

Religion

- Weekly participation in school Mass
- Identify and use different prayer forms
- Analyze and discuss New Testament
- Describe the communal aspect of sin
- Identify decision-making skills
- Discover a deeper understanding of the Ten Commandments
- Participate in the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist
- Discover ways to promote justice and peace
- Identify and apply the seven principles of Catholic social teaching
- Serve others through Christian service hours

Specialized Programs

The following are taught by content area specialists:

- **Foreign Languages:**
French and Spanish
- **Technology (iPads)**
- **Visual and Performing Arts**
- **Physical Education**
- **Library/Media Center**

The Sisters' Connection

The mission of the Institute of Union-Chrétienne de Saint Chaumond is to provide a positive educational experience for children grounded in Christ, according to the charisma of the Institute.

The Sisters' involvement and primary goal is to provide a foundation for our teachings of the Catholic faith and to provide foreign language skills to enable growth in each child's abilities in subsequent years.

Catholic Faith: Provide examples in everything we do at NDA in relationship to Christ. Display God's love throughout the day and teach the Catholic faith within all levels at school.

Foreign Languages: French & Spanish

All grades: Preschool-8th:

- Prayers: Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten:

- Learning through songs, basic greetings, numbers 1-20, the family, conversation

Kindergarten-8th:

- Basic greetings, formal and informal "you", colors, months of the year, numbers 0-100, conversation, vocabulary list, basic phrases that are useful in classroom
- From 5th-8th: Introduction to grammar, the uses of foreign language knowledge in today's society

Notre Dame Academy

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Notre Dame Academy

Curriculum Guide



*A private Catholic school of
the Sisters de
l'Union-Chrétienne
de St. Chaumond*

Summary of Eighth Grade Skill Expectations

Notre Dame Academy Grade Level Standards meet the California State and Diocesan Standards. For more information, please refer to www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/ and www.ndasd.org.

Language Arts

Literature

Word Analysis, Fluency and Systematic Vocabulary Development

- Understand word origins and word relationships
- Use historical and literary context clues to determine the meaning of words
- Understand the precise meaning of grade-level appropriate words

Reading Comprehension (Focus on Informational Materials)

- Read and understand grade-level appropriate material
- Describe and connect essential ideas, arguments, and perspectives of the text
- Read classic and contemporary literature

Literary Response and Analysis

- Read and respond to historically and culturally significant works of literature
- Clarify the ideas and connect them to other literary works

Writing

Strategies

- Write clear, coherent, and focused 5 paragraph essays
- Exhibit awareness of the audience and purpose
- Contain formal introductions, supporting body paragraphs, and conclusions
- Progress through the stages of the writing process as needed

Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics)

- Write narrative, expository, persuasive, and descriptive essays of at least 500 words in each genre
- Write with a command of the standard English conventions appropriate to this grade-level

Written and Oral English Language Conventions - Grammar

- Write and speak with a command of standard English conventions appropriate to this grade-level

Listening and Speaking

Strategies

- Deliver focused, coherent presentations that convey ideas clearly and relate to the background and interests of the audience
- Evaluate the content of oral communications

Speaking Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics)

- Deliver well-organized, formal presentations employing traditional rhetorical strategies (e.g., narration, exposition, persuasive, description.)
- Speaking demonstrates a command of standard American English

Math

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Graders are assessed upon admission to determine which level of Math class is the appropriate level for the student. Students are re-assessed during the school year to ensure proper placement. All of the Math classes offered and textbooks used are in compliance with the following State standards in relation to number sense, algebra and functions, measurement and geometry, data, probability, and statistics, and mathematical reasoning:

- Master the four arithmetic operations with whole numbers, positive fractions and decimals, and positive and negative integers
- Accurately compute and solve problems
- Apply knowledge to statistics and probability
- Understand the concepts of mean, median, mode, and range
- Use addition and multiplication of fractions to calculate probability
- Understand and work with ratios, proportions, and percentages
- Learn the formulas for circumference and area of a circle
- Use letters for numbers in formulas involving geometric shapes, and in ratios to represent an unknown part of an expression
- Solve one step linear equations
- Manipulate numbers and equations
- Factor numerators and denominators
- Understand exponents
- Be familiar with the Pythagorean theorem
- Compute surface area and volume of geometric shapes
- Make conversions between different units of measurement
- Graph linear functions and slope
- Develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics
- Develop algebraic skills and concepts in a wide variety of problem-solving situations
- Develop ability to construct formal, logical arguments
- Analyze proofs in geometric settings and problems

Courses offered to meet these standards are Saxon 7/6, 8/7, Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$, and McDougal-Littel Algebra. An Elite Math Class is available; the class offers an introduction to Geometry.

Science

Focus on Physical Science

Application of mathematical units of measurement used in Physical Science in all areas below

Investigation and Experimentation

- Employ scientific method

Motion and Forces

- Understand velocity and rate of change of position
- Understand balanced and unbalanced forces

Structure of Matter

- Understand the states of Matter
- Solve and understand density problems
- Make predictions on objects buoyancy

Earth in the Solar System

- Develop an understanding of the universe

Chemistry & Reactions

- Understand and apply the Law of Conservation of Mass
- Understand chemical changes and physical changes
- Understand that principles of chemistry underlie the functions of biological systems
- Apply and utilize the organization the Periodic table & elements properties
- Understand Acids, Bases, and Solutions

History-Social Science

- Explore the development of American constitutional democracy and founding of the nation
- Analyze the political principles underlying the U.S. Constitution and powers of federal government
- Explore the major figures of the Revolutionary War and the founders of the nation, the foundation of , and participation in the American political system
- Analyze the aspirations and ideals of the people of the new nation
- Examine U.S. foreign policy in the early Republic and compare to modern day foreign policy
- Investigate the paths of the American people from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced
- Evaluate the early attempts to abolish slavery
- Analyze the multiple causes, key events, and complex consequences of the Civil War and the Reconstruction process
- Analyze the shifting of the American economy in respect to the Industrial Revolution