Unique Age. Unique Needs. Unique Program.



# **Benefits of Our Middle School Program**

Vernon Christian School offers a separate middle school (MS) program alongside the high school program at the Secondary Campus. Our approach with middle school is to meet the specific & unique learning and developmental needs of grade seven to nine students.

## We promote:

- Awareness of the MS developmental stage
- Curriculum and programming geared toward the age group presented through a Christian perspective
- Specific MS timetable and a core group of teachers that provides a flexible learning environment
- Exploratory Classes a rotation through Foods & Nutrition, Computers, Art & Tech Ed provides our MS students with a broad learning experience
- Community & team-building activities & trips
- Specific supports for MS students that include a fantastic Student Learning Support team, personal counseling, and an energetic group of core teachers who love the MS age group

Our school is built upon knowing, caring for & praying for each student. Because of this, VCS students do not fall through the cracks. We are quick to be responsive, sensitive and supportive to students who are struggling with their place whether it be academically, socially or spiritually.

## How We 'Do' Middle School...

Our staff serve as Christian role models who provide guidance and function as advocates and academic mentors for their groups during advisory time. Our MS team strives to create an environment that fosters relationships within the group so that students feel accepted and valued by both teachers and peers.

The goals for our MS program are to establish a sense of community, build individual character, encourage growth of unique gifts & talents while teaching students personal accountability.

### Life in the Middle...

Your child's growth and development during the middle school years will set the stage for high school and beyond. At VCS we offer a smaller, more intimate social and classroom setting which allows greater opportunity for students to be participants rather than spectators and less opportunity to hide or become just another number. This is true not only in the classroom but also in extra-curricular programs where each student is encouraged to discover and refine their gifts and talents.

## Chapel

Weekly Chapel is a time for our students and staff to gather as a Christian community to worship, praise, reflect and learn. We welcome the participation of our students' families.

## **Academic Intervention Support**

Academic Intervention (AI) is intended to support our MS students in assignment completion and ensure assignments are submitted for grading. Al support is offered after the school day for MS students and others as needed.

#### Middle School Fall Retreat

The fall retreat assists with breaking the ice and kicking off the new school year for our 7°, 8° and 9° grade students. Held early in the school year, the students and faculty spend two days away from school at a selected camp facility where games, activities, and messages encourage spiritual growth, bonding and teamwork. This is an exciting opportunity for students to:

- Form new or strengthen existing relationships
- Strengthen team-building and cooperation
- Set goals for the upcoming school year
- Acknowledge God's provision, protection, purpose, and guidance
- Become familiar with our VCS family

#### Extra-Curricular Activities...

## **Junior Leadership Team**

The Junior Leadership Team involves dedicated MS students who are enthusiastic in their support of the school and student body. The Junior Leadership Team assists in planning student activities, school spirit events and socials. Junior Leadership also serves as a voice for the 7th, 8th & 9th grade students.

#### **Athletics**

We offer extracurricular athletic pursuits to our MS students through a variety of sports and teams. It is impressed upon our athletes that through their actions and words they bring glory to God's name whether on or off the court or field. Our student athletes grow in athleticism with great coaching - promoting teamwork, healthy living and sportsmanship.

## Community & Globally Minded

Christ-centered and community-minded, VCS prepares students for lifelong leadership and service. Throughout the year we coordinate a broad selection of local community service placements. Even in the primary years, our students start serving in preparation toward our Grade 9 cross-cultural trip to Mexico. Through these outreach experiences we desire to impact our local and global community in response to the call to love both God and neighbour.

### **Please Contact**

For further information about our Middle School program please contact either Matt Driediger, SC Principal mdriediger@vcs.ca or Mel Armanini marmanini@vcs.ca. For enrolment questions please contact Tracy Brooks-Augstin at info@vcs.ca.