

# LEXINGTON LATIN SCHOOL

## Parent Handbook



2011-2012

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## About Lexington Latin School

### Mission Statement

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The Lexington Latin School strives to provide an affordably-priced classical, Christian education for Pre-Kindergarten through 9th grade that rises to the high standards of traditional education.

### School Philosophy

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We teach a classical, Christian education which means we look at everything in life and learning through the crystal-clear and true lens of Christianity. We see God and His handiwork in the beautiful world which He gave us, through the humanity of our fellow man, and in the inherent dignity He bestowed upon us. All our subjects are taught knowing God is the author of all worthwhile knowledge. God made up the math, as well as the science. He inspired the great literature we read, the beautiful art we see, and soul-touching music we are fortunate to hear. He made the very tongues that speak the Latin, English, and French. He also made the ears that hear and interpret the words said. He was there when all history was made and subsequently recorded. Our curriculum and philosophy are a result of that knowledge. Our mantra is to seek to cultivate wisdom and virtue through the good, the beautiful, and the true.

Knowledge is power and must be coupled with virtue. We believe our curriculum and the instruction of our teachers guide students to differentiate and know the value of courage over cowardice, loyalty over disloyalty, generosity over avarice, truth over lies, and love over hate. Knowledge without virtue and wisdom is dangerous and can be misused to the harm of many. Knowledge carries with it an inherent necessity to use it wisely and virtuously. Wisdom and virtue come from God alone and the abilities He grants us to know and recognize them. We use curriculum and teachers who inspire students to answer to the higher calling of wisdom and virtue. As Henry Adams said, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

### Welcome

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Welcome, parents, to the Lexington Latin School. We look forward to a wonderful year and a fruitful relationship among our school, you the parents, and your children, who are the jewels our school and the ones who inspire us. We want to teach, love, and care for your students, always in cooperation with you.

## **The LLS Classroom**

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Our classrooms are arranged with the teachers at the front of the room engaging students in a traditional classroom atmosphere of interaction between teacher and student using the Socratic method. We make every effort to keep our classes at a maximum of 16 students, but they may reach 18. There may be combined grades in some classrooms.

### Lexington Latin School Crest



#### CHIEF



*Dominion and authority*

#### BERRIES



*Liberality, felicity, and peace*

#### BOOK



*Manifestation*

#### CROWN



*Prestige*

#### ACORN



*Antiquity and strength*

#### IVY LEAVES



*Strong and lasting friendship*

#### OAK LEAVES



*Great age and strength; Heroism and victory*

#### TORCH



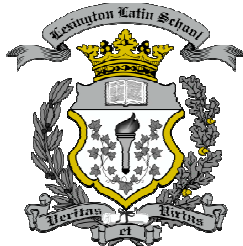
*Life; zealousness; truth and intelligence*

#### BAY LEAVES



*Poet or victor's laurel*

#### GOLD



*Generosity and elevation of the mind*

#### GREEN



*Hope, joy, and loyalty in love*

#### RED



*Military strength and magnanimity*

## General Information

<b>Physical Address</b>	Ashland Avenue Baptist Church 483 West Reynolds Road Lexington, KY 40503 (across from Lexington Christian Academy on the roundabout)
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Lexington Latin School 212 Golf Club Drive Nicholasville, KY 40356
<b>Phone Numbers</b>	(859) 806-0832 (859) 223-1927
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.lexingtonlatinschool.com">http://www.lexingtonlatinschool.com</a>
<b>School Hours</b>	Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:30 – 3:30

### School Year

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Our school calendar runs from the day after Labor Day to the week prior to Memorial Day (celebrated). Check our web site for the most up-to-date information. Our major events during the year include parent orientations, First Day of School Ceremony, parent coffees, a fall outing, a Christmas Program, an Easter Program, and an End-of-the-Year Celebration.

Lexington Latin School has 34 weeks of classes during the year. Thanksgiving break lasts all week; Christmas break is 2 weeks long; and Spring Break is one week.

