



CHRIST'S CHURCH ACADEMY

Technology Ages & Stages

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Purpose

Christ Church Academy's (CCA) educational philosophy is built on the foundation of Christianity and is shared with students daily in each grade. Technology is an imperative piece of CCA's curriculum, as it offers many opportunities for our students to become more engaged in their studies. To utilize all the many facets of our educational programs, each student in grades K-12 is required to have an electronic device for daily classroom use. Technology is integrated throughout curriculum K-12. The curriculum and learning needs of our students drive our technology goals.

Instructional Technology Enhancements

Per ACSI accreditation recommendations, the following technology improvements were made to enhance student learning and engagement in the classroom.

- Overhead projectors are installed in every classroom.
- Apple iPads are utilized by teachers with overhead screen mirroring in classroom instruction.
- Student Wi-Fi network utilizes a strong filtration software as well as reliable network access.
- A pilot program was implemented to explore a CCA-owned 1:1 device for students by purchasing a set of 50 Apple iPads that utilizes a software program, Mosyle, to monitor classroom activity. This pilot program is ongoing.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Requirements

Lower School: Elementary (K–5)

Device Type: iPad only (no laptops permitted)

iPad Requirements

- Operating System: iPadOS 17 or 18
- Minimum Storage: 64GB
- Connectivity: Wi-Fi only (no cellular required)

Compatible Models

- iPad (2021 or newer)
- iPad Air (2021 or newer)
- iPad mini (2021 or newer)
- iPad Pro (2020 or newer)

Accessories & Recommendations

- Wired headphones compatible with the iPad's port(s)
- Protective case (e.g., *OtterBox Defender Series* or similar with built-in screen protection)
- Optional: Separate screen protector for scratch resistance

Upper School: Middle School (6–8) & High School (9–12)

Device Types Allowed: iPad, Windows laptop/tablet, or Apple laptop (NO Chromebooks)

Operating System Requirements

- Windows Devices: Windows 11 or newer
- Apple Laptops: macOS 14 (Sonoma) or 15 (latest)
 - Must be manufactured in 2020 or later
- iPads: iPadOS 17 or 18
 - Must be manufactured in 2020 or later

Recommendations

- Middle School:
 - iPads are strongly recommended, as they align with classroom instruction and teacher workflows.
 - A keyboard case is recommended as students will begin practicing their keyboarding skills (e.g., *Logitech Rugged Folio* keyboard case).
- Security: Updated antivirus and anti-spyware software (especially for Windows devices)
- Hardware: Built-in camera and microphone required
- Audio: Wired headphones recommended (not required)
- Protection: Secure carrying case for tablets or laptops

Note: Cell phones are not acceptable for academic use in classrooms

General Laptop Specifications for Longevity

To ensure performance and future compatibility, we recommend the following minimum specs for laptops:

Component	Recommended Minimum
RAM	16GB
Storage	256GB SSD or higher
Processor	Intel i5/Ryzen 5 or Apple M1/M2 or newer
Battery Life	8+ hours
Ports	At least 1 USB-A or USB-C, headphone jack/adapter
Build Quality	Durable chassis, spill-resistant keyboard (if possible)

Ages & Stages

Lower School: Elementary (K-5)

Introduce foundational digital literacy skills in an engaging and age-appropriate way. Utilize interactive apps and games for early literacy and numeracy. Integration of age-appropriate educational software to explore concepts. Technology is integrated into various subject areas. Students learn how to type and navigate computer interfaces. Students utilize digital tools for storytelling, presentations, and artistic expression. Online safety lessons emphasizing responsible online behavior and understanding online interactions.

Upper School: Middle School (6-8)

Develop deeper digital literacy, critical thinking skills and collaboration using technology. Integration of age-appropriate educational software to explore concepts. Technology is integrated into various subject areas. Research projects using online databases and credible sources. Collaboration tools and platforms for group projects and presentations. Digital citizenship education addresses topics like cyberbullying, online privacy, and responsible use of social media.

Upper School: High School (9-12)

Prepare students for college and career readiness, including advanced technology skills, online collaboration, and ethical use of technology. Advanced research, data analysis, and presentation skills. Integration of age-appropriate educational software to explore concepts. Technology is integrated into various subject areas. Online course and blended learning opportunities for personalized and flexible learning. Developing projects and portfolios demonstrating specialized technological skills relevant to potential career paths. Deepening digital citizenship understanding, including ethical considerations, media literacy, and digital footprint management.

Curriculum Integration

The curriculum and learning needs of our students drive our technology goals. The school employs CurriculumTrak to teachers to provide pacing guides and digital resources (tools and content) in support of customized learning. The vehicle to deliver customized instruction is enhanced by technology. Technology allows different students with learning needs and styles to work on the same material at different instructional levels while working collectively with peers using real world applications. New Florida Best standards are infused with digital content and practices. The areas covered are basic operations and concepts of technology, construction and demonstrating knowledge, communication and collaboration, independent learning and digital citizenship.

