

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
A ministry of Oak Park Church

GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Heartwood Christian Academy (HCA), established in 1997, is a ministry of Oak Park Church of Mobile, Alabama. HCA is dedicated to providing a full service, Christian home school program at an affordable cost to families of Mobile County and surrounding Alabama and Mississippi counties.

Heartwood Christian Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, or handicap. The administrators reserve the right to refuse or rescind membership into Heartwood Christian Academy if the attitudes or actions of the individual family would endanger the peace and purity of the school or the rights of home school families enrolled with Heartwood Christian Academy.

MOTTO

Empowering Home-Educating Families to Raise Godly Leaders

Heartwood Christian Academy is committed to helping parents/guardians, as teachers, in building a strong biblical, spiritual, moral, ethical, and academic foundation in their children. HCA seeks to encourage parent-teachers in their goal to develop discerning citizens and leaders. We believe that the choice to home school is

- A highly individualized decision.
- Between God and His people.

Colors: Maroon and Silver

Mascot: The Lion of Judah

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” Proverbs 1:7

Heartwood Christian Academy believes

- The Lord Jesus Christ is to be preeminent in all of life, including education. This principle should underlie every aspect of our academic study, each activity, and all of our school life.
- Parents, under God, have ultimate authority and control over their child and his/her education.
- A wonderful, practical, and legal option is through a K-12 home school program.

Heartwood Christian Academy:

- Promotes an accurate perception of home education as a viable and successful educational option.
- Supports, encourages, and serves parent/guardians in their choice and God-given right to assume responsibility for the academic, social, and spiritual growth of their children to the Glory of God.
- Supports families in this endeavor through dissemination of information, interaction, and supplemental educational projects.
- Encourages the study of integrating a Biblical world and life view through home school and group activities.
- Realizes that children mature at different levels and should be encouraged to work at their own pace as they progress toward annual goals set by their parents.

Heartwood Christian Academy
A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 36695

- Endeavors to support the home schooling family's efforts in discovering and developing the unique talents and gifting of each child through a specialized and individualized educational experience.
- Encourages the partnership between Heartwood Christian Academy leaders and families in meeting the varying needs of parents and students, including parents of children with disabilities or illnesses.

Children are precious gifts from God with inherent abilities and dreams that need to be nurtured and motivated within their home school. Each child deserves a tailored education because a "one size fits all" curriculum serves only a limited number of students. Homeschooling has significant benefits and advantages for the learners. It is important to choose teaching tools that are best suited to the individual child coupled with the teaching styles of the instructor. Through our programs, HCA seeks to integrate challenging and rewarding activities for parents and students.

Accreditation

Accreditation usually refers to an evaluation done by an accrediting body to check standards set by a local school system. Accreditation does not, in itself, guarantee excellence in education. As a home school church school, we do not fall under these guidelines. However, we do encourage our homeschooling families to aim for high academic standards.

CORE VALUES are founded on our Statement of Faith

We believe:

1. ... The Holy Bible is the inspired Word of God and our standard for faith and practice. (II Tim 3: 16-17; II Peter 1:20-21)
2. ... The Bible is the key to true education and provides foundational principles for all true knowledge. [The Heartwood Christian 's purpose is that our students "may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." (Col. 2: 2-3)]
3. ... In the one triune God revealed in the Bible: God the Father; God the Son, Jesus Christ; and God, the Holy Spirit. (Gen. 1:1; Matt 28:19; Luke 1:30-33, John 17:5; Col. 1:15-23, Phil 2:5-11)
4. ... Man's salvation is through renouncing self-determination, taking responsibility for his disobedience, turning from his sin, seeking forgiveness from God, and receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord. (Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9)
5. ... In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (John 15:26; Acts 2:38-39)
6. ...the very nature and purpose of God is revealed in Jesus who came and established the Church as is Body. (I Co. 12: 22-27; Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:19-22; Col. 1: 18, 24)
7. ...Jesus Christ will return to earth in a visible way. His purpose will be to manifest His government over all things both in heaven and in earth. (I Cor. 15: 1-58; I Thess. 4:15-18)
8. ...in a final judgment at the end of the age. The righteous and the wicked shall stand before Him and be judged. (Matt 25: 31-46; II Thess. 1:8, 9)



Heartwood Christian Academy

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 36695

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Hope: Hope is the anchor of the soul. Heartwood Christian Academy families instill this in their children as they learn to honor God, their families, their community, and themselves.

