

# **Ocala Christian Academy**

## **Homeschool Education Program**

Ocala Christian Academy's Umbrella Home Education Program supports families through excellent, yet flexible pathways of education. We know that each child is created uniquely in God's image, and every family's educational decisions deserve personalized support. As we partner with you, we stand ready to assist your family in any way we can as you go on your individualized homeschool journey.

### **What does OCA Offer to our local Homeschool Community?**

#### **SUPPORT, GUIDANCE, & RECORD KEEPING**

This is achieved through the following services:

- Guidance and/or academic counseling
- Record Keeping
- Report Cards – at the end of every 9-week quarter
- Accredited Transcripts
- Diplomas for Kindergarten, Eighth Grade, and High School Graduates
- College & Career Planning
- Support when applying for scholarships
- Testing for College Preparation
  - PSAT – 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Students
  - ASVAB – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade
- MAPS Standardized Testing (Kindergarten-11<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Access to a wide range of on campus classes: academics, fine arts, and PE
- Scholarship Application Support

#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

- Grade Appropriate Activities
  - Field Trips\*
  - Field Day (1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Schoolwide Christmas Party\*
  - Washington, D.C. Trip\* (5<sup>th</sup> grade only)
  - Science Fair (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Athletics\*
  - Graduations\*:
    - Kindergarten
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

\*Associated costs apply

## What is the next step?

- **Apply**
  - Pay the annual registration fee of \$50.
    - This fee is refundable if your child is not accepted into OCAHE.
  - Submit necessary paperwork:
    - Completed Prospective Student Application
    - Copy of certified birth certificate
    - Social Security Card
    - Florida Certification of Immunization form or religious exemption form
    - Florida School Entry Health Form
    - Copy of most recent report card
    - Transcripts from previous school (if applying for 7<sup>th</sup> grade or up)
      - If homeschooled, please bring in last year's report card
    - A copy of any 504 Plans or IEP
    - Copy of parent ID or Social Security Card
  - Once your application is reviewed and accepted, you will set up a meeting with the Home School Director – Mrs. Brittany Luiken
- **Know your requirements:**
  - A parent or guardian must be home with the home education student(s) during the school day.
  - Weekly Chapel Services Attendance and School Revivals:
    - Students will sign in at the main office on their designated chapel day. Students must be in OCA dress code with their OCA issued school ID visible.
    - High school students must also attend our bi-annual school revival services. Exact dates and times will be announced at a later time.
  - Assigned chapel days:
    - Kindergarten – Tuesdays from 8:25am until 8:55am\* in the elementary chapel
    - 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades – Wednesdays from 8:15am until 9am\* in the elementary chapel
    - 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades – Thursdays from 8:15am until 9am\* in the elementary chapel

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades – Wednesdays at 9:20am until 10am\* in the main auditorium of Central Baptist Church
    - \*There are times when chapel services may run a little bit longer than originally anticipated, or days may change.
- MAPS Standardized Testing
  - Each student will be required to take MAPs standardized testing three times each school year.
  - Official dates will be sent out later; however, we typically take the tests in October, January, and April.
- Parents and/or guardians must attend our annual orientation meetings at the campus of Ocala Christian Academy. This year's annual orientation meeting will be held on **Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**. Following this meeting, there will be another meeting only for those who are part of the Ocala Christian Academy Home Education Program.
- **Tuition:**
  - \$1,200 per year if paid in monthly installments, or \$1,000 per year if paid in full.
    - Tuition does not include curriculum and textbooks which must be ordered by the parent and/or guardian.
  - Tuition can be paid in one lump sum by July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025, or it can be paid in 10 monthly payments of \$120.
    - Monthly payments are due on the first of every month (August through May).
    - If payments are not received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, a late fee of \$25 will be added to your school bill.
  - Payments may be made online or in person at the main office of Ocala Christian Academy.
  - There are **limited** partial scholarships available.

## Curriculum Guidelines:

- Parents and/or guardians have the right to choose a faith-based curriculum of their choice; however, the curriculum must be approved by the homeschool principal.
  - **Preapproved Curriculum:**
    - Abeka
    - Bob Jones
    - Classical Conversation
    - Apologia
    - Time 4 Learning

- Parents and/or guardians are responsible for purchasing the curriculum and school supplies for their students.
  - Curriculum and school supplies are not provided by OCA.

