



DARBY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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Greetings Parents!

Thank you for inquiring about **Darby Christian Academy!** My name is Beth Melton and I am a licensed Florida elementary teacher, currently serving as a teacher and administrator of DCA, as well as a veteran homeschooling parent of three children.

I am very excited to introduce a new model of schooling in Pasco County – the **community school model!** I look forward to being involved in this program whose mission is to support our children to be the best they can be when they build their educational and spiritual foundation upon **FAITH, FAMILY, and EDUCATION!**

Please read over the following information about DCA and the community school model. Discuss and pray as a family to see if this educational model is right for your family and contact me with any additional questions or to begin the registration process at admin@darbycommunitychurch.com. Blessings to you and your family as you seek God's path for your child's education!

Sincerely,

Beth Melton
Darby Christian Academy
Administrator



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Parent Information

WHAT IS DCA?

- DCA is a ministry of **Darby Community Church**, a church with a heart for educating the future Christian leaders in our country. Although we are a small, rural church, we feel God has called upon us to embark on this mission to make a difference in our children's future by providing an educational model where God is first and foremost in ALL parts of our student's lives--especially in their education!

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY SCHOOL MODEL?

- A **community school model** is a partnership between parents and teachers, bringing together the best aspects of homeschooling with the benefits of group schooling. Our goal at DCA is to create a foundation that binds together FAITH, FAMILY, & EDUCATION.
- At DCA, **the parent remains the primary educational resource to their child(ren)**; however, they have the support of qualified teachers who are dedicated to seeing your child develop into a mature disciple of Christ, whose life will glorify God.

- Our teachers will support your family by assisting with curriculum choices, providing your daily lesson plans for the homeschool portion of the program, record keeping, evaluations, and providing group activity opportunities when students are on campus.
- For all grades levels, your child will attend classes on campus two days per week, while homeschooling with their parent(s) the remaining three days per week using the lesson plans sent home by their qualified teachers.
- Campus class times for K-12th will be Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:30am-3:30pm. Homeschool schedules will be at the discretion of each family but should average 4-6 hours of study and extra-curricular activities per day.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE PARENT AT DCA?

- The Bible clearly states it is the parent's responsibility for their child's training (Deuteronomy 6:6-9). Whether a parent homeschools or sends their child to public/private schools, the responsibility to train that child up in the ways of God remains the parent's responsibility. DCA expects all its families to regularly pray together, study God's word together, and continually seek to build a stronger relationship with Christ and with one another.
- Parents will **teach** lessons at home according to the take home lesson plans provided, grade practice work, and review work that is to be returned to class.
- Parents also have an active role on campus. Parent volunteers will be needed in the following areas: classroom/cafeteria assistants, committee members, fundraising, administrative tasks, maintenance projects, extra-curricular clubs & activities. God has provided special talents and gifts to each one of his children. Together we can use our individual gifts to make a great impact on our children's lives, to the development of this Christian school, and to be a lighthouse to our community and beyond.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND DCA?

- See attached tuition schedules. We do have a no-interest monthly payment plan available if needed. We have tried to keep tuition costs low to make it affordable to local families (in comparison to three local private schools in Pasco/Hernando County, our tuition is less than half of these private schools).

- Tuition includes the purchase of all curriculum related to core subjects (i.e. Math, Science, History, Language Arts, Writing, Bible) and regular school supplies that will be used on campus.
- Parents will be responsible to purchase uniforms and school supplies used at home, may utilize their local library or purchase titles for individual literature assignments, and may be requested to purchase or donate consumable items (i.e. tissues, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, etc.) and items used for special projects/events throughout the year.

WHAT CURRICULUM WILL BE USED AT DCA?

- DCA will use a variety of methods/curriculum to offer an academically challenging and Godly perspective across the core areas of: Math, Science, Reading, Language Arts, Character Development/Bible, & History/Social Studies.
- DCA will work to coordinate extracurricular opportunities in Art, Music, P.E., Spanish, Home Economics, etc. through the use of parent and community volunteers; and/or by offering additional lessons onsite from private piano, guitar, or art teachers.
- The general overview of our curriculum will have a classical education emphasis.
- This year's core subjects and specific curriculum to be used include:

Bible: School-wide chapel starts the beginning of each school day. Homeschool assignments vary for each grade level.

Math: *Elementary K-2 – Calvert Math; Elementary 3-5, Middle through High School – Teaching Textbooks* (requires a laptop that students can bring back and forth to school); High Schoolers may also receive instruction from FL Virtual Classes or Dual Enrollment.

Phonics/Literature: *K-2nd – We use a combination of Logic of English and engaging read-alouds, as well as early readers chosen by teacher; Upper Elementary focuses on the basic elements of grammar, copywork and dictation, paired with exciting grade-level readers; Middle School will continue deepening their understanding of grammar by learning to diagram and parse sentences, write summaries and note-taking balanced out with creative*

descriptive writing; *High School* will have a strong emphasis on rich reading materials (literature books and source materials) accompanied by study guides, class discussions, and writing / research assignments.

Science: *Grades 3-12* use Apologia Science with hands-on science experiments/projects/labs.

History: We explore history using a combination of living literature, biographies, and excellent spines: Answers in Genesis, Notgrass and Streams of Civilization – Chronological history from creation through modern times.

Upper grades – By 10th grade, focus will be geared on identifying future academic goals and/or individual career interests, creating programs catered towards these fields of study; DCA encourages dual enrollment if the student wishes to pursue college, and we have plans to develop a job shadowing program for real-life experiences in junior & senior years.

HOW TO JOIN DCA

- At this time, total student enrollment will be limited to 40 students PK-12th
- DCA will have combined grade level groupings based upon actual enrollment figures
- Average class size will be no more than 12 students
- Request an enrollment packet by emailing admin@darbycommunitychurch.com or go to the website at www.darbycommunitychurch.com to download forms. Each packet includes a New Family Checklist, New Family Application, and Student Application (complete one student application for each child enrolled)
- Submit a completed Family Application with \$50 non-refundable intent fee per student (checks should be made payable to Darby Christian Academy)
- DCA will contact you to come in for a family interview
- Once accepted your \$50 intent fee will be applied towards your registration/curriculum fees with the balance due to secure your child's enrollment and initiate ordering of curriculum materials.