

Wisdom's Way

CLASSICAL SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOLERS

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

School Day

All of the Knowledge level students (Early Knowledge, Prep year, and Later Knowledge) will meet together in the morning; everyone should plan to arrive at school at 9:00; morning Assembly begins at 9:15.

The Later Knowledge students (ages 10–12) will split off into a separate group for more formal academic studies at 11:00.

At 12:30, all break for lunch; the Early Knowledge students are finished for the day. Prep Year and Later Knowledge students return at 1:30 for afternoon classes.

Course of Study for All Knowledge Students

All Knowledge level students (around ages 5–12) will follow the *Grammar of Grace* curriculum. At our weekly school day, the New Lessons will be taught and drilled. At home, parents must:

1. Review the past 7 weeks' lessons daily.
2. Complete weekly Bible Reading assignments.
3. Complete the other classical coursework (mostly informal), as detailed in *Grammar of Grace*, at the right pace for each child.

The *Grammar of Grace* material is cyclical; the same material is taught to all Knowledge-age students; there are four cycles, each of which are covered twice over the eight years (ages 5–12).

In the Wisdom's Way classroom weekly, Knowledge students will also be taught:

- Art, Science, and Geography
- Greek & Hebrew Alphabets and Phonics
- Oral Interpretation
- Hymn or Psalm Singing

Class Format

Class size will be around 8 students; we will add and split (or drop and combine) classes, depending on our numbers, to try to keep each one around that size. One parent must be actively participating in class at all times (unless serving in another class at Wisdom's Way). It is important that parents model attentiveness in class for their children, and learn the classical lessons and methods taught at Wisdom's Way, which they will be teaching at home during the week.

Course of Study for Later Knowledge Students

Later Knowledge students (around ages 10–12) will have academic coursework in addition to the above, following the *Christian Grammar School at Home Later Knowledge Guides*. Each week, students will complete and bring to class these assignments:

1. Daily Bible Reading
2. English Grammar, Reading Aloud, & Dictation
3. Latin
4. Greek (to be done in class together)
5. Memory Lesson
6. Independent Reading & Summaries
7. Worldview & Early Understanding (to be done in class together)

The other subjects in the *Christian Grammar School at Home Later Knowledge Guide* are to be completed at home, but are directed solely by parents, not incorporated into classtime:

1. Journal & Letter Writing
2. Read Aloud by Father or Mother
3. Arithmetic (use curriculum and level of your choice)
4. Copywork
5. History Notebook

For Worldview & Early Understanding, students study *What Does the Bible Say about That?* (1st Year), and *Proverbs: The Companion Lesson Book* (2nd and 3rd Years), by Kevin Swanson, to begin learning analytical thinking and discussion. Students should bring their Bibles.

The Later Knowledge assignments are mostly progressive. Subjects like English Grammar, Latin, Greek, Dictation, and Oral Interpretation will progress for each student, through the First, Second, and Third Years of Later Knowledge. However, with the old American Classical education style as our model, we strive to limit age segregation as much as possible.

Level of Effort

Wisdom's Way is an intensive 30-week schoolyear. The Directors and Tutors work hard to provide a Christian Classical School curriculum for the homeschool setting, but parents and students must be prepared to work hard themselves, both at Wisdom's Way and at home. A Classical Christian education is going to be difficult for those of us coming from a modern education background; but if we are willing to apply ourselves, with God's help, together we can do this!

Flexibility with Ages

The difficulty with the classroom setting is that children develop at different rates, and just as one child's physical coordination might develop earlier or later, one's abstract reasoning ability might develop earlier or later, too. It is important to realize that there is physical development that is occurring in the brain according to God's perfect plan for each child. If God brings these physical changes to pass at a later age than "normal" for one child, this does not mean that this child is "behind", or that his abstract reasoning ability will be less than other people's, in the end. In fact, many of our most brilliant thinkers and inventors were considered "late-bloomers"! When placing their children, parents should ensure that while the material is challenging their child to grow and learn, it is not creating a mental strain.

That said, here is a general guideline for Later Knowledge:

Year 1 = Age 10

Year 2 = Age 11

Year 3 = Age 12

There is also a Relaxed Pace track for Later Knowledge students who do better at a slower pace.

After Later Knowledge, students are prepared to enter Understanding (or Logic) level, for ages 13–15; followed by Wisdom (or Rhetoric), for ages 16–18.

Classroom Manners & Discipline

Education: The bringing up, as of a child; instruction; *formation of manners*. (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)

Parents should teach their children good character and good habits at home. They should encourage their children to be alert, cheerful, and ready to work when they come to class each week. Outward actions such as sitting up straight and smiling have been demonstrated to help our brains work better, not to mention forming lifelong healthy habits. Tutors will remind children to use these good manners in the classroom, but parents must not forget that part of education is teaching *character*, and, therefore, take time to train the "inner man" at home, even if it means academics suffer for awhile. On WW School Days, parents are responsible to discipline their own children. The Bible instructs parents, and only parents, to train their children.

Electronic Devices

Please use cellphones and electronic devices only in case of emergency during school time. Texts, emails, phone calls, internet searches, and social media can all wait until break time or after class. Our School Day is very intensive, and we everyone, including parents, should stay focused.

Photographs

Pictures taken on School Days or at Wisdom's Way events may be used in promotional materials.

Babies and Preschoolers

Preschoolers must be supervised at all times. A nursery is available, for a small fee. Whether you use the nursery or not, please ensure that your sweet babes neither disrupt class, nor run off unsupervised.

Sick Policy

In case of illness, please stay home and get better! We will miss you, but we want to limit the spread of illness in our school community. As in all things, "as ye would that men should do to you, so do ye to them likewise." (Matt. 7:12)

Lunch and Playtime

Please pack a lunch and plan to stay and eat together, each week! Meaningful fellowship is one of the valuable benefits Wisdom's Way seeks to bring to our families.

Trivium Tuesdays

The first Tuesday of every month, we will have an informal mothers' (or parents') meeting, to help us all continue learning more about Christian Classical Education. We will read a chapter or two of a book about the topic, discussing as we read. Please plan to come to every meeting. Even if you are already a smashing success at classical education, the rest of us will benefit from your wisdom! "Iron sharpeneth iron, so doth man sharpen the face of his friend." (Pr. 27:17)

Statement of Faith and Statement of Belief Regarding Marriage, Family, and Human Sexuality

Members must agree that while they are at Wisdom's Way events, including on the Wisdom's Way website, email list, or Facebook page, they will not make statements or engage in conduct opposing the Statement of Faith or the Statement of Belief Regarding Marriage, Family, and Human Sexuality.

Removal From School

Any parent or student who does not abide by the Wisdom's Way Policies and Procedures may be removed from Wisdom's Way. In that event, no tuition or fees will be refunded.