## Academics:

- Grading Scale

Numeric	Letter
100-98	A+
97-93	A
92-90	A
89-87	B+
86-83	B
82-80	B
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D
59 & Below	F

## Attendance and School Work Guidelines:

- Florida Department of Education requires that students who are homeschooled through an umbrella school must complete 180 days of school.
- Attendance forms must be turned in monthly.
- Parents must keep all written work for each one of their OCAHE students.
  - Work must be dropped off monthly, along with monthly attendance forms.
  - Quarterly check-in meetings will be scheduled to ensure students are completing their work.

## High School Students:

- HIGH SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION
  - Credit Requirements:

- 9th Grade Promotion from 8th grade
  - 10th Grade 6 Credits
  - 11th Grade 12 credits
  - 12th Grade 18 credits
  - Graduate Minimum 24 credits
- Academic Honors:
  - Principal's List - all "A's"
  - Honor Roll - all "A's" & "B's"
  - Graduation with Honors - GPA of 3.00 or higher
  - Graduation with High Honors - GPA of 3.50 or higher
- High school students have the option to attend live classes at Ocala Christian Academy.
  - Students must arrive 10 minutes before the designated class starts.
  - Applicable tardies and absences will apply.
    - If a student is tardy five times, these five tardies will result in one absence.
    - Once 18 absences are reached, one point for every day over 18 will be deducted from the final quarter grade.
  - Students are responsible for all assigned classwork, homework, tests, quizzes, and projects. Students are also responsible for bringing in necessary classroom supplies.
- The following classes can be taken live on campus at OCA:
  - Cost: \$1,000 per class. (This fee is on top of the annual tuition.)
  - Classes offered:
    - All 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade classes (i.e. Bible, Math, Science, etc.)
    - Specific class times will be
  - Basics of Grading for live classes:
    - Grade Percentages:
      - Homework – 30%
      - Quizzes – 30%
      - Tests – 40%
    - Grades are updated online via schoolworx. Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades via this school portal.
- High School Grade Points (GPA):

<b>Numeric</b>	<b>Letter</b>	<b>G.P.</b>	<b>Honors</b>
100-98	A+	4 pt.	5 pt.
97-93	A	4 pt.	5 pt.
92-90	A	4 pt.	5 pt.
89-87	B+	3 pt.	4 pt.
86-83	B	3 pt.	4 pt.

82-80	B	3 pt.	4 pt.
79-77	C+	2 pt.	3 pt.
76-73	C	2 pt.	3 pt.
72-70	C-	2 pt.	3 pt.
69-67	D+	1 pt.	1 pt.
66-63	D	1 pt.	1 pt.
62-60	D	1 pt.	1 pt.
59 & Below	F	0 pt.	0 pt.

- High School Graduation Requirements:
  - Minimum Credits Required for Graduation – a minimum of 24 credits
  - Minimum GPA Requirements for Graduation – 2.00

## Code of Conduct:

- Personal Character
  - Each student is expected to act in a manner that reflects biblical values and to develop personal character traits that show maturity. Further, as a community of Christians, students should encourage and support others to live in a manner that pleases God. The following characteristics are representative of scriptural standards that should be emulated.
  - **Love for God's Word**—There is no greater source for direction and encouragement than the Bible. OCAHE places God's Word in the highest regard, and every student is urged to spend personal time in it regularly. (Josh. 1:8; Ps. 19:10; Ps. 119:97, 119:127, 119:165; Col. 3:16)
  - **Respect for God, other people, and property**—God deserves reverence and respect, and our lifestyle and worship should reflect the honor we owe Him. We are also commanded to show respect to those God has given to be in authority. Further, each person should be mindful about how he treats other people and their property. (1 Pet. 2:17, Prov. 9:10, Eccl. 12:13, Rom. 13:7, Phil. 2:3, Rom. 12:16–18, Eph. 6:5–9)
  - **Kindness and consideration for others**—Christians are to actively seek opportunities to show kindness to others. Common courtesy and politeness are qualities to be developed. OCA has historically been known as a friendly campus because its students promote these traits. Good sportsmanship is also expected in all athletic endeavors. (Eph. 4:32, Matt. 7:12, Luke 6:31, Phil. 2:4, 1 Thess. 5:15)
  - **Compassion and Christian love**—God's great love for us is reflected when we act with genuine care and concern for others. The Bible teaches that this is the

hallmark of a true disciple. (Eph. 5:2, Luke 10:25–37, Jude 22, 1 John 4:7–8, John 13:34–35)