"This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil..." Hebrews 6:19-20 (NKJV)

Excellence: Families with Heartwood Christian Academy strive for excellence in both academics and character. Their foundation is the Word of God.

Academic: Parents are empowered through school support, co-op classes, and clubs to raise godly leaders.

Responsible: Parents take responsibility to ensure that each child learns and succeeds to fulfill his or her god-given talents and abilities. This encompasses respect and integrity. Through strong Christian families, Heartwood Christian Academy students learn to honor God, their families, their community, and themselves.

Teamwork: Christ is the leader of the team that includes the family, church, community, and school.

Worthwhile: Families and students take active involvement in worthwhile projects to support their church and community.

Options: Parents have many options to school their children through parental choice of curriculum, co-ops, and clubs.

Opportunities: We try to educate our children in a way that opens many doors upon graduation - university, community college, military, technical school, etc.

Developmental: HCA parents recognize that each child develops and grows at different rates. They choose the best way to encourage this development in each child. The leadership of HCA is available for support in making these decisions.

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY PROVIDES SUCH ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES AS...

A Means of Accountability

Age-appropriate Group Activities

Benchmark-Placement Test

Co-op Classes

Curriculum Decision-Making Assistance

Diplomas

Graduation Ceremonies

Home School Legal Defense Association

Group Discount

Maintenance of Permanent Record Files

New-to-Homeschool Workshop

On-Going Evaluation in Math and Reading

Parent-Teacher Support and

Encouragement

Record Requesting

Standardized Achievement Testing

Training Sessions and Workshops

Transcripts

Yearbook

Note: Some of the activities are fee based and subject to change from year to year.



The BOTTOMLINE of HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Multi-faceted Church School with Accountability for Home-Educating Families

The school exists to provide assistance and support to Christian families who desire to educate their child (ren) through home instruction. We encourage families of similar beliefs and philosophy to join us.

Please see the Statement of Faith on page 3.

- Interested families must attend a *pre-orientation meeting* with school leaders to determine if schooling together would be in the best interest of all involved.
- Potential students are administered an *entrance test* via traditional methods and computer programs to determine their level of instruction for the parent.

Heartwood Christian Academy

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 36695

- New families to Heartwood Christian Academy are encouraged to attend the New-To-Homeschool Workshop at the beginning of the school year.
- Families must submit student *academic records for verification* four times a school year.
- Heartwood Christian Academy does not turn away children with *special learning needs*, but does require an objective assessment of the children. It is our desire to work closely with the families to meet the needs of all children.
- Heartwood Christian Academy provides opportunities for students to serve the Lord by serving others. These include academic and extra-curricular activities as group activities co-op classes, graduation ceremonies, and more. Some of these activities require an additional fee.

In summary, Heartwood Christian Academy is a “full service” church school for home-educated students. Heartwood Christian Academy offers a *means of accountability*. As a network, we offer *encouragement* and *training* for both the home teacher and the student. With academic expectations geared to the abilities of the individual child and strong traditional family values, our families endeavor to raise godly citizens and leaders who will impact society in a positive manner.

We welcome families of similar beliefs and ideas!

TO ENROLL: Please schedule a Meet - n - Greet session with Heartwood Christian Academy leaders.

Prospective students are administered an entrance assessment. These results and previous school-work will assist parents in determining the achievement level of the student.

Screening utilizes one or more of the following test instruments: Brigance Inventory of Basic Skills™, PASS, Lets Go Learn™ DORA, ADAM, and DOMA Math/Reading, Saxon Placement Test.

