SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Diploma Requirements & Program of Studies

A GUIDE FOR PROSPECTIVE **GRADE 9** STUDENTS

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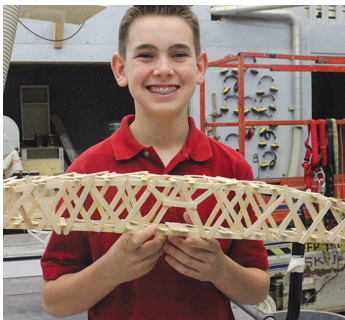


DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS & **PROGRAM OF STUDIES** AT SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Mission Statement

Smithville Christian High School offers a Christ-centred education, in a nurturing atmosphere, which enables students to develop their talents to the fullest potential for service in all areas of God's Kingdom.

Program Goals

In our striving for excellence, the program at Smithville Christian High School directs the student to ...

1. ***Develop a solid scriptural knowledge in order to***
   - a use the Bible as a guide for living.
   - b recognize the universal rule of Christ.
   - c consider issues from a Biblical perspective.
2. ***Demonstrate Christian character and wisdom in order to***
   - a act with integrity, respect and honesty.
   - b promote justice and mercy.
   - c commit to further learning and growing.
3. ***Identify his/her personal gifts and be ready to use them to***
   - a give leadership in an area of expertise or interest.
   - b promote justice and mercy in a hurting world.
   - c serve obediently and boldly for the sake of God's kingdom.
4. ***Understand how to build community and be ready to***
   - a develop caring relationships.
   - b cooperate and resolve conflicts.
   - c respond to strangers and those unlike them with kindness and understanding.
5. ***Communicate with clarity, integrity and conviction demonstrated by an ability to***
   - a use the gift of language with proficiency.
   - b speak and write confidently and persuasively.
   - c speak the truth lovingly and forthrightly.
6. ***Identify and wonder at God's handiwork in creation with an ability to***
   - a grasp the beauty and order of creation.
   - b connect the greatness of God with the detail of what he has made.

Program Goals Cont'd ...

7. ***Understand and form a biblical perspective on the forces that shape human culture with an ability to***
   a understand history.
   b act as a responsible citizen.
   c interact wisely with culture.
   d discern the redemptive value of human undertakings.
   e develop well supported viewpoints on a broad range of issues.

8. ***Image God with creativity in an ability to***
   a express him/herself in joyful thanksgiving.
   b understand great artistic or literary works.
   c understand how literature and art comment on the human condition.

9. ***Exercise good stewardship with an ability to***
   a use the body in healthy and playful ways.
   b use time efficiently.
   c use creation's resources responsibly.
   d view money and possessions as gifts from God to be used wisely.
   e use technology wisely and effectively.

Diploma Requirements

The course requirements for the earning of a diploma in Ontario have been spelled out in Ontario Ministry of Education documents. The policy statement given in these documents specifies, among other things, how many courses are necessary for the achievement of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), which types of courses are compulsory, which are electives, and what kinds of education programs schools may offer. Smithville Christian will continue to offer the Ministry diploma, and will thus abide by many of the stipulations in these documents. The courses offered by this school have been developed according to the requirements of the Ministry. Under the regulations of the Ministry, any student entering grade 9 in September, 1999 and thereafter, is required to achieve 30 credits in order to receive the OSSD. There will be 18 compulsory credits and 12 elective credits.

Compulsory Credits

These are secondary school credits, prescribed by Ministry and Smithville Christian High School policy, that a student must earn in order to satisfy the requirement for an OSSD and a Smithville Christian High School diploma.

Elective Credits

These are credits which students may elect to take to fill out the requirement of 30 credits for the diplomas.

Ontario Student Transcript

The Ontario Student Transcript is a standard form used in all Ontario secondary schools. It provides a summary of the courses in which a student is enrolled, and records the final mark the student receives on leaving or completing the course.

