



**LITTLE ROCK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**BACK TO  
SCHOOL  
NIGHT**



Middle school years are characterized by growth and change. While outward changes are easy to see, inward changes may or may not be as evident. Teaching, understanding, and nurturing the whole child is a critical part of helping students navigate middle school.

#### What to Expect

**Emotional** - Inconsistent behavior patterns are common. A roller coaster of emotions can be true of boys and girls.

**Social** - Social interaction with peers becomes very important. Middle school students often begin to refer to peers as sources for standards.

**Spiritual** - Transformation from a childlike faith into a personal responsibility and commitment often begins during middle school years.

**Academic** - While grades are an important indication of where students are academically, grades alone may not tell the whole story in middle school.

## GOALS

The Middle School faculty desires to help students:

- Value hard work, stick with it, and grit.
- Gain independence as a thinker and a learner.
- Recognize failures and struggles as an opportunity for growth.
- Learn to use their voice.

## PARENT PARTNERSHIP

As students move toward independence, you can help your student by emphasizing:

- The process over the finished product.
- The skills practiced over the graded content.

# COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS



## **AFTERCARE**

**Contact: Andrea Ragsdale**

Aftercare is available until 6:00 p.m. Middle school students meet in MS 518 and are supervised for study time and recreation.

Students not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be taken to aftercare.

## **ABSENCES**

**Contact: Lori Kelley**

Students who miss one day of class should refer to FACTS for the day's lesson plans. All class materials and assignments will be available in Schoology.

## **BEFORE SCHOOL CARE**

**Contact: Lori Kelley**

Supervised care of students in the Middle School begins at 7:40 a.m. each morning. No student should be dropped off and left unsupervised.

Weather permitting, students will remain outside until 8:00 a.m. At 8:00 a.m., students will be allowed to go to their lockers and get ready for the day.

## **BEHAVIOR**

**Contact: Mike Risher, LeAnn Murry, or Tyler Eatherton**

Middle school students to some degree all experience social changes, pressure, and times of uncertainty. If we can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us if you become aware of academic, physical, or emotional changes in your child.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

**Contact: Lori Kelley**

Students with birthdays will be recognized during morning announcements and a "Happy Birthday" sign is placed on the outside of the locker.

Typically parents do not bring birthday treats; however, you may also bring a special treat just for your child. If you choose to bring birthday treats, we ask that you bring one for every student in the grade. Because we do have students with allergies, please contact the nurse's office if you are planning to send any kind of treat.

Please do not send birthday invitations to school unless you are planning to invite the entire class or all boys/all girls.

Each month we will have a designated free dress day for all students celebrating a birthday during that month. Details including the date and free dress guidelines will be sent via email.

## **CHAPEL**

**Contact: LeAnn Murry**

Chapel is held on Monday from 11:10-11:35 a.m. in Warrior Hall.

## **COMPASS**

**Contact: Compass Teacher**

Compass stands for Community, Others, Myself, Planning, Academics, Spiritual, Support. The MS vision for Compass is "For students to build community with teachers and each other through academic and spiritual support."

Middle school teachers take a very hands-on approach to helping students with organization, time management, and study skills. In addition, Compass groups work to build community by offering spiritual and emotional support.

## CHECK-OUTS

**Contact:** Lori Kelley

If you need to check your child out during the school day, please email Lori Kelley at [lori.kelley@littlerockchristian.com](mailto:lori.kelley@littlerockchristian.com) or call the Middle School office at 975-3448.

## DRESS CODE

**Contact:** Mike Risher

The dress code is available in its entirety on the LRCA website and in the Middle School Handbook.

**Required Uniform:** The required shirt is a gray middle school t-shirt. This shirt, purchased from the Warrior Store, can be worn on Friday or T-shirt Tuesday.

Hoodies, hooded jackets, and sweatshirts: Hoodies, hooded jackets, and sweatshirts may have no logo other than LRCA or Middle School house logos.

## EMAIL

**faculty members –** [firstname.lastname@littlerockchristian.com](mailto:firstname.lastname@littlerockchristian.com)

Email is a primary method we use to communicate with you. We will get back to you as soon as possible but within 24 hours. If you email during the day, be advised that teachers may not see the email until after the school day concludes.

## FACTS - LESSON PLANS AND GRADEBOOK

**Contact:** Classroom Teacher

Weekly graded assignments and homework will go home throughout the week. Please check FACTS regularly as the nature of some work makes it difficult to send home (RRJ, Writing NB, group work, and Math Journal, etc.). You will also find lesson plans and homework assignments for each teacher in FACTS.

Middle school students have access to a student FACTS account. Please encourage your child to check their grades and review the posted lesson plans.

## FACTS LOGIN QUESTIONS

**Contact:** Kelly South

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Contact:** Compass Teacher

For general information or questions about a grade level or a grade level activity, please contact your child's Compass teacher.

## GOOGLE ACCOUNTS

**Contact:** Shonda Phelps

Technology plays an integral role in the middle school classroom. Sometimes passwords are forgotten or a student has trouble logging into his/her Google account or Schoology. All passwords should be written in your child's planner.

Please make sure you have read the technology policy in the Middle School handbook.

## MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

**Contact:** Lori Kelley

Because teachers often cannot check their email during the day, please call the Middle School office or email Lori at [lori.kelley@littlerockchristian.com](mailto:lori.kelley@littlerockchristian.com) if you need to get a message to your child regarding carpool changes, early check-out, etc. Please help us enforce the no cellphone or smartwatch policy for students by communicating changes with the middle school office.

## LATE WORK POLICY

**Contact:** Classroom Teacher

1 class period late – 50%

Beyond one class period late - 0

Gradebook codes will be as follows:

P (pending) - will be used to indicate a student has submitted an assignment, but the assignment has not been graded yet

E (excused) - will be used to indicate that a certain assignment does not have to be completed by the student.

A (absent) - will be used to indicate that a student was absent from class.

Math classwork/homework is a completion grade of 10 points unless specified differently by the classroom teacher.

## LUNCH BILLING QUESTIONS

**Contact:** Patrick Carroll 975-3446 [patrick.carroll@littlerockchristian.com](mailto:patrick.carroll@littlerockchristian.com)

## LUNCH

**Contact:** Lori Kelley

Middle School students will order their lunches each morning on their Chromebooks. Lunch orders must be received by 8:45 a.m. Students who forget to order or forget to bring their lunch will receive an emergency lunch. The emergency lunch includes a ham or turkey sandwich, chips, and a drink.

## SCHEDULES

**Contact:** Lori Kelley

Changes in the school day schedule sometimes occur. Schedule changes will be communicated via email.



## Middle School Houses



### Amare

**Core Value:** Love

**Verse:** Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

**Biblical Foundations:** Love others through your words and acts of service.



### Consortio

**Core Value:** Partnership

**Verse:** Ecclesiastes 4:12, “A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”

**Biblical Foundations:** Pursue strength found in healthy partnerships.



### Praestantia

**Core Value:** Excellence

**Verse:** Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.”

**Biblical Foundations:** Encourage one another in the pursuit of excellence.



### Reverentia

**Core Value:** Respect

**Verse:** “Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:4

**Biblical Foundations:** Treat each other as image bearers of God.



### Veritas

**Core Value:** Truth

**Verse:** John 17:17b, “Your word is truth.”

**Biblical Foundations:** Live lives characterized by Truth.