UPON APPLICATION APPROVAL: Please follow these steps to complete your enrollment with us.



1. Pay tuition/fees. *Please meet with the bookkeeper to discuss payment options.* The application fee is non-refundable and includes one benchmark-placement assessment in math and reading. It is helpful to have previous testing, grades, achievement test scores prior to, or at time of, placement testing. This assessment is to help the family choose appropriate curriculum for the student.

2. Complete HCA registration forms. The forms must be in your family file maintained at Heartwood Christian Academy. In addition, a copy of these forms should be kept at home. *See below.*

Application forms:

___ Heartwood Christian Academy Application

___ Church School Enrollment

Note: Alabama State law requires the Church School Enrollment Form for each child age 7 to 17 years of age. Heartwood Christian Academy submits these forms to the local public school board, as this form signifies that your child is compliant with the State Compulsory Attendance law.

___ Birth Certificate (copy)

___ Child's Social security number or certified alternative

___ Custody Court Order, if applicable

___ Parent-Teacher Application

___ Copy of the parent-educator/guardian's driver's license or state-issued picture ID.

Financial Forms:

- Statement of Tuition, signed
- Guidelines for Tuition Payment, signed

Permission Forms:

- Activities Permission Form
- Consent for Treatment for Minors
- Curriculum List
- Internet Policy/Web Page permission

Other: Family Home School Legal Defense Association membership card

FOLLOWING ENROLLMENT: *Before you start your homeschooling journey, check out this extremely helpful website:* <http://www.oklahomahomeschool.com/sitemap.html>

1. Join Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA).
2. Attend the Heartwood Orientation meeting held in August.
3. Maintain *records of attendance*, reporting days present and days absent. At the scheduled "Record Check-in", this form is required for documentation. *Suggested number of schools days – 175.*
4. Maintain a *journal of instruction* (lesson plan book) for review at scheduled "Record Check-in". This is your guide for meeting your academic goals.
5. Instruct child (ren) with an *organized course of study* in the *basic courses of academic study*. Use curriculum chosen by the family including, but not limited to:



- Arithmetic (Mathematics)*
- Bible*
- English Language Arts: Grammar, Handwriting, Literature/Reading, Spelling*
- Fine Arts: Dance, Music, Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, etc.*
- Foreign Language*
- Geography*
- Health*
- Physical Education*
- Social Studies: Alabama History, European, United States, World, etc.*
- Science: General, Physical, Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, Physics*

Be sure to

6. Be faithful to the Lord and to your children!
7. Enjoy home-education, but remember the great responsibility inherent to this liberty!
8. Exercise patience and thankfulness and give God the glory!



RE-ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS

KEY DATES:

April: Re-enrollment opens with discount

May 31: Discount Deadline for re-enrollment. This involves updating the family information, paying fees, and submitting the Tuition Agreement form. *Please meet with the bookkeeper to discuss payment options.*

August 30: Withdrawal list sent to Mobile County Public Schools System.

AT RISK ENROLLMENT: Sometimes there are extenuating circumstances* that classify a family with "AT RISK ENROLLMENT". In these cases, full payment is due at the time of enrollment.

*Some examples would be

1. Delinquent in past payments.
2. Education process in question.
3. Re-enrollment to Heartwood Christian Academy from other programs.
4. Enrollment in Spring.

ATTENDANCE: See Alabama State Law for more detail.

All students must have a current attendance record maintained by the responsible parent and submitted to Heartwood Christian Academy at scheduled times throughout the school year.



Under the "Church School Law" (Ala. Code §16-28-3), students between the ages of 6 and 17 are exempt from the state's compulsory school attendance law if they are enrolled in schools operated by a church or an association of churches. This is the preferred way of homeschooling in Alabama. Carefully read the state law to familiarize yourself with the details.

As the attendance records are legal documents, parents should retain a copy for their files at home. Heartwood Christian Academy maintains duplicate records in the student permanent file.