Ontario Student Record

The OSR is the ongoing, confidential record of a student's educational progress through school in Ontario. The information in an OSR is available to supervisory officers and the principal and teachers of the school only for the purpose of improving the instruction of the student. All students, and the parents or guardians of students under 18 years of age have the right to examine the OSR, and to receive a copy of its contents, if they so desire.

Compulsory Credits for the OSSD & Smithville Christian Diplomas:

- **4 credits** in English
- **1 credit** in French as a second language
- **3 credits** in mathematics (at least 1 credit in grade 11 or 12)
- **2 credits** in science
- **1 credit** in Canadian history
- **1 credit** in Canadian geography
- **1 credit** in the arts
- **1 credit** in physical and health education
- **½ credit** in civics
- **½ credit** in career studies

This brings to 30 the total credits required for both the OSSD and Smithville Christian High School Diploma.

Plus one credit from <u>each</u> of the following groups:

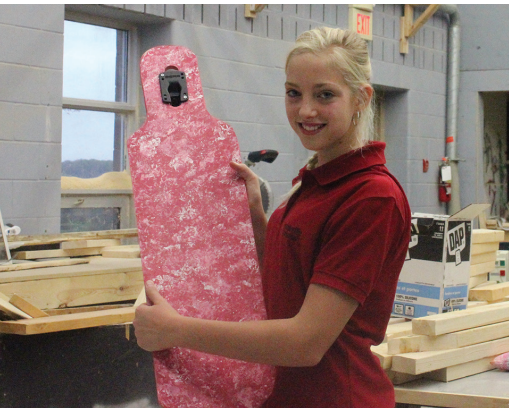
Group 1: Additional credit in English, or French as a second language,** or a Native language, or a classical or an international language, or social sciences and the humanities (IDC4U or IDC4O at Smithville Christian), or Canadian and world studies, or guidance and career education, or cooperative education***

Group 2: Additional credit (group 2): additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies (IDC3O at Smithville Christian), or French as a second language,** or cooperative education***

Group 3: Additional credit (group 3): additional credit in science (Grade 11 or 12), or technological education (TIJ1O at Smithville Christian), or French as a second language,** or computer studies, or cooperative education***

In addition to the compulsory credits, students must complete:

- *12 optional credits†(this includes the 2 Bible credits at Smithville Christian High)*
- *40 hours of community involvement activities*
- *the provincial literacy requirement*



Mandatory Community Service

One of the diploma requirements in Ontario is mandatory community involvement. In order to receive an OSSD in Ontario, students must perform a minimum of 40 hours of voluntary community activity (in addition to 30 credits), completed over 4 years. The purpose of such involvement is to foster the manifestation of a life of gratitude, to encourage civic responsibility and to promote community awareness. Such involvement also supports students' career explorations.

Mandatory Literacy Test

The High School Reading and Writing Test will be administered to students before the end of grade 10, usually in the spring of that academic year. It will act as both a diagnostic and an accreditation tool. Reporting of the results of this test will be done on an individual and school basis, and at least for Ontario's public secondary schools, on a provincial basis. The results will also be noted on the student's Ontario Student Transcript. If unable to meet the standards of the test in the first attempt, students, after receiving remediation, must re-take the test until the standard is met.

The Grade 9 & 10 Program

There are two streams of course work (applied, academic) for core subjects in grade 9, from which students can choose based on interests, needs and achievement. A third type, open courses, are appropriate for all students.

- **ACADEMIC COURSES** will focus on essential concepts of a discipline and include additional requirements, and greater emphasis will be placed on theoretical, abstract applications while incorporating practical applications as appropriate.
- **APPLIED COURSES** will focus on essential concepts; emphasis will be placed on practical, concrete applications while incorporating theoretical applications as appropriate.
- **OPEN COURSES** are designed to give students additional preparation for grades 11 and 12, and to enrich their education generally.

