



Thank you for your interest in Bellingham Christian School. This packet is designed to answer some of the questions you may have. It is our prayer that God will guide you as you seek His will for the education of your children.

Applications for the upcoming school year are accepted anytime and will be processed beginning in February. Space in some grades is limited so it is advisable to turn the applications in as soon as possible. Once applications are received, parents will be contacted to set up a time for an interview.

Education affects a child's thinking patterns and understanding throughout all of life. It is essential, therefore, that children be taught about the world from a viewpoint that honors the Creator and that they learn to reason Biblically in all areas of the curriculum and life. At Bellingham Christian School, we seek to do this in an environment that affirms the individuality of students and calls them to Christlikeness. We share with Christians everywhere the desire to honor our Lord and Savior in all that we do and say, in order that our students will have the opportunity to personally experience the fullness of Christ's love and grace.

As you prayerfully consider your child's education and the information we have provided here, please feel free to contact our enrollment coordinator with any questions you have.  
[Schmidt@bellinghamchristianschool.org](mailto:Schmidt@bellinghamchristianschool.org)



# PURPOSE AND HISTORY

BELLINGHAM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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*Our purpose is to provide high quality academic instruction from a Biblical perspective to the local, evangelical Christian community so each student may be prepared to take his place in the home, church, state and profession in a manner that glorifies God.*

To achieve this purpose, a group of parents founded Bellingham Christian School in 1958. Under the Lord's blessing and grace, the school has developed unique strengths which enable it to meet its purpose. Some of our strengths:

- Subjects taught from a Biblical view
- Outstanding certificated staff who love the Lord, teaching, and children
- Active parental involvement in the classrooms and school
- Chapel program for students in grades one through eight
- Dedicated, professional faculty
- Discipline based upon Scriptural guidelines
- Phonics intensive reading program
- Limited class sizes\*
- Kindergarten is everyday all day
- Opportunity for older students to participate in after-school athletics
- Large classrooms and a full-size gymnasium
- Emphasis on high quality academics

Since the school's founding, God has blessed it with the support of parents from a broad spectrum of evangelical backgrounds; many churches are represented by children who attend the school. Under the guidance of a parent-elected Board of Directors, the school provides education for students beginning in Preschool and extending through eighth grade.

In 1963, the school moved to its current ten-acre campus on Sunset Drive. Through the generous donation of money and labor, parents constructed a five classroom building. Over the years, the main building has been expanded to include ten classrooms, a library, and office space. In addition, a spacious gymnasium has been built and the playground has been expanded to include a large playfield. Additionally, we have developed a four-acre section of our campus for use as a nature study area, and have long-range plans to add another wing to the building.

\*Our goal is to keep class sizes at 25 in grades 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8th. Kindergarten is 20 with one teacher and one aid. First grade is limited to 23. However, for various reasons, the principal and board may decide to lift this enrollment lid by 2 students for individual classes.



# STATEMENT OF BELIEF

BELLINGHAM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*The basis of the Bellingham Christian School Association is the Word of God. In the light of this Word we stand committed in our educational program to the following truths and regulations and require the same from all parents enrolling their children in the school:*

The Bible is the Word of God, divinely inspired as originally given, and is the supreme authority in life and its preparation.

God is triune - one eternal God existing in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Man is created in His image. Creation and providence reveal the nature of God.

Christ is God manifested in the flesh, born of a virgin; He lived a sinless life, suffered and died on our behalf; and He arose bodily from the grave, ascended, and is coming again in power and glory.

Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely fundamental to Christian life and should be basic for all preparation in life. By God's grace only and through faith alone are we and our children saved from sin and its evil consequences.

Parents are responsible for the education of their children. To bring them up in the Lord, they, through the agency of a board, employ teachers who give evidence of a born-again life and who manifest ability to educate children morally and intellectually in the light of God's Word.

The students (those taught), being images of God, must be subject to His sovereign rule in their lives. Creation and providence (that which is taught), being God-revealing, must be taught as such. Such teaching makes for God-consciousness without which no Christian teaching is possible.