Some of our families school four days all year round; others maintain the public school schedule; each is within the State Law to set flexible teaching schedules. Heartwood Christian Academy strongly *recommends a minimum of 175 days*. Some of the purchased courses of study have a prescribed number of days. Regardless of the number of days, the family must ensure that the student is progressing in the learning and appropriate curriculum.

By the end of each May, enrolled families must submit to the HCA office the required records for the current school year.

HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (HSLDA): HSLDA can provide current information



on the Alabama State law. This organization provides legal protection for you and your family. They have attorneys that will assist you with legal problems with home schooling. In addition, their website at hslda.org has many valuable homeschooling resources.

HSLDA may be reached at 1-540-338-5600 or application forms are available in the Heartwood Christian Academy office. HCA requires membership in HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (HSLDA). Each family must have a current HSDLA membership card in the family file.

Heartwood Christian Academy HSLDA group discount number is 299757

DISMISSAL/HINDRANCES OF ENROLLMENT: We trust that any negative or delinquent situation would be resolved without putting the student's enrollment in jeopardy. However, the following situations could *delay or curtail enrollment*.

1. Incomplete Heartwood Christian Academy Family File (See FORMS.)
2. Delinquent fees.
3. Lack records for the scheduled records check-in.
4. Lack of HSLDA membership

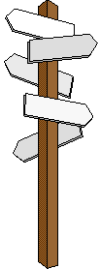
If HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY is unable to contact the family due to no forwarding address or telephone number change, the family will be dismissed. HCA notifies the appropriate public school system of the student's withdrawal.

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695

STUDENT TRANSFERS FROM HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: Should your family decide to transfer from Heartwood Christian Academy, please contact the school's office by e-mail, mail, or phone to inform us of your plans. When transferring, please be prepared to provide your child's academic records for review and closing.



OTHER GUIDELINES

ORIENTATION: August each year brings the beginning of the new school year! Our orientation is filled with information with a thorough overview of the school year and activities presented. We ask that all families attend this meeting to receive the information firsthand.

COMMUNICATION: Email, Facebook, private website messages, text messages... We use every method we can to inform our families of current events. Some of the clubs and co-op classes have their own means of communication.

The total overall current activities updates are maintained at the HCA private ShutterFly™ website.

HELP WITH HOME SCHOOL PREPARATION: The best source for home school preparation is through Christian Home Education Fellowship of Alabama (CHEF) www.chefofalabama.org.

A number of our veteran families are available to assist with schooling needs. The school staff is always available to answer questions or to direct in the right path!

WORKSHOPS: Heartwood Christian Academy offers fellowship-workshop meetings throughout the year. These gatherings are informative, fun-filled, and time-for-fellowship meetings. This is the time to bring questions and show-n-tell, interact with fellow home educators; and spend an enjoyable evening out.

These workshops are three-fold in purpose:

1. *Informational* - Updates and clarification for on-going and new Heartwood Christian Academy activities.
 - This is the place to receive the most up-to-date, accurate information.
 - This is your time to give input into HCA planning.
2. *Learning/Training Sessions* – Guest speakers with fresh new ideas. Varieties of subjects are presented throughout the year to enrich and replenish your resources.
3. *Fellowship* – Time to share with, and glean from, fellow-homeschooling parents. Fellowship time seems to be the most requested focus for our meetings.



Q: "Is this meeting really necessary for me to come to?"

A: ALL our meetings have a purpose!

We have found that the families are more successful in home schooling when they stay in close touch with other families of like interests. Occasionally, a family will isolate itself and begin to have difficulties and eventually give up the homeschooling process. Our families enjoy group fellowship and are willing to encourage each other over the humps and hurdles.

Sometimes you might glean only one little nugget, but that little treasure could be just what you needed. On the other hand, you might be the one to offer something that will boost another family over a hump or hurdle.



CURRICULUM CHOICE: Each family is responsible to select and order its own curriculum. However, Heartwood Christian Academy staff is available to offer guidance in choosing curriculum that will meet the needs of the family. It is recommended that you check with friends who are home schooling to hear first-hand experiences concerning a specific curriculum.