Courses for Grades 11 & 12

Grade 10 academic and applied courses will prepare students for grade 11 courses in accordance with prerequisites in each grade 11 course. Courses in grades 11 and 12 may have specific prerequisites. Students in grades 11 and 12 will choose courses from one or more of five types listed below (note: courses are currently being developed in consort with Ministry guidelines and students' needs, implying that not every program will offer each of the strands on the following page):

- **UNIVERSITY PREPARATION COURSES** will provide students with the knowledge and skills that they need in order to meet the requirements for entrance to university programs.
- **UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PREPARATION COURSES** will provide students with the knowledge and skills that they need in order to meet the requirements for entrance to university and college programs.
- **COLLEGE PREPARATION COURSES** will provide students with the knowledge and skills they need in order to meet the requirements for entrance to college programs.
- **WORKPLACE PREPARATION COURSES** will provide students with the knowledge and skills that they need in order to meet employers' expectations with regard to preparation for direct entry to the workplace.
- **OPEN COURSES** are not developed to meet the specific requirements of universities, colleges or the workplace, but are intended to enrich students' lives and to prepare them for active and rewarding participation in society.

Alternative Methods of Achieving Credit

Music Certificates:

The following certificates may be counted for a maximum of one credit towards the OSSD in addition to any other credit earned at the school:

- Royal Conservatory of Music: Grade VIII Practical and Grade II Rudiments.
- Western Ontario Conservatory, London: Grade VIII Practical and Grade II Rudiments.
- McGill Preparatory School of Music: Grade 10 Practical and Grade 10 Theory.
- Trinity College of Music, London, England: Grade VII Practical and Grade V Theory.
- Royal Schools of Music, London, England: Grade VII Practical and Grade VI Theory.

Notes: The term "practical" refers to any music instrument that is examined, including the voice, but does not include speech arts. The mark credited to the student is calculated by averaging the marks that the student has earned in practical and rudiments or theory or harmony, as the case may be.

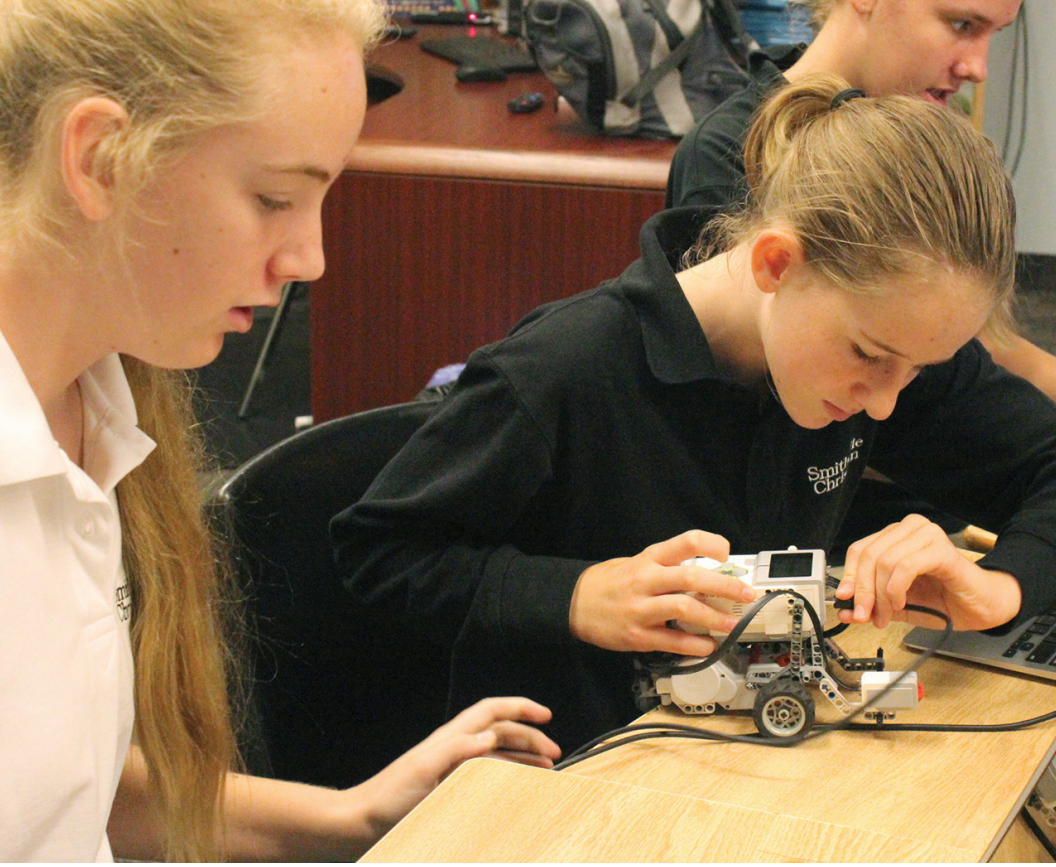
Correspondence or Online Courses:

It is possible to acquire additional credits through correspondence courses. Online and correspondence courses require a great deal of work, and the students must demonstrate a reasonable promise of success. Students may apply for courses in the Guidance Office.

Night School or Summer School

Students who fail a course at Smithville Christian High School and need to have the credit for that subject, may enroll in the night or summer school program given at some local secondary schools. However, for courses for which there are no equivalents in the public or separate school systems, such as Bible, the students may request permission to do make-up work during the next term. This must be arranged via the administration. Most night and summer schools have registration deadlines and require the permission of the day school. The night or summer school also requires a written permission form from Smithville Christian. It is the responsibility of the student to see to it that the results of the night or summer school courses are passed on to the Guidance Office so that they may be entered on the student's Ontario Student Transcript.

Note: conditions may change slightly from year to year in the delivery of night or summer school courses.



Deciphering Common Course Codes

The common course code (CCC) consists of the following components:

The first three characters of the CCC represent the discipline, the subject and the course:

A - The Arts
B - Business Studies
C - Canadian and World Studies
E - English
F - French
G - Guidance
H - Social Sciences and Bible
P - Health and Physical Education
M - Mathematics
S - Science
T - Technological Education

The fourth character refers to the grade of the course:

1 - grade 9
2 - grade 10
3 - grade 11
4 - grade 12

The fifth character refers to the course stream

D - academic	U - university	E - workplace
P - applied	M - college/university	
O - open	C - College	

Thus, the grade 9 academic mathematics course is coded: MPM1D

PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR **GRADE NINE STUDENTS** AT SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

The Arts

The arts allow for students to employ their creativity to worship God. These courses are designed to cultivate and develop our God-given talents and abilities for the purpose of glorifying God. Through participation in this program it is desired that we will each develop a greater appreciation and understanding of music and visual arts as we use it to glorify and worship our Creator and Saviour.

Integrated Arts

This course integrates two or more of the arts (dance, drama, media arts, music, and visual arts), giving students the opportunity to produce and present integrated art works created individually or collaboratively. Students will demonstrate innovation as they learn and apply concepts, styles, and conventions unique to the various arts and acquire skills that are transferable beyond the classroom. Students will use the creative process and responsible practices to explore solutions to integrated arts challenges. **Prerequisite:** None

Bible

Biblical study at Smithville Christian High School is academic in nature and confessional in intent. The program emphasizes the most foundational and important truths necessary for the life-long journey of Scripture-based faith. Biblical faith is studied within the context of "creation-fall-redemption" and students will develop a deeper understanding of the themes of covenant, kingdom, church, law, and salvation.

Bible, Grade 9: HRE13A – Open (½ credit, Part I)

The concept of redemptive history is introduced and developed through the study of the Pentateuch in its historical setting. It continues with the study of Israel's entry into the Promised Land and life during the period of the Judges and the early monarchy. This course is continued in grade 10 for a full credit.

Canadian and World Studies

This program offers students the opportunity to evaluate human responses to God's call for justice and stewardship in local and global settings in both the past and present. Their learning in the various courses in this program will contribute significantly to students' understanding of Canada's heritage and its physical, social, cultural, governmental, legal, and economic structures and relationships. It will also help them to perceive Canada in a global context and to understand its evolving role in the world community. The Geography program helps students to understand the distribution of physical, biological and human phenomena on the earth; their causes, inter-relationships and effects. The Geography program helps students to analyze and evaluate human response to God's call for justice and stewardship in both local and global settings.