- **Honesty and integrity**—it is necessary that each student deal truthfully with others and maintain a reputation for choosing to do what is right. Without these traits, it is not possible to properly interact with other people or with God. (Ps. 25:21, Ps. 15:1–2, Prov. 12:22, 2 Cor. 8:21, Phil. 4:8, Prov. 11:3, Rom. 12:17–21, 2 Cor. 4:2, Matt. 5:37)
- **Discipline and self-control**—Christians are to exercise control over their emotions and desires so that behavior is appropriate and right. This is accomplished as the Holy Spirit is allowed to guide every decision and direct each action. (Gal 5:16–26, Rom. 6:12–13, 1 Cor. 9:24–27)
- **Modesty and purity**—Christian men and women are expected to maintain the highest moral standards as a reflection of God’s holiness and as a protection against the effects of sin. While much of today’s culture has abandoned these precepts, the biblical principles for behavior and dress are essential. (Ps. 51:9–10, 1 Tim. 2:9, 1 Cor. 6:19–20, 1 Pet. 3:3–4, Ps. 24:3–5, 1 Tim. 4:12)
- **Diligence**—the ability to work hard is important for professional life and is a characteristic that the Bible encourages. Being available and willing to work with intelligent effort is necessary to further gospel endeavors and contribute as a citizen. (Prov. 13:4, Deut. 6:17, Prov. 22:29, Col. 3:23)
- **Responsibility**—the Bible teaches that each person must give account for his actions; taking personal responsibility for one’s life is the beginning of real stewardship. Making it one’s duty to be reliable so that others can depend on him is a mark of true maturity. (2 Cor. 5:10, 1 Cor. 4:2–4, Gal. 6:4–5)
- **Thankfulness**—beyond a polite gesture of gratitude, thankfulness displays a spirit of contentment along with the realization that God is the ultimate source of all good things and that He often uses people as the instruments of His blessing. (1 Thess. 5:18; Eph. 5:20; Col. 2:7; Ps. 92:1, 118:29)
- **Etiquette and manners**—mature and educated individuals know how to speak and act in an expected way according to what is appropriate for the setting. school life provides opportunities to learn and practice these skills. (1 Cor. 15:33, Col. 4:5–6, 1 Cor. 14:40)

Students' enrollment at OCAHE attests to the fact that they agree to live within the framework of our school’s community expectations as stated in the Parent/Student Handbook. Students are obligated to honorable adherence to these expectations while enrolled at OCAHE, at all times both on campus and off campus; adherence to these policies is mandatory.

