



# **GLORIFYING GOD, PARTNERING WITH PARENTS, & Equipping Students to Transform the World for Jesus Christ**

**Parent Information Packet • PreK-12**



Traverse City

**CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

Traverse City, Michigan



What are your  
**BIGGEST  
PRIORITIES**  
as you consider school  
options in our area?

**Alignment with your family's  
faith and values? Academics?  
Safety? Community?**

We believe our core values have something to offer that you won't find elsewhere, and we're delighted you're considering Traverse City Christian School.

A commitment to glorifying God and equipping students to transform the world for Jesus Christ permeates everything we do in and around the classroom. This approach enables us to educate the whole child — body, mind, and spirit — as we develop their academic foundation for a lifetime of learning.

Today we will tell you about our school — a connected, intimate, thriving community. At TC Christian, families don't need to choose between academic excellence, a faith-infused community, or a school with a variety of athletic teams and extracurriculars. We are pleased to offer all these things because we understand how God can use everything about your child's environment to shape them into the confident young man or woman they will become by graduation day.

Friendships, faculty mentoring, a rigorous curriculum, and spiritual formation all foster the most important things you could give your child: a strong start in life, an excellent education, and a desire to honor God by serving others. We hope to meet you and your child one day soon. After reading this overview of TC Christian, **[schedule a tour](#)** so you can see what we're about firsthand.

Sincerely,

**DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT AND ADMISSIONS**

(231) 929-1747 ext 128

**[coconnor@tcchristian.org](mailto:coconnor@tcchristian.org)**



# *Our Commitment to Families*

Traverse City Christian School is a private, PreK-12 school whose mission is to glorify God, partner with parents, and equip students to transform the world for Jesus Christ. Our deepest desire is to work with parents to mold their children into well-educated, courageous, and faithful disciples living a life of eternal purpose.

## **How do we put our mission into action to accomplish these goals?**

### **Partner with parents.**

For students to know where they are going, they need a strong sense of where they're from. TC Christian partners with parents to ensure a strong connection between each child's home and school. Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), Moms in Prayer, and volunteering opportunities keep our families engaged in our school community while staying involved in their children's academic, social, and spiritual growth.

### **Teach biblical truths.**

TC Christian provides a culture of kindness where teachers model their faith with intentionality, and biblical truths permeate lessons across every subject. Students join peer mentorships to strengthen their relationships with God. From chapel services and small groups to a biblical worldview curriculum, our students learn to embrace God's Truth as a foundational component of their identity.

### **Place a strong emphasis on safety.**

Environment matters, and students from preschool to graduation crave a sense of community, safety, and security. TC Christian implements physical security measures such as a 'buzz-in' door system for visitors, locked exterior doors, background checks, anti-bullying focus, and internet safety protocols. We create safe spaces where students are taught to honor and respect themselves and others. A dedicated on-staff counselor is available for students to receive emotional and educational support.



## **By the time your child has graduated from TC Christian, they will be a:**

- Solution Finder
- Academically Engaged
- Biblically Rooted
- Respectful Team Player
- Effective Communicator

**Click Here to Learn More about our Portrait of a Graduate**

Continue reading to learn more about our educational philosophy and approach to each age and stage. When you're ready, [schedule a meeting or campus tour](#) with our Admissions team.



# Preschool *(Ages 3-4 years)*

*A loving, safe environment  
where creativity and playful  
learning meet*

Our primary goal at this age is to help children experience the fun and joy that leads to an early excitement about learning.

## **At TC Christian, students will:**

- Learn through play, with a structured curriculum that nurtures both fine and large motor skills
- Feel cared for and known (9:1 student-to-teacher ratio)
- Explore science, which includes sensory and discovery experiences
- Develop positively and holistically in a loving and supportive Christian atmosphere

## **As a preschool parent, you can expect:**

- Dedicated staff who will provide the best opportunities for your child to learn academically and spiritually
- A strong emphasis on safety: We conduct thorough background checks on all staff and volunteers, keep all exterior doors locked, and require visitors to check in through our registered system
- Flexible Schedule Options: Choose from as few as 2 days/week up to 5 full days/week. For busy, working parents, we offer an early drop-off at 7:45 a.m.
- A partnership between home and school with open communication and documentation of authentic learning