Issues in Canadian Geography, Grade 9: CGC1D – Academic

This course examines interrelationships within and between Canada's natural and human systems and how these systems interconnect with those in other parts of the world. Students will explore environmental, economic, and social geographic issues relating to topics such as transportation options, energy choices, and urban development. Students will apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process, including spatial technologies, to investigate various geographic issues and to develop possible approaches for making Canada a more sustainable place in which to live.

Issues in Canadian Geography, Grade 9: CGC1P – Applied

This course focuses on current geographic issues that affect Canadians. Students will draw on their personal and everyday experiences as they explore issues relating to food and water supplies, competing land uses, interactions with the natural environment, and other topics relevant to sustainable living in Canada. They will also develop an awareness that issues that affect their lives in Canada are interconnected with issues in other parts of the world. Throughout the course, students will use the concepts of geographic thinking, the geographic inquiry process, and spatial technologies to guide and support their investigations.

English

Students are encouraged to enjoy God's gift of communication as they explore writing, language, literature and media. Literature is a fundamental element of identity and culture. As students read and reflect on a rich variety of literature, informational texts, and media works, they deepen their understanding of themselves, their Creator and the world around them. Students will be taught discernment when reflecting on the various worldviews represented in the literature and media. Through the study of literature, students strengthen their ability to use language as an effective tool for thought, creative expression, and communication across the disciplines.

English, Grade 9: ENG1D – Academic

This course is designed to develop the oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills that students need for success in their secondary school academic programs and in their daily lives. Students will analyse literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on the use of strategies that contribute to effective communication. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 academic English course, which leads to university or college preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

English, Grade 9: ENG1P – Applied

This course is designed to develop the key oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills students need for success in secondary school and daily life. Students will read, interpret, and create a variety of informational, literary, and graphic texts. An important focus will be on identifying and using appropriate strategies and processes to improve students' comprehension of texts and to help them communicate clearly and effectively. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 applied English course, which leads to college or workplace preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

French

Believers recognize that God has created people of many cultures, races, and languages. This program is designed to help students grow in appreciation and respect for those who are French. The French program aims to prepare students to speak the official language with confidence and to gain transferable academic and cognitive skills. The program celebrates the gifts of communication, and opens students to wide-ranging possibilities in career options.

Core French, Grade 9: FSF1D – Academic

This course emphasizes the further development of oral communication, reading, and writing skills. Students will build on and apply their knowledge of French while exploring a variety of themes, such as relationships, social trends, and careers. Thematic readings, which include a selection of short stories, articles, and poems, will serve as stepping stones to oral and written activities.

Prerequisite: minimum 600 hours of French instruction or equivalent.

Core French, Grade 9: FSF1P – Applied

This course emphasizes the concurrent development of oral communication, reading, and writing skills, using a broad-based theme such as the media. Students will enhance their ability to understand and speak French through conversations, discussions, and presentations. They will also read short stories, articles, poems, and songs, and write brief descriptions, letters, dialogues, and invitations.

Prerequisite: minimum 600 hours of French instruction or equivalent.

Health & Physical Education

The physical education and health program seeks to encourage students to develop the attitude and practice of life-long physical fitness. The program implements this through individual and corporate physical skills training and health awareness which encourages individual motor skill development and community participation. A major aim is also to teach physical fitness and sports in order to enable students to participate in organized, structured games and leisure activities which allow for healthy service for the Lord.

Healthy and Active Living Education, Grade 9: PPL1O – Open (½ credit: Part I)

This course emphasizes regular participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong healthy active living. Students will learn movement skills and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence, and safety and injury prevention. They will investigate issues related to healthy sexuality and the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, and will participate in activities designed to develop goal-setting, communication, and social skills.

Mathematics

The focus in the mathematics program is on transferable skills such as: reasoning, problem solving, communicating and understanding ideas, and the use of appropriate technology. Mathematical work at Smithville Christian is based around the recognition of the spatial and numerical order of God's creation.