## **Prohibited Activities:**

- Each student accepts the responsibility to actively uphold the Code of Conduct and to refrain from any action that would be detrimental to spiritual growth, the safety or well-being of others, or that would impair the ability of others to follow the Code of Conduct. (1 Pet. 2:11, Rom. 14:13) For this reason, students who participate in illegal or prohibited activities or who build a reputation for involvement in these activities will be subject to discipline including but not limited to demerits, referral, restitution, suspension, or dismissal.
- **Use, possession, or association with alcohol, illicit drugs and/or narcotics, marijuana, tobacco and related products such as e-cigarettes and vaporizers; misuse or abuse of a legal drug, substance, or chemical**—as a protection against harmful effects and the controlling nature of these substances, Scripture teaches to avoid them. In addition, state and federal law prohibits the unlawful sale, use, or possession of drugs and alcohol. (Prov. 23:31; Rom. 12:1; Prov. 20:1; 1 Cor. 6:19–20)
- **Pornography or sexual immorality**—The Bible indicates that all sexual activity outside of marriage is sin. Therefore, the following is considered to be sexually immoral: fornication, adultery, homosexual behavior, or any other sexual perversion. Also, any involvement in pornography or sexual communications, including verbal, written, or electronic, is prohibited. It is considered inappropriate to make light of or joke about involvement in any form of immorality. (1 Cor. 6:9–10, 18–20; Matt. 5:28; Heb. 13:4; Rom. 1:26–27; Ps. 119:37; 1 John 2:16; Prov. 14:9)
- **Profanity or obscenity**—inappropriate language is not permitted whether it be verbal, written, or electronic. (Eph. 4:29, Col. 3:8, James 5:12)
- **Homosexuality (LGBT)** — The Bible indicates that homosexuality is a sin that goes directly against God’s natural design. Participation or association with the LGBT movement is not permitted or tolerated. (Lev. 18:22; Rom. 1:26, 27; 1 Cor. 6:9–11)
- **Public display of affection** - PDA between students on campus or at school functions is not permitted. These types of behavior include, but are not limited to, holding hands, kissing, unnecessary physical contact of any type, or seeking isolated areas without supervision. (I Thess. 4:3–6, I Cor. 7:1)
- **Harassment, abuse, and discrimination**—the safety and well-being of students is of utmost importance. OCA does not tolerate hazing, physical or verbal abuse, coercion, stalking, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, or any other behavior that places the health and safety of other students in jeopardy. Additionally, bullying of any kind, doxing, and retaliation is unacceptable. Students must avoid the use of divisive or inflammatory comments, symbols, or actions of any kind, even in jest.
  - **Definitions:** Bullying occurs when a person or group is intimidated, frightened, excluded or hurt by a pattern of behaviors directed at them by others. Bullying may involve but is not limited to: teasing, social exclusion, threat, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, theft, sexual, religious, or racial/ethnic harassment, public humiliation, repeated taunting, name calling, belittling, damaging or destruction of property, placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his person



or property, cyber-bullying, or cyberstalking. Conduct that would not ordinarily be considered bullying may include but is not limited to: mere teasing, “talking trash,” trading insults, not liking someone, being excluded in a game (only six can play), accidentally bumping into someone, etc.

- Harassment means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or school employee that: places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; has the effect of substantially interfering with a student’s educational performance, opportunities, or benefits; or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school. (Col. 3:8, 4:6; Eph. 4:29–32)
  - Reporting procedures: As part of living in a sinful world, bullying can result when we don’t always relate to others as we should or when people try to exert power and influence over others. Ocala Christian Academy and Ocala Christian Academy Home Education realizes that while bullying may occur, it is never acceptable. The school’s response to bullying is based on the pattern of relating to one another found in the Bible. God intended for us to live in a way that acknowledges differences and accepts others because we are all made in God’s image. OCA and OCAHE recognizes that not all behaviors should be considered bullying or willful violation of this policy. Behaviors will be assessed by the teacher, principal, and/or administrator and addressed according to the procedures below.
    1. School personnel must report all incidents of bullying to their supervisor whether they personally observe the incident or learn of it by some other means. There will be an immediate, thorough, and objective investigation of all complaints.
    2. Students and parents are encouraged to report any act of bullying or harassment to a principal.
    3. Such complaints may be made anonymously, in-person or in writing. However, formal disciplinary action may not be based solely on the basis of an anonymous report. Any written or oral report of an act of bullying or harassment shall be considered an official means of reporting and shall be documented.
- **Stealing**—the Bible clearly teaches that stealing is wrong. Taking, possessing, or using someone else’s things without the owner’s consent is considered stealing. (Rom. 13:8–10)
- **Witchcraft, séances, astrology, or any other satanic practices**—anything associated with these activities is in direct contradiction to biblical principles. (Gal. 5:19–21)
- **Mysticism and Transcendental Meditation**—Christians enjoy a personal relationship with God and are exhorted to think about His Word. Rituals of

Eastern Mysticism (such as yoga and transcendental meditation) deny these truths and should not be practiced by students. (Psalm 1:2, Joshua 1:8)