Doctrines that divide the denominations represented in the student body are not to be discussed in school. A student raising a question concerning such a doctrine is to be referred to the parents or pastor of the student.



# TEN QUESTIONS

BELLINGHAM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1. **Can I be involved in the school and in my child's classroom?**

Yes and yes! Participation hours are required of each family. Since Bellingham Christian School is a parent-owned school, we have a tremendous appreciation for parents and we welcome their involvement in our school. Parents can ask the teacher how they can be involved in individual classrooms and check the weekly bulletin for school wide opportunities.

2. **How do your students perform academically?** Standardized tests given to our 1st through 8th grade students and the success of our graduates when they enter high school, indicate that our students are well prepared academically.

3. **What is a phonics intensive reading program and why is it important?**

When students study phonics, they are studying the rules for the different sounds that individual letters and groups of letters make in words. Only when they understand the principles of phonics will they be able to associate written language with spoken language and be effective readers. An effective reader will be more likely to nurture a love for reading than an ineffective reader.

4. **What are the school hours?**

Preschool

Kindergarten/Elementary

Middle School

Preschool/Pre-K a.m. 9:00-11:50	K-5 <sup>th</sup> 9:00-3:15	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> 8:45-3:15
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5. **Are there buses for students to ride to school?**

Parents must arrange for rides for their children to and from school. Most parents are able to arrange for carpools.

6. **Does the school serve hot lunches?**

Students must bring lunches and snacks from home most days. However, once a week pizza can be purchased. Milk is available each day for students to buy.

7. **Is there financial aid available to help pay for tuition?**

Many scholarships and financial assistance opportunities are available to new and returning families. Please check the enrollment page of our website for details.

8. **How is the school governed?**

Parents and former parents may be members of the Bellingham Christian School Association. The Association elects members to a Board of Directors who oversee the operation of the school.

9. **Is the school associated with any church or denomination?**

No. There are many evangelical churches represented in our school family.

10. **What can I do to find out more information?**

We welcome visitors! To arrange a visit of the school, observe a classroom or to meet with the staff, please call the school or visit our website. (360) 733-7303, [www.bellinghamchristianschool.org](http://www.bellinghamchristianschool.org)



# DRESS CODE

*BELLINGHAM CHRISTIAN SCHOOL*

Our goal at Bellingham Christian School is to reflect to our community godly attitudes and standards in every area, including our apparel. Parents should shop for school clothing with these questions in mind:

- Is it neat and tidy in appearance?
- Is it appropriate for the activities that take place during a normal school day?
- Is it modest?

Enforcement of the dress code is primarily the responsibility of parents of each child. Students in violation of dress code will be reminded of the code and asked to dress accordingly. Students who continue to violate the dress code or who blatantly violate the code will only be admitted to class when appropriate clothing is brought to the school.

## BOYS

May wear slacks, cords, jeans, overalls that are buckled on both sides or walking shorts (Shorts with a zipper and snap or button) that are six inches or less from the knees, but no more than six inches. May not wear clothing that is dirty, has holes, is frayed, and is tight. However, sweat and fleece outfits that are decorated are allowed for students in grades four and under. Additionally, sleeveless shirts, hats or hoods in class, and objectionable logos are not allowed. Boys may not wear jewelry in any piercings, including ears.

## GIRLS

May wear skirts, dresses, (six inches or less from the knees), jeans, slacks, overalls that are buckled on both sides, jumpsuits, leggings, and walking shorts (Shorts with a zipper and snap or button) that are six inches or less from the knees. Girls must wear shorts under dresses when playing on the playground. Girls may not wear mini skirts or dresses that are more than six inches from the knees, tight shorts or pants, clothing that is torn, has holes in it or is frayed on the edges, sleeveless tops that are revealing (non-revealing sleeveless tops that are tightly fitted around the arm are appropriate), objectionable logos, hats or hood in class, or sweats. However, sweat and fleece outfits that are decorated are allowed for students in grades four and under. Girls may not wear jewelry in any piercings, except ears.

From time to time there will be special dress up days or field trips where the above dress code will not be fully applicable.