### Complying with State Law

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Kentucky State Law requires all students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades to meet its standard 175 school days. LLS operates on a unique schedule in cooperation with the parents. To meet these requirements, parents will provide additional individual instructional days for two more weeks, which can include vacations, field trips, and projects.

Parents must keep records of study and attendance in accordance with Kentucky State law. They must send a “Letter of Intent” annually to their local school board declaring your intention to home school their student(s) cooperatively with Lexington Latin School. They must keep their students’ papers and records on file. (We recommend using a big labeled plastic tub with a lid

for each child.) LLS will send home graded tests and quizzes, but parents are the record keeper and final giver of grades. We will give recommended grades. We are in session 34 weeks, which parents will count as part of the 36 weeks the state requires. Parents will also need to add work for those days of vacations, special activities, review, preview, educational games, and field trips.

## **Being Prepared for School**

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Students should come to school on time and ready for class in the mornings. They need to have completed the previous week's assignments and bring pencils, paper, and required books and other materials. Teachers will communicate to parents what their student(s) need to bring with them to school each week. We realize there are times homework is not finished for various reasons and sleep was at a minimum. When that happens, parents should inform the teacher so that adjustments may be made to help them that day.

Parents must be available to home school their students the days LLS is not in session. Students will need direction, a minimal amount of teaching, and much accountability on those days. They should do their work in physical proximity or eyesight of parents. Their work should be done at a desk and not in their room.

Doors open to school at 8:15am. **Parents should have their student(s) at school no later than 8:25am.**

If parents have any problems, they may contact their teacher and work with him/her to achieve resolution. After that, if resolution is not attained, they may contact Mrs. Davis.

## **Academic Integrity**

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LLS expects the highest standards of academic integrity from all students. Students should conduct themselves with a character befitting the classical, Christian ideals which define our school.

Academic dishonesty consists of, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or assisting another in engaging in such activities. Students who demonstrate a lack of academic integrity in any way will be subject to disciplinary action or expulsion.

## **Consequences of Academic Dishonesty**

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The following are some possible consequences of academic dishonesty:

- Verbal warning
- Seating adjustment
- Removal of assignment from student and nullification of that student's score for the assignment.
- Visit to the headmistress.

## **Carpool**

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We use the portico on the left for student drop off in the morning. For afternoon pickup, we use the left portico and a door in the rear of the church. In the mornings, parents may pull their car under the left portico and let their student(s) walk inside the building. Staff stationed just inside the building will greet students and ensure they head to their classrooms. Parents will receive detailed afternoon carpool instructions before the first day of school.

To make dismissal go smoothly for everyone, please wait for your student to exit the building and get into your vehicle. If you need to get out of your vehicle to talk to our staff, please park in a parking space in the lot, leave your vehicle, and come inside. Plan to arrive NO LATER than 3:30 to pick up your student(s). Our staff have other responsibilities after school and need to leave on time. Please respect their time by being punctual in the afternoon.

## **Parent Council**

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We encourage parent involvement in our school so that we can accomplish all the wonderful things we set out to do. Our parent council organizes and coordinates volunteer positions throughout the year. The council will communicate with parents when the school needs help. Parents are expected to sign up for a volunteer job at the start of the year. There will be sign-up opportunities at our orientation and first day of school.

## **Recess**

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Students up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have recess each day. Typically, in good weather recess will be held outdoors. In inclement weather, students will have recess in the gym. It is important to send a heavy coat and gloves during the cold weather season.

## **Lunch**

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All students should bring a lunch and a drink each day. Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will also need a dry snack along with lunch. LLS can offer no place for refrigeration, so an ice pack may

be needed. Once per month, we have pizza brought in at \$1/slice to the students. We highly recommend healthy lunches with lots of protein and little sugar.

Please avoid crackers in lunches or snacks; most have no nutritional value whatsoever and are not good for your child, besides the fact that they make the worst mess.

Other foods to avoid include:

- soft drinks
- fruit roll-ups
- squirting yogurt
- fruit by the foot
- yo-gos

Please pre-peel and slice fruit, unless it's an apple. Pack napkins, plastic cutlery, plates, and any other paper products your child will need to eat the lunch you have packed.