## **School Dress Standards:**

### Men's Guidelines

- **Grooming**
  - The purpose of this policy is to promote conservative styles and professional appearance. Hair must be neatly combed and tapered and may not come over the ears, eyebrows, or collar; sideburns may not extend beyond the bottom of the ear. Styled hair should not exceed 3 ½ from the scalp. Hair should be completely faded all the way around, to the top of the head. Fads and extreme styles are not acceptable, including lines, Mohawks, mullets, extreme fades, and artwork shaven into hair. Any hairstyle (including high tops) should be neatly combed and managed. Avoid braids, buns/ponytails, patches, stubble, or unnatural hair colors.
- **Clothing and Appearance**
  - The expectations for student dress are designed to reflect the principles of modesty, distinction, and appropriateness. All students are expected to dress modestly, in conservative fashions, and with a level of propriety that encourages purity. It is considered immodest to wear clothing that is tight-fitting. Men and women should be distinctive in their appearance. For this reason, men are not to wear effeminate hair styles, bracelets, jewelry, apparel, or cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish.
  - Appropriateness in dress is related to the setting and activity. In this Christian Academy setting, care must be taken to avoid association with companies, lifestyles, and trends that oppose Christian values, including gothic dress styles, body piercings, and unnatural hair colors. Students are not permitted to get a tattoo (permanent or temporary) or body brand while enrolled at OCA and should keep existing tattoos or brands covered. Except for medical alert chains, necklaces should not be worn.
  - Shirts must be tucked in for Formal, Professional/Church, and Casual dress. Pants that come to the top of the shoe are to be worn for all activities unless other wise designated.
- **Dress Categories**
  - **Formal**—Traditional formalwear or best suit, with belt or suspenders, dress shoes, and dress socks are suitable for formal banquets or Church/Chapel services.
  - **Class**—Casual pants (no cargo style, denim, drawstrings, or athletic materials) with belt or suspenders, collared shirt OCA Shirt (tucked in; may not be worn as

outerwear), athletic shoes, and socks are appropriate. Casual is required for all classes and while on campus.

- UNIFORM COMPANY:
  - All uniform polos and uniform bottoms must be purchased from Ibiley Uniform Company.
- Elementary men do not have to wear pants with belt loops for casual attire.
- **Casual**— Active attire that may be worn at sporting events or extracurricular activities
  - Jeans, athletic pants, shorts (i.e. basketball/cargo styles rather than runner styles), T-shirts (may be untucked), ball caps, and athletic shoes/flip flops are permitted.
  - **Students should not wear:**
    - Crop-tops/ cut offs
    - Shorts that are above the knee
    - Pajamas

Clothing may not have writing or pictures that are offensive, divisive, inappropriate, suggestive, or contrary to **Biblical Principles** and the **Code of Conduct**. Any clothing related to contemporary music, derogatory statements, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, gambling, dancing, etc., may not be worn.

### Women's Guidelines

- **Grooming**
  - Girls are asked to wear appropriate hair styles. Unnatural-looking dyed hair, spiked hair, or other hair styles that are contrary to the standards of OCA and OCAHE as determined by the Administration are not permissible. Only ribbons, bows or scrunchies, or clips may be worn in our young ladies' hair.
- **Clothing and Appearance**
  - The expectations for student dress are designed to reflect the principles of modesty, distinction, and appropriateness. All students are expected to dress modestly, in conservative fashions, and with a level of propriety that encourages purity. It is considered immodest to wear clothing that is revealing or tightfitting. Men and women should be distinctive in their appearance. Sheer material alone is not considered adequate for coverage. Girls are encouraged to wear compression shorts under their skirts for modesty, especially during PE and recess. In this Christian academy setting, care must be taken to avoid association with companies, lifestyles, and trends that oppose Christian values, including gothic dress/makeup styles, unnatural hair colors, and masculine hair styles (i.e. shaved/close cropped). Two piercings may be worn only in the earlobe but no ear cuffs, plugs/gauges, nose rings, or other body piercings (This would include

temporary jewelry). Students are not permitted to get a tattoo (permanent or temporary) or body brand while enrolled at OCA and OCAHE and will be asked to keep existing tattoos or brands covered.

- **Dress Categories**

- **Formal**—Traditional formalwear or best dress and dress shoes are suitable for formal banquets.
- **Class**—
  - Shirts: Students must wear the school polo.
  - Undergarments: Standard undergarments must be worn.
  - Shoes: can be athletic. However, crocs and flip flops may not be worn.
  - Skirts: must come to the bottom of the knee. Shorts or culottes are not acceptable for class. Ladies are only permitted to wear school uniform skirts.
    - Ladies may not wear long pants under skirts, but may wear knees socks, leggings, or tights. Pajamas are not for school. Stockings/panty hose without holes are permitted. Girls must adhere to the standard skirt length and fit, even when wearing tights.
  - UNIFORM COMPANY:
    - All uniform polos and uniform bottoms must be purchased from Ibiley Uniform Company.
- **Casual**—Active attire that may be worn at sporting events or extracurricular activities
  - Jeans, athletic pants, shorts (i.e. basketball/cargo styles rather than runner styles), T-shirts (may be untucked), ball caps, and athletic shoes/flip flops are permitted.
  - **Students should not wear:**
    - Crop-tops/ cut offs
    - Shorts that are above the knee
    - Pajamas
    - Tank tops or spaghetti straps

