

VALLEYDALE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

1572 Montgomery Highway, Suite 100, Hoover, AL 35216
(205)987-6286 www.valleydale.net valleydale2024academy@yahoo.com

VCA Information Packet *A Safe Place for Education*

Valleydale Christian Church and Academy was founded in 1998. Our first student and graduate was our youngest son who was a senior in a public school when we decided we were wasting our time and energy in an unfriendly and dangerous environment, devoid of learning. We couldn't, at that time, find a cover school that appealed to us that would take seniors, so we spent quite a bit of time tying legal loose ends to carefully open a private church school acceptable for home education that would meet the requirements of the law. Thus, Valleydale was born. When our son graduated, he asked that we continue the school, and we're very glad that we did.

WHAT HAPPENS FIRST?

The First step is visiting our website www.valleydale.net for lots of information, download application, look at our On-Campus Daily Classes schedule, etc. Your NEXT step is call us (205)987-6286 or email us valleydale2024academy@yahoo.com if you have any questions. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30a.m.-2:00p.m. except holidays.

If you enroll with us, you will need to **FIRST** go to the current school, withdraw your child, get an unofficial transcript or grades-to-date, and any disciplinary report plus return any books and pay any fees due so there will be no delays in enrolling, purchasing your curriculum, and getting started. If this step is not completed, the school will not release the records to us. We will fax a request for the official records to their current school after your application is accepted and notify the appropriate Board of Education. After you turn in the application, pay enrollment and first month's tuition, your child is enrolled and not required to go back to the former school.

If you are divorced or separated from your student's birth parent, we **MUST** have a copy of the pages in the final legal papers awarding you, as the parent enrolling the student, power over educational decisions and if possible a letter, note, or email from the non-custodial parent saying that they do not object to you homeschooling your child **BEFORE** enrollment can be completed. **If you are in the early process of a divorce without a finalized divorce agreement**, our school board will only approve applications on a case by case basis.

REQUIRED FOR ALL FAMILIES: You **MUST** have an email account and access to a computer/laptop to read emails at least 1-2 times per week plus be able to research and homeschool correctly. **Email is our primary form of communication.** You simply cannot read all the emails completely on a cell phone and, in fact, some cell phones will cut off most of the emails after a few lines. **Also, you MUST have a basic printer.** Local libraries usually have computers you can access with a library card at no cost.

OUR ACCREDITATION: We went to great effort, time, and expense to qualify for church school accreditation with the American Association of Independent Private Schools. We use nationally accredited materials as curriculum and we follow the State of Alabama Graduation Requirements so our graduates are attending colleges across the nation. We do not have public school (SACS) accreditation, nor do we desire this, so if your student returns to a public high school, he/she may be given placement tests. ALL colleges

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will expect you to meet their GPA and ACT requirements, as they do with all students.

WHAT DO YOU CHARGE? Please refer to *Financial Policies* in the VCA Application packet.

DO YOU NEED A DEGREE? No, but you do need a high school diploma or equivalency. If you feel that you cannot teach high school-level courses, we do offer On-Campus (on-site) full credit courses for an additional fee, but the classes are small and fill up quickly. You also need to be able to organize, plan, and be responsible for your child's education, even if that requires joining classes or hiring a tutor. We also **REQUIRE** that you use nationally accredited curriculum for your studies, and that both student and parents/tutor be **fluent** in the English language. The parents/tutor must be able to read and interpret the material in order to teach and manage the courses which are all in English, and, for the most part, written with a basis of Christianity within their framework. Most homeschool curricula do not teach Common Core.

REQUIRED: PC/LAPTOP & BASIC PRINTER AT HOME OR EASY ACCESS TO THEM SUCH AS A LOCAL LIBRARY.

IF WE DO NEED CLASSES, WHAT IF YOURS ARE FULL? We will make arrangements for you to order curriculum that you will work on at home and will schedule a time for you to come in and bring the completed curriculum for a workcheck. We will also put you on a waiting list.

WHAT CURRICULUM DO YOU SUGGEST? We highly recommend starting with ACE School of Tomorrow PACEs or the Alpha Omega (www.aophomeschooling.com), but you are free to choose a recognized homeschool curriculum. Of course, we are always here to help in any way we can.

IMPORTANT Note: Please consider carefully. Home Education is the ultimate private school, and is often just what a family needs, but it takes cooperation from all family members to educate your child correctly.