## ***Preschool Programs***

### **Choose One of Three Weekly Options**

- Monday-Friday 5 Days
- Monday/Wednesday/Friday 3 Days
- Tuesday/Thursday 2 Days

### **Choose One of Two Daily Options**

- Half-Day Program 8-11:00 a.m.
- Full-Day Program 8 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

**Before School Care  
7:45-8:00 a.m.**



# Kindergarten

## *Exploring their natural curiosity*

Each child learns at their own pace, and knowing when your child is ready to start kindergarten can be a challenging decision. How will they perform academically? Will they thrive socially? And what type of learning environment will best meet their needs?

We've designed our program with the flexibility to give children the continuity they need if they've been in preschool, while also providing support for children stepping into their first school experience.

## *Our kindergartners flourish through:*

### **An active learning approach**

Hands-on activities guide students to an age-appropriate understanding of core subjects as they explore phonics, guided reading, penmanship, math, and science.

### **Care and support**

Teachers offer individualized attention to students because we keep our classes small with a 10:1 student-teacher ratio. We value open communication between the school and the home.

### **A stimulating environment**

From the playground to learning centers, our spaces are designed to be nurturing and engaging, fostering creativity amongst our kindergartners.

### **Modeling kindness**

We hire teachers who inspire, love to be silly, and authentically live out the positive character traits we teach all of our students.

## ***Meet a kindergarten teacher on your campus tour.***

Come see one of our kindergarten classrooms and meet a teacher! To set up your campus tour, email our Director of Advancement and Admissions, Craig O'Connor, at [coconnor@tcchristian.org](mailto:coconnor@tcchristian.org).



# Elementary School *(Grades 1-5)*

## Building a strong foundation for lifelong learners

Elementary School students are engaged in hands-on exploration in a socially and emotionally supportive space. It's a time when deep and lasting friendships are formed, and students are challenged in an atmosphere that is collaborative and nurturing. Our small class sizes allow for differentiated instruction, which honors children as individuals who learn and develop at their own pace.



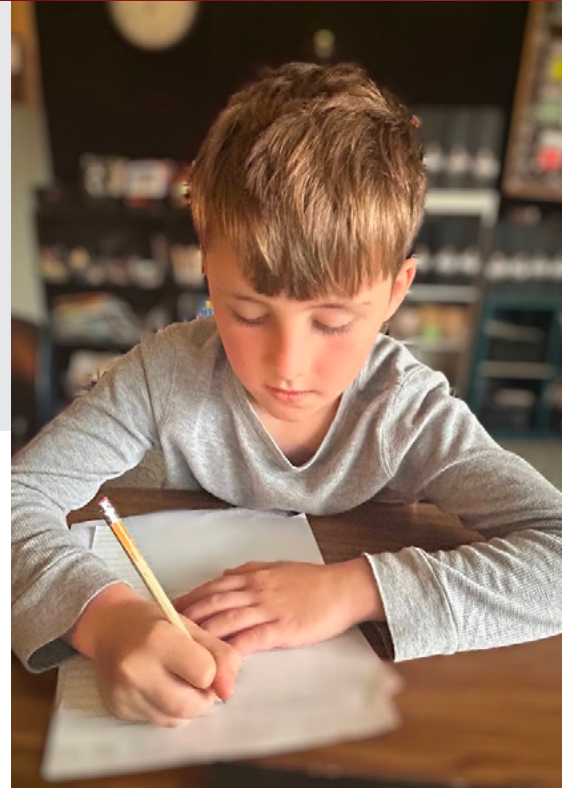
### Academic Development:

Students will find a fun and challenging curriculum that includes Bible, math, reading, Writer's Workshop, and social studies. Our science program focuses on literacy and math integration, real-world problem solving, and simple STEM-based activities.



### Biblical Worldview:

At TC Christian, our character formation extends beyond Bible class to permeate all areas of learning. We offer mentorship programs, pursue service projects, and partner with parents to empower students with the guidance and confidence they need to explore the Christian faith and lead meaningful lives.