Principles of Mathematics, Grade 9: MPM1D – Academic

This course enables students to develop an understanding of mathematical concepts related to algebra, analytic geometry, and measurement and geometry through investigation, the effective use of technology, and abstract reasoning. Students will investigate relationships, which they will then generalize as equations of lines, and will determine the connections between different representations of a linear relation. They will also explore relationships that emerge from the measurement of three dimensional figures and two-dimensional shapes. Students will reason mathematically and communicate their thinking as they solve multi-step problems.

Foundations of Mathematics, Grade 10:MFM1P – Applied

This course enables students to develop an understanding of mathematical concepts related to introductory algebra, proportional reasoning, and measurement and geometry through investigation, the effective use of technology, and hands-on activities. Students will investigate real life examples to develop various representations of linear relationships, and will determine the connections between the representations. They will also explore certain relationships that emerge from the measurement of three-dimensional figures and two-dimensional shapes. Students will consolidate their mathematical skills as they solve problems and communicate their thinking.

Science

Scientific activities are a legitimate and important part of the Christian's task to explore and understand creation. The science courses offered at Smithville Christian expand the student's knowledge and understanding of the creation and the Creator. As stewards of God's creation, students need to comprehend the complex relationships in creation so that they may be aware of the consequences of human activities on these relationships.

Science, Grade 9, Academic (SNC1D)

This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to relate science to technology, society, and the environment. Throughout the course, students will develop their skills in the processes of scientific investigation. Students will acquire an understanding of scientific theories and conduct investigations related to sustainable ecosystems; atomic and molecular structures and the properties of elements and compounds; the study of the universe and its properties and components; and the principles of electricity.

Science, Grade 9, Applied (SNC1P)

This course enables students to develop their understanding of basic concepts in biology, chemistry, earth and space science, and physics, and to apply their knowledge of science to everyday situations. They are also given opportunities to develop practical skills related to scientific investigation. Students will plan and conduct investigations into practical problems and issues related to the impact of human activity on ecosystems; the structure and properties of elements and compounds; space exploration and the components of the universe; and static and current electricity.

Technological Education

In the 21st century, technology may be leading many changes in our culture. This program has a two fold aim: first, to offer a Christian perspective on technological change and how it fits into contemporary culture, and second, to develop in students the skills necessary to live and work creatively and competently in a technologically based society.

Exploring Technologies,Grade 9, TIJ1O – Open

This course enables students to further explore and develop technological knowledge and skills introduced in the elementary science and technology program. Students will be given the opportunity to design and create products and/or provide services related to the various technological areas or industries, working with a variety of tools, equipment, and software commonly used in industry. Students will develop an awareness of environmental and societal issues, and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary education and training pathways leading to careers in technology-related fields.

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING
AT SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN HIGH

Planning Ahead

To plan your course selection for each year, use this chart. The compulsory courses are preprinted and the blank boxes are for your elective choices. Your guidance counsellor will present your course selection sheets to you annually and will help you in your choices. By using this chart, you can be assured that you will meet the diploma requirements for the OSSD and the Smithville Christian High School diplomas!

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Math	Math	Math	Senior Social Science (Group 1)
Science	Science	Bible	Capstone
Cdn. Geography	Cdn. History	Stewardship	*
P.E. / Bible	P.E. / Bible	*	*
French	Civics / Careers	*	*
Integrated Arts	*	*	*
Exploring Technology	*	*	*

Two additional diploma requirements for the OSSD are 40 hours of community involvement, and successful completion of a high school literacy test, to be administered in the student's grade 10 year.

Please remember that although courses may not be compulsory, they may be required for college and university entrance. Each student's educational plan will reflect his/her own post secondary goals.