To determine which course of study is best for your child, study philosophies of several different programs. In addition, go to the websites and study other curricular activities. Several of our families will avail themselves to offer guidance.

This link provides valuable rich resources for homeschooling:
<http://www.oklahomahomeschool.com/pdf%20documents/CurrPlanner1.pdf>

We suggest that you review the Alabama Department of Education (<http://www.alsde.edu/html/home.asp>) for additional ideas. More information is under Curriculum Suggestions in the Appendix.

BIBLE: In addition to the basic courses of study, Heartwood Christian Academy requires courses in Bible. The basis of Heartwood Christian Academy is the belief that the BIBLE is the *infallible Word of God* and that the knowledge of the Bible will provide the spiritual, moral, and ethical basis for all learning. Each enrolled family is required to sign the "Statement of Faith."



PHYSICAL EDUCATION: PE documentation is required for Grades 1- 9. Heartwood Christian Academy provides support by offering P.E. activities such as bowling, etc. However, this alone is not considered an adequate P.E. program. The K5 - 9th grade student should have a structured PE program daily. There are many programs available with the city parks community activities, YMCA, or other support groups.

ELECTIVES: Just a few examples would include art, music, sign language, and yearbook. Some of these classes are offered through our co-ops and clubs.

Our students produce a quality yearbook. Students who are part of the organization gain journalistic training, skills in photography, sales techniques, and organization.

Progress Reports



The purpose of *Progress Reports* is to:

1. Objectively evaluate your child's educational progress.
2. Maintain on-going records of your child's educational progress.

GRADING: The enrolled parent-teacher is responsible for assessing the student in the core subjects and physical education. Parents may choose to add enrichment classes to the basic educational program. Parent-Teachers should conduct frequent and ongoing evaluation. Please give careful consideration to all aspects of the student's work. Success or failure on one test or one assigned task (e.g., a book report or notebook) should not be a sufficient basis for passing or failing the course.

In other words, grades should reflect overall academic performance.

IDEAS FOR STUDENT GRADING and ASSESSMENT: Heartwood Christian Academy provides a generic report card for each student. *The following are examples of student assessments, which are used to measure attainment of specific course objectives:*

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Artwork | 7. Group projects |
| 2. Checklists and criteria which measure performance or mastery | 8. Homework |
| 3. Daily grades | 9. Journals |
| 4. Demonstrations | 10. Lab participation |
| 5. Displays | 11. Logs |
| 6. Essays | 12. Musical presentations |
| | 13. Oral Presentations |

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695

- | | |
|---|--|
| 14. Performance tests, such as vocation-related tasks | 18. Research or special projects |
| 15. Portfolios | 19. Teacher-made and commercially prepared tests/quizzes |
| 16. Quizzes | 20. Textbook exams |
| 17. Reports | 21. Written work |

ACADEMIC RECORDS REVIEW AND CHECK-INS: Family academic records are reviewed quarterly. Records submitted after the scheduled dates will result in a late fee.

These items are required for the Records Check-ins:



- Attendance form for each student
- Grades recorded on a Heartwood Christian Academy Report Card
 - Grades K – 4th recorded in *alphabet* or *numerical* grades
 - Grades 5 and up recorded in *numerical* grades
- Parent lesson plan book or journal
- Diagnostic On-Line Math Assessment (ADAM or DOMA) - Grades 1 up
Math sample for a child unable to complete the on-line Math Assessment.
- Diagnostic On-Line Reading Assessment (DORA) - Grades 1 up
Reading sample for a child unable to complete the computerized DORA.
- Creative writing student sample – all grade levels

NOTE:

1. HCA updates Student Permanent Records at the end of each school year in May.
2. If Heartwood Christian Academy is unable to contact a family due to no forwarding address or telephone change, Mobile County Public School System is notified of student withdrawal.

OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENTS:

1. LET'S GO LEARN Programs - Diagnostic On-Line Reading Assessment (DORA) and Diagnostic On-Line Mathematics Assessment (ADAM or DOMA)



Each semester, computerized assessments - DORA, ADAM or DOMA - are required for all children ages 7 and up. Younger children may use the program, also.

The purpose of these assessments is to

- identify your child's reading and math skills (**assessment**)
- discover any "holes" in your child's reading and math learning (**assessment**)
- Help you plan what your child needs to cover each year (**scheduling, lesson planning, scope and sequence**),
- keep track of what your child's progress each year (**recordkeeping**)

2. STANDARDIZED ACHIEVEMENT TESTS: Often parents are concerned about how their children are performing academically, and a standardized test can help provide some insight. Heartwood Christian Academy offers group testing in April.

Required for high school graduation: ACT or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) with a specified minimum score. These tests are offered locally at high schools and colleges.

For additional home testing, parents might choose to use:

For Grades 3 to 8: Personalized Achievement Summary System (PASS)
Hewitt Research Foundation, Inc.
Phone: 800-348-1750 / 360-835-8708
Email: sales@hewitthomeschooling.com

For Grades 7 to 12: California Achievement Test (CAT) 1-847-259-4444
IOWA Basic skills Test

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church
3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695

NOTE: The P.A.S.S. and CAT may be administered at home by the parent for grades other than 3, 5, and 8.



3. The *optional ASVAB CAREER EXPLORATION TEST* is for grades 10-12. Many of our students take the ASVAB to guide them or confirm their career choice. Check out <http://www.asvabprogram.com/>



4. **ACTscore for graduation:** Individual colleges and universities have minimum standards for entrance. Because of this requirement, we set ACT standards for our graduates. However, if a student fails to meet this standard, we work with the family for other options for the high school diploma.

WORK PERMIT FOR TEENS: *The State of Alabama no longer requires this form from schools*

DRIVER'S LICENSE and INSURANCE DISCOUNTS: The school office can complete the necessary forms for the driver's license test and confirm that a student is complying with the compulsory attendance law.



MEDICAL / INSURANCE: If a student brings MEDICATION to a school function, whether prescription or non-prescription, it should be brought to a school official. The medicine should be in its original bottle or package, labeled clearly with the child's name. Written instructions from the parent should accompany the medication so that it may be dispensed properly. No medication should be kept or taken by the student at school without adult supervision. Exception: glucose tablets for diabetics.

The family's insurance is the primary coverage.



GRADUATION from HIGH SCHOOL

See detailed information in Appendix.

12th grade graduation is a formal program recognizing high school achievement and completion of the high school goals and credits. This is a special time for families and friends to recognize the student's advancement to a new level of learning.

TRANSCRIPT / DIPLOMA: *See APPENDIX B for complete detail.*

As long as the student is enrolled, Heartwood Christian Academy provides three free transcripts for college admission. There is a small processing fee for additional transcripts.

- Course credits are accumulated to satisfy one of several diplomas, as outlined by and adapted from the *Alabama Department of Education*. Heartwood Christian Academy includes provision for families with special needs children who desire to award their child a high school diploma.
- Please refer to the APPENDIX guidelines for documenting one-half and full credits. Use the Heartwood Christian Academy transcript form to record these credits.

Guidelines for choosing the high school curriculum:

- Tailor your child's education to his/her goals and objectives in life.
- The transcript information is especially important if your child desires to enter college or the military, as either will request such a record. The official permanent record/transcript maintained in the office of Heartwood Christian Academy records, documents each credit or one-half credit of study, and records the grade received for that subject. These are based on an average of test scores administered through the chosen curriculum and on the parent assessment of the child's overall performance.

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church
3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695

Transferred High School Students: Records are requested from the previous school and reviewed for recommendations in advising the parent in course and curriculum choices

Please note: Our diploma is not state accredited. State Accreditation requires teacher certification and State sanctioned curriculum. Lack of accreditation has not hindered the acceptance of Heartwood Christian Academy records and transcripts for higher education.