### Enriched Learning:

Art, music, Spanish, computer science, and physical education classes complement the core curriculum. Our experiential learning approach also gives students the time and space to investigate a theme or topic in-depth while laying the groundwork for independent study in later grades.

*"We could not imagine having our children at any school other than TC Christian. We are so thankful for the teachers and staff who love our children well and impress God's Truths into them in an environment of academic excellence."*

**Josh Knorr, TC Christian Parent**



## Middle School *(Grades 6-8)*

### Honing confidence and engaging tomorrow's leaders and thinkers

Middle school is when our students really start to come into their own. They're busy discovering new passions and talents while also starting to better understand who they are and what they stand for. We prepare them for what's ahead by challenging them with a more rigorous curriculum and encouraging them to be more involved in our learning community.

**At TC Christian, we introduce middle schoolers to what's possible and instill in them the confidence and spiritual foundation they need to achieve it:**

- Master core subjects and explore courses that interest them personally and professionally
- Solidify their faith and develop their values through character education embedded in our curriculum, Buddy mentoring, small group Bible studies, and chapel
- Branch out to discover unique interests and passions with specials, including our arts, Spanish, and athletics program
- Develop healthy relationships with peers and mentors through involvement in student organizations and team sports
- Strengthen important life skills needed for success in high school, college, and careers, including self-discipline, initiative, teamwork, and empathy



*"The staff and teachers at TC Christian have impressed us greatly from the start. Their love, drive, passion and desire to see our kids succeed is obvious and invaluable to our family! Double kudos for loving and guiding teenage girls, and helping them discover God's plan for their lives! These teachers are demanding yet caring, tough yet fair, expect effort and hard work yet are full of grace and discernment. "*

**- Joy E. (TCCS Parent)**





# High School (Grades 9-12)

## A Capstone Education Experience for Young Adults

By the time our students reach high school, they are well on their way to being independent thinkers, organized time managers, and problem-solvers. Our academic program is enriched with stimulating extracurriculars, inspiring experiences, and leadership opportunities. We see high school as a time of bringing together all the threads of student development for academic, physical, and spiritual formation.

### At TC Christian, high schoolers:

- Enjoy a healthy, competitive atmosphere as they work — individually and collaboratively — to excel in academics, athletics, and various extracurricular activities
- Exemplify their faith by dedicating significant hours in service to the community each year
- Are high achieving and attract grants, awards, and scholarship opportunities
- Recognize the influence they have over their peers, and work to create a positive environment
- Are prepared to step into the plan God has for their lives after graduation — whether that is university, community college, missions work, military career, or the workforce

### Opportunities for growth outside the classroom:

- Community service projects
- Regular volunteer opportunities
- Regional and international missions
- Chapel and Worship Gatherings
- Buddy mentoring program
- Student Council program
- Theater participation through Lighthouse Center for the Arts

*"I am so grateful to my parents for their love and sacrifice that allowed me to attend TC Christian and for my teachers who poured into me deep knowledge and a love of learning. It was a fantastic time in my life, and I thank Jesus every day for all the opportunities He has presented me. I pray my life will always glorify Him!"*

**-Brett Bultsma (Class of 2013), Air Force Pilot**





*We can't wait to meet you.*

*When it comes to choosing a school for your child, nothing compares to experiencing the learning environment firsthand! Our campus tours will give you the best sense of what we have to offer and provide you with the opportunity to connect with someone who can answer your specific questions.*



### ***What to Expect On Your Personal Tour***

Explore our beautiful campus with our admissions team.  
On your tour, you will have the chance to see:

- Our classrooms and learning centers where your child will engage in meaningful learning
- Our cafeteria, where students relax, enjoy meals, and spend time with friends
- The gymnasium, where your child will develop their physical skills and practice teamwork
- Whenever possible, meet a teacher to learn a little more about the mentors that will guide and uplift your child

Students from kindergarten to 12th grade can also join us for a shadow visit, where they will meet their teachers and interact with fellow students for a day. It's an excellent opportunity to see if TC Christian is the right fit for your child.

## ***Questions?***

Please contact our Admissions team at (231) 929-1747 ext 128 or [coconnor@tcchristian.org](mailto:coconnor@tcchristian.org).



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