Clothing may not have writing or pictures that are offensive, divisive, inappropriate, suggestive, or contrary to **Biblical Principles** and the **Code of Conduct**. Any clothing related to contemporary music, derogatory statements, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, gambling, dancing, etc., may not be worn.

OCA and OCAHE reserves the right to determine what is appropriate for all school-related activities. If a dress code violation occurs, the student will receive demerits. The parent may be requested to come to school to correct the infraction (such as bringing a change of clothing, etc.), or to remove the student from school until such corrections are made.

If a student misses any time from the classroom to correct a dress code violation, it will be counted as an unexcused absence or tardy for the time missed. Upon repeated infractions of the dress or hair codes, a student may be issued additional demerits, suspended, asked to withdraw, or not permitted to re-enroll for the next school year. We respectfully ask that parents and visitors abide by our dress and conduct standards when they are on campus or at any outside school event. This consistency helps to reinforce the Christian principles we are trying to teach.

## **General Dress Code Guidelines:**

1. Students may be asked to remove jackets and sweaters when dress code is being checked.
2. No denim pants or skirts, etc. will be allowed for normal classroom attire unless as a reward earned from the secondary school merit system.
3. Shorts are not allowed for classroom attire at any grade level.
4. All students in K3 through 12th grade will need to wear a school uniform shirt each day, and it will need to be tucked in at all times (except secondary girls may wear shirts untucked).
5. The only visible garment that can be worn under a school uniform shirt is a T-shirt (long or short-sleeved).
6. During cold weather students may wear a sweater or jacket which zips or buttons all the way down (No sweatshirts, camouflage jackets, flannel jackets, denim, or big coats may be worn in the classrooms).
7. OCA does not want to promote or be associated with “worldly” clothing; therefore, no writing or printed logos should be seen on any outerwear. Since styles do change, sometimes rapidly, new pronouncements on clothing styles may be made by the administration during the regular school year.
8. Students should wear casual shoes or athletic-type shoes. Flip-flop or Croc style shoes are not permitted.
9. All backpacks, gym bags, and lunch boxes must be free from worldly advertisements.
10. No backpacks allowed in classroom or cafeteria (except for early/extended care).
11. Students should not write or draw on themselves or their classmates.

## **Athletics:**

- Available Sports:
  - **Boys:**

- Flag Football (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Tackle Football (8<sup>th</sup> –12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Basketball (5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Baseball (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- **Girls:**
  - Volleyball (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Basketball (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Cheerleading (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Softball (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- **Sports Fee:**
  - A one-time fee of \$250 per student athlete.
- **AUTHORITY**
  - The Athletic Director is the final authority for decisions regarding athletics unless it is deemed necessary to involve the principal or administrator. Each coach is expected to exercise proper authority over his/her team. The head coach is responsible for team actions and reactions.
- **CHAIN OF COMMAND**
  - In the event of any problems or concerns, all students and parents should go to the head coach of your specific sport first, followed by the Athletic Director, the assistant to the Administrator, and lastly the Administrator. Failure to follow the proper chain of command may result in the denial of your request.
- **ELIGIBILITY**
  - To be eligible for competition during any grading period subsequent to the first, all students must have no F's on the quarter grades of their report cards.
  - All high school athletes must maintain a 2.25 unweighted GPA following the first semester of their freshman year. If the athlete's GPA falls below a 2.25 when quarterly grades are reported, the athlete is placed on Athletic Probation. Athletic Probation requires the athlete to attend 4 hours of tutoring/study hall time per week for one month following the end of the grading period. This will be based on each student's progress report.
    - **Athletic Probation**
      - Probation is one month long
      - The athlete may still participate in athletics.
      - If the athlete fails to bring up his GPA after the one month, the athlete must sit out until the end of the current grading period.
      - Once the above criteria have been met, he/she will be eligible to participate in the next scheduled sport.
- **EMERGENCIES/ INJURIES**

