



# VERITY

## SCHOOLHOUSE

# Handbook

## 2025-2026

Revision Date 2/1/2025

This digital handbook, as accessed via [VeritySchoolhouse.com](http://VeritySchoolhouse.com) will be the official and most up-to-date copy.

**Printed versions will not be distributed.**

### Board Members:

**Mark Risley**, Chairman  
**Darren Johnson**, Vice-chairman  
**Ryan Risley**, Secretary  
**Julie Underdown**, Treasurer

Email: [mrисley@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:mrисley@verityschoolhouse.com)  
Email: [djohnson@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:djohnson@verityschoolhouse.com)  
Email: [risley@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:risley@verityschoolhouse.com)  
Email: [junderdown@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:junderdown@verityschoolhouse.com)

### Administration

**Hope Risley**, Director of Education      Email: [hrисley@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:hrисley@verityschoolhouse.com)

Verity Schoolhouse meets at The Riverbend Calvary Chapel Mission House:  
**827 Ming Dr.**

**Washington, MO 63090**

E-mail: [Info@verityschoolhouse.com](mailto:Info@verityschoolhouse.com)

Web page: [www.verityschoolhouse.com](http://www.verityschoolhouse.com)

Facebook: Verity Schoolhouse

Academic Program: Tuesday/Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Enrichment Program: Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## **Mission**

To provide a blended homeschool and educational classroom support that cultivates a lifetime love of, and a skill for learning through a biblically Christian worldview.

## **Vision**

Verity Schoolhouse aspires to form good study habits, develop godly character, build strong relationships, reinforce faith in Jesus Christ, and create an edifying and peaceful learning atmosphere, by delighting in that which is true, beautiful, and God-Honoring.

## **Statement of Faith**

- The Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are the divinely inspired Word of God without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and is the divine and final authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- God is the Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Jesus Christ, God's eternal Son, is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. As man, He fully fulfilled and shared our humanity in a life of perfect obedience. He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, according to the Scriptures. Further, He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He sits at the right hand of the Majesty on High. He is now our High Priest and Advocate.
- God created man and woman in His own image to glorify Him. Through disobedience, man became estranged from God, incapable of a right relationship with God apart from divine grace. Only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can man become new creatures, delivered from condemnation and receive eternal life.
- The Holy Spirit renews our hearts, leading us in kindness to repentance of our sins and confession of Jesus as Lord. By the same Spirit we are led to trust in divine mercy, whereby we are forgiven all our sins, justified by faith through the merit of Christ our Savior, and adopted into God's family as His children. The Spirit enables the redeemed to live in the world that all people may see our good works and the Gospel of grace at work in our lives and glorify our Father who is in heaven.
- Eternal salvation is a free gift of God, entirely apart from man's works, and is possessed by any and all who have faith in and receive Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord and Savior.
- God's redemptive purpose will be consummated by the return of Christ to raise the dead, judge all people and establish His glorious kingdom. Those who are apart from Christ shall be eternally separated from God's presence, but the redeemed shall live and reign with Him forever.

*This Statement of Faith provides the perspective from which all teaching at Verity Schoolhouse will come. Doctrinal issues which are non-essential to salvation (i.g. Baptism or gifts of the Spirit) will be discussed in such a way that a student is led to seek wisdom from his/her parents or trusted authority rather than from the perspective of Verity administration.*

*At Verity Schoolhouse, we desire to provide a nurturing, Christian atmosphere, lovingly guiding students in a true knowledge of God and adoration of His Son, Jesus Christ through faith empowered by the Holy Spirit. We hope to help students pursue a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, yet give them grace to make their own decisions in their own time, knowing that regardless of their belief, they will be loved and accepted in our community.*

## **Conduct**

Verity Schoolhouse is a Christian program providing educational support in a distinctly Christian environment. As indicated in our preceding Statement of Faith, we believe that our worldview and therefore our conduct should be governed by the instruction of the Bible.

## **Communication**

If you need to reach a teacher during class hours, please use the Brightwheel app to send a message. Teachers will have phones on and near at all times and will be able to respond in a timely manner. Please call during class hours only in an emergency.

### **Brightwheel Software**

Verity Schoolhouse uses Brightwheel for management software. Your registration fee covers the cost of your family's subscription. Payments may be made directly through Brightwheel or by check.

### **Brightwheel Communication**

Verity Schoolhouse will use Brightwheel as our primary communication platform. Brightwheel will be used to communicate everything pertaining to the schoolhouse. We will send announcements, messages, and alerts through Brightwheel. We will also use this platform to post photos, relay incident reports, and take daily attendance.

### **Matthew 18 Principle**

When a problem, issue, or interpersonal conflict arises, students, parents, and school personnel will follow the Matthew 18 principle. This principle teaches how to seek reconciliation with others in a way that honors and glorifies God. This principle involves praying about the situation and asking God for guidance, examining your own attitudes, actions and motive, and approaching the other person in an attitude of Christ-like love and humility. If the conflict is still unresolved, a teacher or administrator will accompany you as you approach the person again. If a final attempt at reconciliation is needed, the issue can then be brought before the school board. Using the Matthew 18 principle, we model for others and for our students how to handle conflict in a Christ-like manner. Please see Grievance Policy for more details.