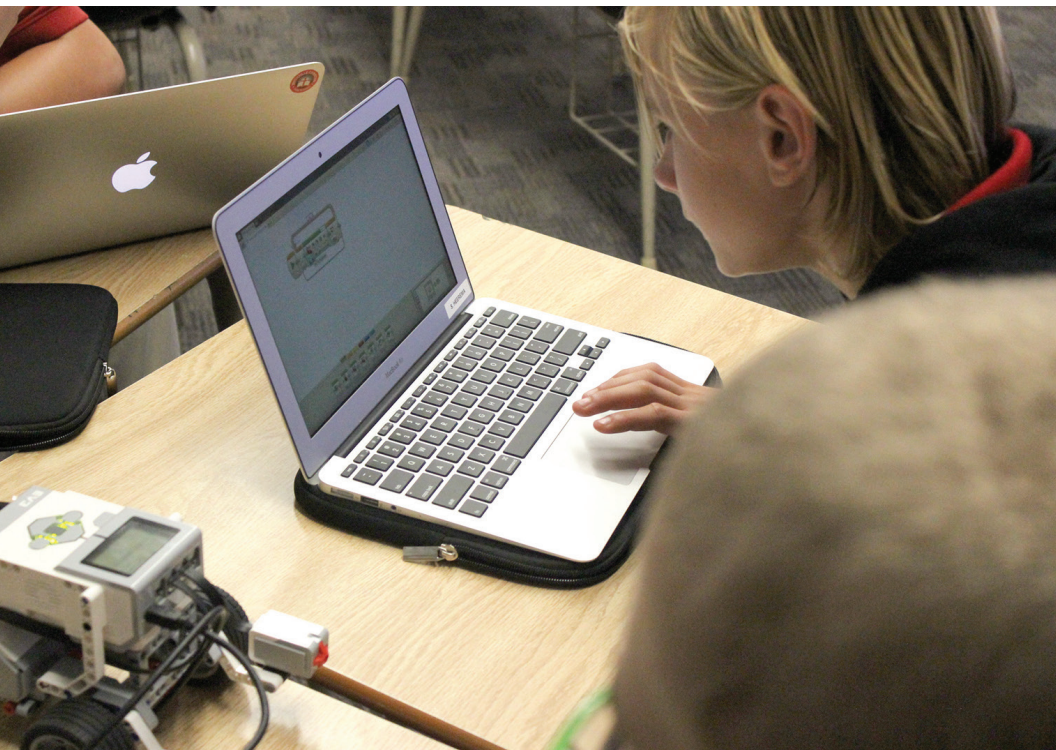
Educational Planning Cont'd ...

1:1 Computing at Smithville Christian – A MacBook for Every Student

Smithville Christian High School's 1:1 computer program means we are able to offer our Grade 9 students an exciting and innovative approach to electives. Instead of having to choose two electives, Grade 9 students at Smithville Christian get to take six: Art, Music, Drama, Computers, Shop and Food & Nutrition. Teachers in groups of three are team-teaching two new compulsory credits, Exploring Technologies (TIJ10) and Integrated Arts (ALC10), and are giving students the best of all six subjects. Students are exposed to more options and accomplishing more of the compulsory credits in their Grade 9 year.

Learning For Tomorrow is at the heart of this approach, as we strive to encourage our students to try new things. The MacBooks and the two new credits are also integral to Smithville Christian's emphasis on Project-Based-Learning, where students are given the opportunity to work in groups, to ask questions, to analyze, critique, synthesize, create and share. We celebrate this work every January at our annual Open House and Celebration of Learning.

Parents are invited to attend an orientation session held just before school starts in September to learn about online security and ask questions about how computers are being used to achieve program goals. Learning to use technology responsibly is an essential educational skill, and a wonderful opportunity for a Christian school to teach discernment and equip students well.



SMITHVILLE CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

A place where students...

Belong.

accept others and celebrate their uniqueness
collaborate with other learners | extend the gift of hospitality

Believe.

yearn for wisdom | learn Christian discipleship | worship meaningfully
discern the value of cultural trends | demonstrate integrity

Succeed.

greet learning opportunities with curiosity and awe | lead and follow with a servant's heart
shape culture | plan for post-secondary success | seek God's calling

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