Student-focused Technology Learning

- Elementary: students in elementary grades utilize digital learning tools to supplement instruction, not to replace in-person instruction, allows teachers the ability to differentiate instruction based on student's needs and addresses learning modalities. Initial concepts are introduced with the teacher before a digital component is added.
- Middle and High School: Students are expected to engage more in digital technology in preparation for higher learning and standardized testing environments. Students in upper school are formally instructed and expected to use the Microsoft Suite of applications including to, but not limited to, Outlook for email, Teams for classroom collaboration, PowerPoint for projects and presentations, Word for document writing, etc.

Usage by School Levels

Lower School (K-5)

IXL is utilized during literacy centers, IXL is used for additional practice when classroom is complete and for homework. AR quizzes are taken on the Renaissance platform for 1-5th grades as needed when finished reading literature, HMH reading curriculum has a digital component for student access to have the stories read to them. Let's Go Learn platform with the Into Math series allows teachers to supplement math instruction. Some teachers utilize Kahoot to prepare for digital flashcards in reviewing for upcoming assessments. Typing.com is utilized for keyboarding skills. Code.org is utilized during STEM and CODE enrichment.

Upper School (6-12) Students in upper school utilize learning tools such as IXL, Membean, and some digital textbooks. College Board/AP central are used to prepare students for college placement tests. CCA offers Digital Art Imaging, Modern Technology, Multi-Media Technology all utilizing digital platforms.

Professional Development

Leaders encourage and support educators in the use of technology, and integration into classroom instruction. Professional development will include focus on safely integrating technology into all subjects while minimizing distractions in the classroom yet maximizing student learning. Technology integration provides teachers opportunities to share lesson plans, homework and Biblical integration on an ongoing basis with the community via Renweb (FACTS). Curriculum providers integrate online curriculum components for students and teachers. Teachers are expected to utilize technology to support traditional instruction and classroom practice. Teachers will focus on increased student productivity and engagement by using word processors, spreadsheets, and graphics tools.

Security

Parents and students are required to sign an acceptable use policy annually. The school implements a user account management system and network authentication policies. The wireless network has a security system in place. The school has a firewall in place and a filtering system in place. The firewall has updated software enhancement to prevent security intrusions.

Antivirus subscription is kept up to date. Computer security updates are performed daily. CCA provides internet content filtering controls for student access to the internet using CCA's network as well as reasonable adult supervision, but at times, inappropriate, objectionable and/or offensive material may circumvent the filter as well as the supervision and be viewed by students. We contract with an offsite network security company that helps manage and monitor our security components. Students are to report the occurrence to the teacher or nearest supervisor. Students are held accountable for any deliberate attempt to circumvent CCA's technology security and supervision. CCA has no control over student devices that utilize cellular network while on campus.

Student Information System (SIS)

Nearly a decade ago, CCA implemented RenWeb, now known as FACTS Student Information System (SIS), to streamline and centralize campus operations. FACTS SIS provides a secure, cloud-based platform that connects teachers, administrators, students, and families, fostering real-time communication and transparency.

Through the FACTS Family Portal, parents gain private access to a wide range of academic and school-related information specific to their child(ren), including grades, attendance, schedules, homework assignments, behavior reports, family profiles and digital medical records. This centralized access empowers families to stay actively engaged in their child's education and well-being, while also being able to update their information in real-time.

For staff, FACTS SIS simplifies administrative tasks such as enrollment, scheduling, and reporting, while enabling teachers to manage classroom activities, lesson plans, gradebooks, and communication efficiently. Students benefit from having a consistent and organized view of their academic progress and responsibilities.

Overall, FACTS SIS enhances collaboration across the school community, supports data-driven decision-making, and promotes a more personalized and responsive educational experience. Students in middle school and high school (grades 6 - 12) at CCA are expected know how to access and utilize FACTS to their benefit daily.

New Family Mobile App

In the 2024-25 school year, the school implemented a new mobile app for parents called the CCA family app. The application is intended to provide parents quick access on their phones to their children's schedule, grades, assignments, calendar, quick links, documentation, and much more.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI in schools offers the potential to personalize learning and enhance student engagement. However, CCA is aware that there are concerns about data privacy and the potential for over-reliance on technology. AI cannot fully replace the social and emotional learning that occurs through human interaction in the classroom. We want to remain cognizant of the use of AI and technology and not hinder the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills of our

students. Using the Socratic method, teachers may give students permission to use AI for certain activities through guided practice in a safe environment. CCA has a subscription to TrekAI, a leader in faith-based online AI platform. TrekAI can be utilized by all teachers and some grade level students.

Digital Citizenship Program

In this digital world we are living in, digital citizenship is a responsibility that CCA holds high in priority in teaching our students how to find, evaluate, and use online information. This includes promoting ethics to guide online behavior, protecting personal information, knowing how to identify and respond to cyberbullying, and reminding our students how to be accountable for their online activity. Parents play a crucial role in reinforcing digital citizenship concepts. The lessons are adapted to the development stage of our students and recognizing it is an ongoing process. See CCA Parent/Student Handbook for additional information.

Disclaimer: This policy is not all inclusive and should be considered a supplement to the CCA Parent/Student Handbook.