## **Student Uniform Requirements**

Jewelry for girls must be simple such as stud earrings or small hoops. No nail polish other than light pastels of pink or peach. No "feathers" for the hair allowed, nor hair color other than a natural look. Conservative, natural looking makeup may be worn for girls in 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grades. Skirts should be no higher than 1" above the knees.

Boys' hair should be neat in appearance, above the earlobes and above the eyebrows.

### **Boys Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

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#### **Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

**Shorts:** Navy Pleated for fall and spring programs

**Shirt:** White Oxford Long Sleeve

**Vest:** Navy V-Neck

**No tie needed this year.**

#### **Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like Parker's:**

**Belt:** Braided Leather black or brown (preferably black)

**Socks:** Navy crew from Parker or elsewhere

**Shoes:** **Bass Exeter**; black or brown (preferably black) **OR**  
**Jungle Moccasin**; black or brown (preferably black) from Parker or elsewhere

#### **Optional items, from Parker or elsewhere:**

**Pants:** Navy pleated slacks

**Shirt:** White oxford short-sleeve shirt

**Shirt:** White pique knit polo

**Sweatshirt:** Navy crewneck pullover with LLS crest (wearing white collared shirt underneath and collar out over sweatshirt)

## Boys 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### **Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

- Long Pants:** Navy Pleated  
**Shirt:** White Oxford Long Sleeve  
**Vest:** Navy V-Neck  
**No tie needed this year.**

### **Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like**

#### **Parker's:**

- Belt:** Braided Leather black or brown (preferably black)  
**Socks:** Navy or Black crew from Parker or elsewhere  
**Shoes:** **Bass Exeter;** black or brown (preferably black) **OR**  
**Jungle Moccasin;** black or brown (preferably black) from Parker or elsewhere

### **Optional items, from Parker or elsewhere:**

- Shirt:** White oxford short-sleeve shirt  
**Shirt:** White pique knit polo  
**Shorts:** Navy pleated shorts (September and May)  
**Cardigan:** Navy V-neck cardigan  
**Sweatshirt:** Navy crewneck pullover with LLS (wearing white collared shirt underneath and collar out over sweatshirt)

## Boys 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### **Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

- Pants:** Tri-blend Charcoal Grey Flannel Dress  
**Shirt:** White Oxford Long Sleeve  
**Tie:** Striped Tie

### **Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like**

#### **Parker's:**

- Belt:** Braided Leather to match shoe color  
**Socks:** Black from Parker or elsewhere

**Shoes:** **Bass Exeter;** black or brown (preferably black) **OR**  
**Jungle Moccasin;** black or brown (preferably black), from Parker or elsewhere

**Optional items, from Parker or elsewhere:**

**Shirt:** White oxford short-sleeve shirt or long-sleeve no-iron shirt  
**Vest:** Navy V-neck vest  
**Cardigan:** Navy V-neck cardigan  
**Sweatshirt:** Navy crewneck pullover with LLS crest (wearing white collared shirt underneath and collar out over sweatshirt)  
**Pants:** Navy dress pants

**Girls Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

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**Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

**Jumper:** Navy & White Hound's tooth with Brass Buttons  
**Blouse:** White Peter Pan Short Sleeve  
**Socks:** Bobby Socks (preferably from Parker)  
**Gym Shorts:** Navy Lycra (worn under skirts & jumpers)

**Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like Parker's:**

**Shoes:** **Prodigy Mary Jane,** Black or Navy

**Optional items, from Parker or elsewhere:**

**Jumper:** Navy  
**Blouse:** White Peter Pan collar long sleeve  
**Shirt:** White Jersey Knit Peter Pan short sleeve  
**Sweater:** Navy Crewneck Cardigan  
**Leggings:** Navy  
**Tights:** White or navy opaque tights  
**Tights:** White cable knit tights  
**Sweatshirt:** Navy crew neck pullover (wear white collared shirt underneath, with collar outside sweatshirt)

