

# FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**FOUNDATIONS** is an academic enrichment program following a specific time period each year. The goal of the **FOUNDATIONS** program is to expose students to the chronological study of history, church history, science, art, music, and drama. This method provides a "foundation" to encourage the understanding of history as "HIS story" built richly upon Biblical truth.

### 1. What does an academic enrichment program imply?

**FOUNDATIONS** is an academic enrichment program - NOT a core academic program. Parents are encouraged to follow the Academic Instruction Manual (the AIM) as well as adding grade-level appropriate language arts and mathematics programs to their curriculum plan for their student(s). Students in grades 4-6 should supplement with additional science curriculums to better prepare for middle school learning standards.

### 2. What is the role of the Foundations teacher?

Our Foundations teachers serve as an "educational partner" to parents by providing a weekly account of class activity, suggesting profile pages topics for further research and creating SLA's (Strong Life Activities) which partner with the weekly lesson in the AIM. No grades are given by the Foundations teachers.

### 3. What are the qualifications of a Foundations teacher?

#### - Spiritual

- Must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Must be in full agreement with the CCS statement of faith and in good standing with a church that holds to the school's statement of faith.
- Must maintain the highest standards of personal conduct.

#### - Education and Experience

- Must fundamentally understand and support a Christian and parent- directed approach to education
- Must have teaching experience in a self-contained classroom
- Must demonstrate a desire to work with children as well as impact their lives in a positive, energetic manner
- Must demonstrate a passion and knowledge of subject material

### 4. Will the Foundations teachers assign grades?

No. Your Foundations teachers do not assess or report grades as this is an academic enrichment program. Parents are responsible for grades.

### 5. What will the Academic Instruction Manual contain?

Your AIM will provide a lesson overview for each of the six subject areas covered in the Foundations program. Parents can then fully develop the academic lesson, choosing from a wide variety of activities and assignments to tailor learning to their child's strengths. The *Mentoring Moment* segment guides parents in helping their children grow in wisdom and grasp the spiritual application. *Journal Gems* encourage students to practice the skill of *journaling* by further considering the related weekly prompts. The *Character Corner* assists parents in applying the practical application of the lesson with the goal to help students of all ages see there really is good reason for academic pursuits and understanding spiritual truths! *Strong Life Activities* (SLA's) offer further learning through a variety of strength-based activities. See more about Strengths-based learning on page 37.

### 6. Do the students use the Academic Instruction Manual as independent work?

No. The **Academic Instruction Manual** is used to "guide" parents through lessons, suggested learning activities, SLA's and projects that should be completed at home. Parents are responsible for teaching their children at home.

## **7. What role does the eLearning campus play with the program? Is computer access necessary?**

Circle's eLearning Campus plays a significant role in the upcoming school year for communication and connection between the Foundations staff, parents and students. Computer access is necessary for parents to retrieve the necessary documents such as the AIM, Profile Pages, and report forms. Teachers will be able to blend classroom learning with at-home learning by using their class pages to enhance the weekly lessons on the eLearning site. Digital field trips, links to resources, images and documents, as well as personal teaching videos will add to the rich learning experience of Foundations through the technology of the eLearning Campus.

## **8. What is the class size limit?**

22 students in Grades K-1  
18 students in Grades 2-6

## **9. What is the typical FOUNDATIONS schedule?**

Our day begins at 9:00am with the entire student body gathered for a morning assembly. Students then rotate through the six classes with a 30-minute lunch and fellowship time. Our day ends at 3:15pm.

## **10. What other factors should I consider about FOUNDATIONS?**

- FOUNDATIONS is an academic enrichment program. Supplemental curriculum is required for phonics/language arts and mathematics and is suggested for science for students grades 4-6.
- Parents will be required to fall under the authority of Circle Christian School and the FOUNDATIONS program by:
  - Attending required workshops and orientations.
  - Supplementing the curriculum where noted.
  - Meeting deadlines for suggested lessons and projects.
  - Partnering with the program/teaching staff by serving on campus 2-4 times per year

## **11. What are the days and locations for FOUNDATIONS?**

- Thursdays at the CCS Winter Springs Campus at Metro Church
- Fridays at the CCS Winter Park Campus at Calvary Assembly

## **12. What school supplies are needed for students in Foundations? What supplies are provided?**

Students will receive their Foundations color-coded school bag at the Foundation Meet n' Greet in August along with their color-coded pick-up tag and car window sign. They will also receive their Strengths Journal. No other book bags or backpacks are permitted; only lunchboxes. Students should supply their own pencils and pens. Additional supplies may be requested by the teacher. Basic school supplies are provided in each classroom. Students need to bring a packed lunch every week to Foundations. Lunchboxes and outerwear should be clearly labeled with the student's name.

**For additional information:** contact Carla Calvert, Director of Program Development, at [carlac@circlechristianschool.org](mailto:carlac@circlechristianschool.org)