



**Nampa Christian Schools**  
**Curriculum Guide**



## Foundational Statements

### Prayer:

Our prayer is that God will capture the **HEARTS** of our students, transform their **MINDS (HEADS)** through His Spirit to love Him and others, and empower their **HANDS** to serve joyfully and faithfully to further His Kingdom.

### Mission:

Nampa Christian Schools, through a Christ-centered partnership with families and Churches, exists to glorify God with our **HEART , HEAD, and HANDS**.

### Vision:

Our vision at Nampa Christian Schools is to provide a high quality education with the Gospel and a Biblical Worldview as its foundation. Our purpose is to equip, shape and disciple students' **HEARTS, HEADS, and HANDS** in the Truth and authority of Scripture, striving for excellence to glorify God in all areas of learning and life.

## Portrait of a NCS Graduate Rooted in our Core Values:

- Understand and commit to a personal life-long relationship with Christ. (**Heart**)
- Understand and articulate a Biblical Worldview in all disciplinary areas, and defend that perspective in the world. (**Heart and Head**)
- Pursue academic excellence and a desire for life-long learning in all disciplinary areas. (**Head**)
- Develop moral integrity, demonstrated by righteous living and stewardship. (**Heart, Head, and Hands**)
- Empathize and work well with others all while respecting the worth of every individual as made in God's image. (**Heart and Hands**)
- Lead through service, prepared and motivated for lifelong service to others, and know and apply spiritual giftedness. (**Hands**)
- Go and make disciples for the purpose of glorifying God with **HEART, HEAD, and HANDS** in order to further His Kingdom.



### **Shaping a Biblical Worldview:**

God-breathed Scripture is the lens through which all learning is framed, giving opportunities for greater understanding of God’s character, His creation, and our role in His sovereign plan. All learning about the past, present, and future is connected with God’s great work and plan of redemption through Christ.

### **Philosophy of Christian Education and Instruction: (*Biblical Integration, Discipleship, and Faith Formation*)**

We believe that the purpose of Nampa Christian in our partnership with Christ-centered families and churches in furthering the Kingdom of God is to disciple God’s children in the following ways.

- To shape their understanding of Christ and His plan of salvation for His people.
- To equip them with knowledge of God, His world, and how the role they play in it.
- To encourage and disciple students to desire to love God and joyfully serve Him and others as they learn, work and play.

We are not Christians who teach, but rather we are Christian teachers called to serve God and His kingdom by using the gifts He has given us to teach minds and shape hearts for further service in His kingdom. Therefore, we cannot separate our beliefs, our faith, and how we live as Christians from what we do and say in our classrooms. In this endeavor, we are committed to our partnership with Christ-like families and churches as we seek to glorify God with our **hearts, heads, and hands**.

### **Understanding by Design:**

Our teachers are working on implementing intentional planning that leads to deeper learning and understanding by our students. Our commitment to this is manifested in our use of Understanding by Design. Teachers are asked to plan units based on their curriculum maps that focus on large concepts and that are connected to our Portrait of a Graduate. Our hope is that our teachers will think deeply about purpose and the long term transfer of knowledge and skills for students to apply to new and authentic situations. We believe this allows learning to be more “real” to students, and therefore, more applicable to their lives.

### **Curriculum:**

At Nampa Christian Schools we believe that curriculum can and should utilize a variety of resources that best support the teaching of our NCS standards of learning. We believe that all resources used must reflect and align with our foundational statements of purpose. These resources are taught through a Biblical worldview lens as students learn to reconcile their beliefs about God and learning in light of the conflicting views of the world around them. All students are uniquely created by God and learn through a variety of means. Our teachers, as the hands and feet of our mission and vision, seek to engage our learners through a variety of methods, strategies, and resources with enriching, challenging, and practical learning experiences.



All Curriculum is reviewed by the administration team on a regular basis, and according to the approved cycle and review guidelines listed below. All curriculum is to be approved by the Principal of each campus and the Curriculum Director.

**Curriculum Offerings**

Age	Subjects
Preschool 2's	Bible, fine motor, social and personal development, gross motor, language development
Preschool 3's	Bible, phonics and language development, fine motor, pre- writing, pre-reading, math, social studies, science, social and personal development, physical education, music, library
Preschool 4's	Bible, phonics, pre- reading, handwriting, math, social studies and science inquiry, social and personal development, physical education, music, library
Kindergarten	Bible, phonics, reading, spelling, grammar, handwriting, writing, math, social studies, science inquiry, social and personal development, physical education, music
1st Grade	Bible, phonics, reading, spelling, grammar, handwriting, writing, math, social studies, science, social and personal development, physical education, music, technology, library
2nd Grade	Bible, phonics, reading, spelling, grammar, handwriting, writing, math, social studies, science, social and personal development, physical education, music, technology, library
3rd Grade	Bible, reading, spelling, vocabulary, grammar, handwriting, writing, math, social studies, science, physical education, music, technology, library
4th Grade	Bible, reading, spelling, vocabulary, grammar, handwriting, writing, math, Idaho history, science, physical education, music, technology, library
5th Grade	Bible, reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing, math, US History, science, physical education, music, technology, library
6th Grade	Bible, English, ancient world history, math, physical science, technology, electives
7th Grade	Bible, English, world history, math, life science, technology, electives
8th Grade	Bible, English, United States and Idaho history, math (including opportunity for Integrated I), earth science, technology, electives
MS Electives	Choir, Theater, Art, Band, Physical Education, Yearbook, Chapel Worship