## Girls 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### **Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

<b>Skirt:</b>	Navy pleated with contour waistband
<b>Blouse:</b>	White Peter Pan Short Sleeve
<b>Bow Tie:</b>	Navy pin stripe
<b>Vest:</b>	Gray V-neck vest
<b>Socks:</b>	White opaque knee high
<b>Gym Shorts:</b>	Navy Lycra (worn under skirts & jumpers)

### **Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like**

#### **Parker's:**

<b>Shoes:</b>	<b>Prodigy Mary Jane</b> , Black or Navy <b>Merrel</b> , Black Apure Loafer or Brio Strap
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### **Optional items, from Parker or elsewhere:**

<b>Blouse:</b>	White Peter Pan collar long sleeve
<b>Blouse:</b>	Parker fitted white $\frac{3}{4}$ Sleeve
<b>Shirt:</b>	White Jersey Knit Peter Pan collar short sleeve
<b>Sweater:</b>	Navy Crewneck Cardigan or Navy V-neck pullover
<b>Socks:</b>	White Cable Knee Hi
<b>Tights:</b>	White or navy opaque tights
<b>Tights:</b>	White cable knit tights
<b>Leggings:</b>	Navy
<b>Sweatshirt:</b>	Navy crew neck pullover with LLS crest (wear white collared shirt underneath with collar outside sweatshirt)

## Girls 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### **Required for Performances, from Parker Only:**

<b>Skirt:</b>	Dark Heather pleated with contour waistband
<b>Blouse:</b>	White $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve
<b>Bow Tie:</b>	Navy/Red stripe
<b>Sweater:</b>	Navy V-neck cardigan
<b>Socks:</b>	Navy opaque knee high
<b>Gym Shorts:</b>	Navy Lycra (worn under skirts & jumpers)

**Required for Performances, from Parker or elsewhere, but items should look like Parker's:**

**Shoes:**           **Prodigy Mary Jane:** Black or Navy **OR**  
                          **Merrel:** Black Apure Loafer **OR** Brio Strap

**Optional items from Parker or elsewhere:**

**Blouse:**           White oxford long sleeve or short sleeve  
**Sweater:**         Navy pullover  
**Socks:**           White Cable Knee Hi  
**Leggings:**       Navy  
**Sweatshirt:**     Navy crewneck pullover with crest with LLS crest (with white collared blouse underneath and collar out over sweatshirt)

## Snow Days

### Snow Day Procedures

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**We will follow Fayette County Public School's snow closing decisions.** If Fayette County Schools are closed, LLS will be closed. You can find out about school closings on the local news stations and local news websites. We follow Fayette County snow closings for several reasons. Because they have the resources to gather information on road conditions, they can make more informed decisions than we can. Also, we would rather err on the side caution by missing a day of school than jeopardize someone's safety. We have found that following Fayette County is the fastest, easiest, and most reliable way to get the word out about snow closings and to protect our families.

We will not necessarily make up snow days. If we miss three days in a row in one week, we may try to have a Monday make-up day, though sometimes this is not feasible for the school, Ashland Avenue Baptist Church, or the teachers.

Note that the Lexington Latin School follows **all** FCPS inclement weather decisions, whether it be a delayed school start, school closing, or early dismissal.

Ultimately, parents should use their own discretion in determining whether it is safe to come to school. Parents should do what they feel is safest for their family. LLS will always keep your children safe at school and stay with them until you pick them up.

### Snow Day Activities

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On snow days, teachers will try to send light review work for students. Parents would also do well to have something previously prepared that they would like for their children to do as part of their homeschooling calendared work. We have several moms at our school with good ideas of "home" activities, which they can count into their schooling. Some parents even plan ways to learn math or science while sledding during the day! On that day off, it is always a good idea to have a book on hand from our summer reading list. Students can review their current literature, math, etc. And, of course, every day is a good day to review your Latin lesson!