Thank you! I look forward to meeting you. *Vicki and Victoria Boyce*, Co-Directors

Member: Alabama Christian Education Association * Association of Christian Schools International
 Christian Home Education Fellowship * Directors of Alabama Schools for Homeschools

Directions: You cannot see our building from Hwy 31/Montgomery Highway because the building sits on a lower level. We have been told by some parents that the address listed above sometimes shows Vestavia Hills instead of Hoover. Also, the address has at times shown us located near Wald Park which is incorrect. We are actually located directly behind Krystal's Hamburgers and our parking lots are adjacent. I will give you directions to the school from the red light on Hwy 31/Montgomery Highway with the BLUE SIGN that says "BRADDOCK DRIVE". If you are going north, you will turn LEFT at this red light. If you are going south, you will turn RIGHT. You will see the Publix store, a dry cleaners & Regions Bank but you will go straight until you reach a STOP sign. You are entering a neighborhood so drive very slowly. Turn RIGHT at this STOP sign the go straight. You will come to another STOP sign so you will stop but then continue straight. You will then come to another STOP sign where the Street Sign says "Spruce Drive". Turn RIGHT at this STOP sign and the road will be curvy so drive slowly. You will come to another STOP sign then you will turn RIGHT and you will see our building with the dark green metal roof on your left. We are located on the lower level. Our address is Suite 100 but you will actually enter at Suite 110.

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A NOTE ABOUT VALLEYDALE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY ON-CAMPUS CLASSES

Valleydale Christian Academy, where our On-Campus classes are concerned, is a college-prep group. We hope that ALL of our homeschoolers, at home or On-Campus, are of the same mindset. Most of our graduates have gone on to a 4-year college, a community or technical college, to start businesses, or elected to join the military. Therefore, we require all of our On-Campus students take and pass the ACT in order to graduate and strongly recommend for all.

We also **require** you use nationally accredited curriculum for your studies, and that both student and parents/tutor be **fluent** in the English language. The parents/tutor must be able to read and interpret the material in order to teach and manage the courses which are all in English, and, for the most part, written with a basis of Christianity within their framework. Most homeschool curricula do not teach Common Core.

Required: PC or Laptop & printer or easy access to them such as a local library.

Our On-Campus classes are small and move at a quick pace. We do not slow down to teach children who have learning disabilities, or who just do not want to do the required assignments, and want to complain during class, plus we send IEPs home to the parents to use at home. While schooling at home, these students can work at their own pace which often requires one-on-one teaching by the parents and/or a tutor. **We do not allow bad, disruptive, disrespectful, dangerous, or immoral behavior in our classrooms or anywhere on the school property.** We do not consider our classes a place to house students who have been in trouble or expelled from their former schools, have been in trouble with drugs, alcohol, fighting, threatening, carrying out violence, or who have been in juvenile detention, or jail, etc. so we may choose to decline enrollment or deny an application at our board's discretion. There are some mitigating circumstances, of course, but they will be decided upon on a case by case basis.

**Please take care when choosing a cover school with regards to monthly payments. Some schools will ask for a small upfront fee, but they do not extend certain services, or they leave you on your own to handle transcripts, diplomas, graduation, help with curriculum, they ask for many different fees for these services after you join. At VCA, we are a "family" and always here to help and guide you.*

IMPORTANT: All payments due to Valleydale, its teachers, or the curriculum necessary to teach, are **due in full** at the time of acceptance, and **each month**, thereafter, promptly on **the first of the month**. All required curriculum must be purchased **in full within one week** of enrollment. Please note there are additional fees and costs if enrolling in On-Campus classes. We do not accept partial payments. **ALL costs are FULLY explained at the time you enroll so you can plan ahead into your monthly budget.**

LATE FEES: **ALL** tuition and Teacher Fees are due on the **first of each month** and late after the 5th.

IMPORTANT: If your child attends On-Campus classes, it is extremely important to pay tuition/fees on time because the tuition, teacher fees and late fees begin growing exponentially and it is very difficult to "catch up". We will be forced to suspend your student from attending class(es) if any tuition or fees are overdue by 45 days. Our teachers are working hard to support their families and VCA has expenses to run the school so prompt payment is required. If there are special circumstances, please contact Ms. Susan for possible special consideration.

REMEMBER – YOU ARE ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CHILD'S HOME EDUCATION FOR THEIR FUTURE.

We are also on Facebook: Valleydale Christian Academy
and Instagram!



Website: www.valleydale.net

(Updated 8-6-2024)