SCHOOL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES



LIABILITY: Heartwood Christian Academy requires each family to sign a waiver form for participating in school-sponsored activities. The family insurance is responsible in the event of any accident or injuries at school events.

Heartwood Christian Academy, Oak Park Church, and its Administrators, Pastors, Advisory Board Members, Agents, and Employers will in no way assume responsibility financially or otherwise for legal action that may be taken against any family associated, enrolled, or otherwise admitted to Heartwood Christian Academy. It will be at the discretion of the Advisory Board to limit activities due to liability.

UNIFORMS: For Heartwood Christian Academy classroom participation and field trips, uniforms are required. Purchase the HCA T-shirts through the school office.

Uniform When Participating On Campus



Boys and Girls – Heartwood Christian Academy T-shirt with navy or khaki pants/belt or jeans

Shoes – appropriate to the activity.

School activities Clothing should be appropriate for the activity with HCA school t-shirt and jeans or khaki or navy colored pants or skirt/belt. **No shorts for the co-op classes.**

CO-OP CLASSES: HCA offers co-op classes for the home-educated student. Registration is twice a year – fall and spring. Students should dress appropriately for classroom learning. Please check with the Praise School office for more detailed information. *There is a separate fee for these classes.*

CURRICULUM RESALE: Heartwood Christian Academy hosts an annual curriculum resale each spring. Heartwood Christian Academy families may participate in this sale without fee.



FAMILY PICNICS: Several times a year we enjoy a family potluck picnic together.

“Get-To-Know-Each-Other” activity-filled picnic

“Celebrate Summer” activity-filled picnic

AGE-RELATED ACTIVITIES: Throughout the school year there are on-going activities for elementary, middle school, and high school students. Parents take an active role in organizing and sponsoring these activities.

FIELD TRIPS: For school-sponsored field trips, the following are guidelines to enhance the experience.

“10 Commandments for Heartwood Christian Academy Fieldtrips”

- There is one official coordinator for the Heartwood Christian Academy fieldtrips.
- Individual families should not call the fieldtrip site as a representative of the school. This causes much confusion. The coordinator is the only Heartwood Christian Academy spokesperson for HCA fieldtrips.

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695

- Deadlines are in place to insure minimums set by the host site.
- A full refund or credit to your account is available for cancellations prior to the deadline. Once the deadline has passed, there are No refunds or credits.
- On official fieldtrips, students are required to wear the school T-shirt. This is for the safety of our children.
- Small groups desiring to do something separate from Heartwood Christian Academy official fieldtrips are not representing the school and should not sign up as representatives of the school.
- Fieldtrips guidelines are for the benefit of all the Heartwood Christian Academy families. Every effort is made to be fair and equitable to all families.

SCHOOL PICTURES / ID BADGE: The official school photographer takes school pictures of the students during the first semester for the school ID cards and the yearbook. Student photos packages are available for individual purchase.



Due to the City of Mobile, Alabama Curfew for Minors law - ARTICLE IV (Ord. No. 9-17-91, § 3, 10-1-91) - we provide photo ID's for our students.

In addition, ID badges area available for HCA *parents*. We encourage parents to wear these during HCA-sponsored activities. ID's are available after the semester 1 school pictures have been taken.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

SUPPORT GROUPS: There are local and state organizations to offer additional support. One state organization is Christian Home Education Fellowship of Alabama (CHEF). More information can be found at www.CHEFofAlabama.org . CHEF hosts an annual conference, usually in the spring or summer. Curriculum is available, along with workshops and home school-oriented speakers.



WWW.BOOKADVENTURE.ORG: This is a FREE on-line reading motivation program for children in grades K-8. Children create their own book lists from over 6,000 recommended titles, take multiple-choice quizzes on the books they have read offline, and earn points and prizes for their literary successes.

Sylvan Learning Foundation of Sylvan Learning, Inc sponsors BookAdventure. Older students who need extra assistance in reading comprehension may benefit from this program.

HEARTWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

A ministry of Oak Park Church

3321 Sollie Road . Mobile . Alabama . 33695