<b>9th Grade</b>	*Bible, *English, *Math (typically Integrated I or II), Physical Science, Health/Intro to Fitness, Foreign Language (1 year required), Elective
<b>10th Grade</b>	*Bible, *English, *Math (typically Integrated II or Integrated III), Biology, Western Civilization, Electives
<b>11th Grade</b>	*Bible, *English, *Math (Integrated III, Pre-calculus or Statistics), Chemistry or Anatomy and Physiology, United States History, 2 electives
<b>12th Grade</b>	*Bible, *English, *Math (Precalculus, Calculus, or Statistics), *United States Government, *Economics (1 credit), *Personal Finance (1 credit), optional Advanced Biology or Anatomy & Physiology, electives
<b>High School Electives</b>	Choir (Women’s Choir, Men’s Choir, Mixed Ensemble, and Jazz Choir), Jazz Ensemble, Theater (including a backstage class) Spanish, American Sign Language, Art, Fitness, Yearbook, Robotics, Business Math, Coffee Shop Lab credit, Wood Shop, Internship opportunities,

*\*See handbook for more specific credit information*

**Supported and Enriched Curriculum:**

The general curriculum at Nampa Christian is supported in the following ways:

- Classroom Aides (grades Preschool through 5th Grade)
- Reading Intervention Teacher (Title I)
- Elementary and Secondary Counselor (one on each campus)
- School Nurse
- Specials Teachers (Music, Physical Education, Library, and Technology)
- Trojan Learning Commons with a Math Specialist, an ELA Specialist and a classroom aide for Intervention and academic support services. (Secondary Campus)
- Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Libraries
- Secondary campus Guidance Counselor



### **Extra Curricular Opportunities:**

- Honor Society (High School)
- Student Leadership (6th Grade- 12th Grades)
- Theater Productions (twice a year for High School, once for Middle School)
- Choir Tour and Competition (Every Spring) (6 different choir opportunities)
- Athletics
  - 6th Grade: Cross Country and Wrestling
  - 7th & 8th Grade: Cross County, Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Track and Field
  - 9th-12th Grade: Cross County, Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Track and Field, Baseball, Softball, Golf, Swimming (Nampa Co-op Team)
- Cheerleading (High School)
- Ski Team (6th -12th Grades)
- Clay Shooting Club (HS)

### **Classroom and Library Materials:**

All materials used by teachers and students must align with the school's mission, vision, core values, and academic goals. These materials include textbooks, workbooks, audio-visual materials, technology, and all other supplemental materials.

The following will further guide the selection process. Staff and faculty are required to ensure that all materials meet this criteria, and the Superintendent, the school Principals, and the Curriculum and Instruction Director will oversee the staff in this area.

- To provide materials that align with Nampa Christian's beliefs regarding curriculum, instruction, and Biblical worldview.
- To provide materials that meet the education standards adopted by Nampa Christian Schools.
- To provide research based materials of the highest quality.
- To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the various learning needs of the students.
- To provide materials that are current, relevant, and applicable to the curriculum.
- To provide materials that stimulate growth and knowledge.
- To provide materials that reflect a variety of genres and topics of interest that support student reading.
- To provide materials that are age appropriate, and have lasting value.

*\*Gifts or donated materials will be subject to the same selection criteria and process.*



### **Technology Use:**

The use of educational technology is encouraged in the classroom. The resources used must align with the NCS curriculum statements which are based on our mission and vision. Student use of devices must be monitored by teachers or aides using our screen monitoring system. The purpose should be clearly defined and intentional in order to support classroom instruction and student learning.

### **Curriculum Review Process**

When any curriculum resource is reviewed Nampa Christian uses the following procedure:

1. Committee will be formed including teachers and administration.
2. Review the foundational statements that are key to the curricular area.
3. Review the need and purpose of the particular curricular area.
4. Ensure the resource aligns with our Nampa Christian Standards of Learning.
5. Research resource and curricular area for best practices in teaching and learning.
6. Committee will present for administration approval..
7. When chosen, professional development will be provided if needed.
8. Discuss with teachers how to teach the curricular area or new resource from a distinctively Christian perspective and Biblical worldview.

### **Curriculum Challenge Procedure**

If there is an objection to an educational resource, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. Curriculum challenges may only be brought to the school by members of the school's Corporation.
2. The person bringing the objection must have read and/or viewed the resource in its entirety to understand context.
3. If there is still a concern, it should be discussed with the classroom teacher to attempt to resolve informally.
4. If the issue is not resolved, a "Request for Reconsideration of a Resource" email may be sent to the campus Principal.
5. The campus Principal will form a reconsideration team to review the challenged resource. (This team should include the principal, the curriculum director, and at least two teachers in the department or team. Other teachers in the department or team may also be consulted.)



6. The reconsideration team will re-evaluate the material to make sure that it supports NCS's mission, vision, and academic purpose statements.
7. While the resource is being reconsidered, it will remain in use.
8. Material will not be reconsidered within five years of a previous challenge and procedure.