- Any accident or injury must be reported to the coach. The coach will then submit the report in writing to the school office.
- **PHYSICAL FORMS**
  - FHSAA requires that a current physician's certificate form (supplied by the athletic department) be on file with the athletic director prior to the beginning of practice/tryouts in any sport. A physical is valid for one year from the date signed by the physician. Parental consent and private insurance is also required.
- **BEHAVIOR AT ATHLETIC EVENTS**
  - Although the tempo of athletic competition often lends itself to emotional involvement, we do not tolerate unsportsmanlike behavior from faculty, coaches, players, cheerleaders, or spectators. Respect is to be shown to game officials, opponents, and spectators. Please do not "boo" or ridicule the opposing team or the officials because of a call they do or do not make. We do allow and encourage spectators to cheer and shout encouragement to the teams. Any complaints or disagreements are to be shared with either the athletic director or principal in private. Please help us maintain high standards and a good testimony at both home and away contests!
  - Only food purchased at the Concession Stand is allowed on the campus during athletic events.
  - Any individual not dressed appropriately may be asked to leave the campus. Please help us to avoid an embarrassing situation by informing your guests of this policy.
  - Smoking and alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the OCA campus. To protect public safety, the following is prohibited: knives, fireworks, explosives, firearms, or other weapons on the campus or off campus activities. An individual that brings any prohibited item may be subject to legal prosecution.
- **ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB**
  - Parents and other supporters of our athletics program often donate their time and talents to fund-raising projects, duties at games, transportation, etc. More information concerning opportunities for your support of the Crusaders is available through the athletic office.

### **RULES FOR STUDENT ATHLETES:**

- **ATTENDANCE**
  - Attendance at all practices is required unless the absence has been previously arranged with the coach. Athletes must be on time. Disciplinary actions may occur if the athlete is not at practices. A note from parents prior to an absence is appreciated. Athletes may not attend a practice or a game unless they are in school by the end of the first period of the day; they must attend the remainder of the day. If the athlete arrives later than first hour with a note from a doctor, then

the athlete may be allowed to attend practice or a game. No other notes will be accepted. Exceptions must be cleared through the Athletic Director

- **DRESS**

- Practice Attire:

- Shorts must extend to at least the bottom of the kneecap
    - Sweatpants
    - T-shirts
    - Ball caps (if part of uniform)
    - Athletic shoes
    - No pajama pants are to be worn.

All clothes must hang loose in a relaxed fit so as not to cling or conform to the body at any time. This includes sitting, standing, and during participation in an athletic event.

- Game Uniform:

- Shorts must extend to at least the bottom of the kneecap
    - Sports pants
    - Shirts
    - Ball caps (if part of uniform)
    - Athletic shoes

All clothes must hang loose in a relaxed fit so as not to cling or conform to the body at any time. This includes sitting, standing, and during participation in an athletic event.

- Game Day Attire:

- School dress code attire unless the athletic uniform is being worn (sandals are not permitted).
    - Student athletes must change out of game uniforms and change into school uniform when leaving and before being a spectator at athletic events at the discretion of the head coach and the Athletic Director.

Practice and game uniforms are to be cleaned by designated school service (except for football). Students should not normally take their uniforms home.

- **PRACTICE**

- Times and days for practices will be determined by the coach of each sport with the prior approval of the Athletic Director. Practice duration shall not exceed two and a half (2 ½) hours for any sport, excluding shower time. (i.e. Traditional practice time is 3:30-5:30, Monday through Friday with the exception of Wednesday). Students must immediately leave campus after practice and will not be able to attend extended school day services.



- **TRANSPORTATION**

- No food, drink, candy, gum, magazines, streaming/listening devices, games, or headphones are to be taken or used on trips unless permission is given in advance by the Athletic Director.
- Athletes must ride to all away games with the team. Team members can only return with adults when written permission is received by the coach a day prior to the activity. No student is ever allowed to return with another group of students or other young people not accompanied by an approved adult.

- **CELL PHONES FOR ATHLETES**

- Cell phones are requested to be brought with you on your trips but are not permitted to be used unless designated by the head coach or Athletic Director. Cell phones should not be used in the gym unless permitted by a coach, staff member, or the Athletic Director. This includes practices, before or after games, and in the locker room.