## Course Offerings

The Lexington Latin School is a classical, Christian school. As a *Christian* school, we view everything through the crystal clear and true lens of the Christian faith, and we seek to develop virtue as well as wisdom in our students. As a *classical* school, we focus on the classical language Latin, as well as the classical cultures of the Greeks and the Romans. We also adopt the classical trivium model of education, which describes three stages of learning: the grammar stage (roughly grades K-5), the logic stage (6-8), and the rhetoric stage (9-12).

### The Grammar Stage

The main task of the grammar stage of learning is memorization. For example, students memorize math facts and poems, as well as the entire Latin grammar. It's obvious that children at this age love to memorize—for they love to know something to mastery, and they love to share what they have mastered.

### The Logic Stage

In the logic stage of learning, students begin to synthesize information. They begin to draw connections between ideas and develop the ability to deduce larger principles from specific examples.

### The Rhetoric Stage

In the rhetoric stage of learning, the student's mind and heart come to maturity. He or she moves beyond observation of the ideas of others to respond as the heart and mind compel, crafting ideas of his or her own. The student learns to express these ideas effectively, with rhetorical skill.

We teach the following subjects at the Lexington Latin School:

### American Studies

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These courses include a basic study of the facts about the country in which we live. In some grades, students are assigned to do this work at home.

### Christian Studies

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Our Christian Studies program is designed to develop:

- a) Bible literacy
- b) a knowledge of church history
- c) a strong faith and Christian consciousness

To achieve these goals, students study Scripture in K-6 and church history in grades 7-9. Christian Studies is an academic course equal in content and examinations to all other areas of the curriculum.

### **Classical Studies**

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All foreign language study includes learning about the people who speak the language, so Classical Studies is the natural companion to Latin. In Classical Studies, students study Greek mythology and Greek and Roman history and literature every year, gradually deepening their knowledge and understanding. This long grounding prepares students to read the classics of Greek, Roman, and English literature, and to study and understand the modern world.

### **Formal Logic**

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Traditional formal logic is an in-depth study of the syllogism, taught in the classic three-part method. Students learn the four logical statements, the four ways statements can be opposite, the three ways they can be equivalent, the seven rules for validity, and the medieval chant for the 19 valid arguments.

### **Latin**

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Latin forms the mind to think logically, memorize, and pay careful attention to detail. Many scholars purport Latin to be the best way to truly learn English and its grammar. Latin performs a mental gymnastics in the minds of students, enabling them to learn faster and easier. Memorizing the Latin grammar is a great challenge and badge of honor for students. Self-confidence increases through hard-earned achievements. Music is also a part of this course. Latin songs are memorized and sung weekly.

### **Literature and Grammar**

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Mastery of English in reading, writing, and speaking is the mark of an educated person. Developing mastery over these skills with the English language requires hard work and many years. Grammar is an important subject for us.

## Mathematics

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Students master basic arithmetic skills through instruction, practice, and review from Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. At that point students begin higher math. Some students continue at grade level, while mature students begin an accelerated pace, as follows:

	<b>Grade-level students</b>	<b>More mature students</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Rod and Staff, Grade 7	Rod and Staff, Grade 8 (Pre-Algebra)
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Rod and Staff, Grade 8	Lial and Miller, Algebra I
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lial and Miller, Algebra I	Lial and Miller, Algebra II
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Plane Geometry	Shute, Shirk, and Porter, Plane Geometry
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Lial and Miller, Algebra II	Pre-Calculus
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Pre-Calculus	AP <sup>®</sup> Calculus

## Music

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Recent research has confirmed what educators have always known: music develops the mental abilities of students and increases academic performance. But music should not be studied for that reason, but rather because it is a universal language of enormous power. Children must be trained to discern and love the good, true, and beautiful in all of the arts, but especially in music.

At LLS we teach choir to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and older. We also teach the recorder to 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades.

## Science

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We provide books and home assignments for science. Grades 6<sup>th</sup> and up do have instruction in class. We use Rod and Staff, which instruct about the lovely creation God has given. Also, this year we are using a new science book in the upper grades which tell the stories of great inventors and how they happened on their inventions.