and algebraic thinking, number and operations in base ten, fractions, measurement and data, and geometry. Through interactive, hands-on learning experiences, students strengthen essential math skills while developing critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving abilities. Math is taught through a biblical worldview, helping students recognize the order, consistency, and precision evident in God's creation while encouraging them to use their knowledge and abilities with wisdom, perseverance, and excellence.

Kindergarten

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Hands-on math centers/tubs*

First Grade

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Rocket Math*

Second Grade

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Rocket Math*

Third Grade

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons and tubs*
- *Rocket Math*

Fourth Grade

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive lessons*
- *IXL &/or Rocket Math*

Fifth Grade

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive lessons*
- *IXL &/or Rocket Math*

LOWER SCHOOL ENRICHMENTS

MCA is fortunate to provide a wide range of enriched learning opportunities for lower school students. Where many schools are forced to cut subjects like art, music, and physical education, we know that by having these classes in our school curricula, our students build skills they learn in these courses to improve their work in math, science, and literacy. In addition, these enrichment classes provide students with further physical and creative outlets throughout their school week.

- **Art**
- **Music**
- **Physical Education**
- **STEM**
- **Communication Arts with Spanish integration**

NOTES