### **Adult-Student Guidelines**

#### **Statement of Philosophy**

Verity Schoolhouse is committed to fostering an environment that promotes academic and professional success in students and adults at all levels. The achievement of such success is dependent on an environment free of behaviors which can distract and

undermine the important mission of our program. An atmosphere of mutual respect, and trust is essential. Although everyone bears responsibility in creating and maintaining this atmosphere, adults bear particular responsibility and must be ever mindful of this in their interactions with their colleagues, school parents, and children in their care.

## **Admissions and Enrollment**

### **Admissions Application**

Enrollment at Verity Schoolhouse is at the discretion of the Board of Directors and is open to all families with students meeting the age requirements, and who are in agreement with our “Statement of Faith”. An application must be submitted through Brightwheel. At this time a \$100.00 per family application fee will need to be paid to be enrolled. Once the enrollment fee is received, families will be able to register through Brightwheel for the desired program.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

If it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from Verity Schoolhouse during the school year, the following steps are to be completed:

1. Parents will notify a Director that they wish to withdraw their child from Verity Schoolhouse
2. Once a student has begun a semester, parents are expected to pay the tuition for the remainder of the semester unless the family is moving out of the area. Tuition paid in advance will be refunded for the unstarted semester the student will no longer be attending.

### **Age Eligibility**

Verity Schoolhouse will provide support for families with students in grades pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. A student should be four years old by July 31st to start pre-kindergarten. Students will also be required to take assessment tests to place into math and language arts. See Curriculum for more information.

### **Class Size**

Class size is limited to 10 students. Classrooms will be divided into groups called “Clusters”. Based on placement testing, clusters will be divided into individualized learning groups. A ratio of one teacher to 10 students will always be maintained within individualized learning groups.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Verity Schoolhouse is not equipped to provide a high-quality education for those with significant disabilities. If a disability is mild, Verity Schoolhouse may be able to accommodate the student’s needs. Each student will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Verity Schoolhouse is a homeschool support organization. The parent/guardian maintains ultimate responsibility for each student’s academic progress and overall education.

### **Homework**

Verity Schoolhouse is a homeschool support organization that will provide families with coursework, pacing, and accountability. Material will be open-and-go as that allows for a

seamless transition between the schoolhouse and the home. Parents are welcome to add additional subjects and studies at home. Math and language arts assignments will be sent home. Students will work through odd lessons at the Schoolhouse, and even lessons at home.

## **Logs**

We will provide a record of hours completed at the schoolhouse in order for you to add them to your log. All school-days done at home may also be recorded. It is the responsibility of the family to log all outside-of-class reading material, if desired.

## **Registration**

**Application Fee:** A \$100 per family will be required to enroll your students. This will be paid through Brightwheel after your student has been accepted. If your student is returning to Verity Schoolhouse, a registration fee of \$70 per family will be required to re-enroll. If you are enrolling only in our Fantastic Friday program, the application fee is \$50.

## **Supply List**

For the Academic Program (Tuesday/Thursday), there is a \$200 per student supply fee for Schoolhouse supplies. If you are enrolling in Friday Enrichment Program, there is a \$100 per student supply fee. The Complete Program (both Academic and Friday programs) has a total supply fee of \$300 per student. These fees cover Schoolhouse costs for art projects, communal supplies, lunch and etiquette sessions, Schoolhouse curriculum, etc.

Students will bring a backpack daily with curriculum and a small set of personal supplies. This student supply list will be sent in July.

## **Curriculum**

Families are responsible for purchasing their own student's math and language arts curriculum. Once your student is enrolled and has been assessed, you will receive an email with the curriculum needed.

**Math:** The Good and the Beautiful Math (all levels)

**Language Arts Pre-K - 3rd:** The Good and the Beautiful Language Arts

**Language Arts 4th - 8th:** Classical Academic Press (Well-ordered Language and Writing and Rhetoric)

**Additional Schoolhouse Curriculum:** We utilize a variety of curriculum at the Schoolhouse that is not required for families to use at home, including Beautiful Feet Books, Habits of Friendship and Habits of Learning by A One-Room Schoolhouse, the Bible, The Biggest Story Curriculum, Ambleside Online, Simply Charlotte Mason, and hundreds of storybooks and readers.

[The Good and the Beautiful](#) (Math and Language Arts)

[Classical Academic Press](#) (5th grade Writing)

[Beautiful Feet Books](#) (History, Literature, Geography, Science)

[A One-Room Schoolhouse](#) (Character)

[The Biggest Story Bible Curriculum](#) (Pre-K - 3rd grade Bible)

## Tuition

2025-2026 School Year	Fee Per School Year
Academic Program (T/TH)	\$2,400.00
Fantastic Friday Program	\$ 600.00
Complete Program (T/TH/F)	\$3,000.00

## Fees

2025-2026 School Year	Fee Per School Year
Academic Program <b>Application Fee</b> (per family)	\$100.00
Returning Student <b>Registration Fee</b> (per family)	\$70.00
<b>Supply Fee</b> for Academic Program (per student)	\$200.00
Fantastic Friday Program ONLY <b>Application OR Returning Student Registration Fee</b> (per family)	\$ 50.00
<b>Supply Fee</b> for Fantastic Friday (per student)	\$100.00

## Payment Options

There are three options for tuition payments. When you register through Brightwheel, you will be asked to choose from one of the payment options.

**Option One:** Pay in full on or before August 1<sup>st</sup>

**Option Two:** Pay the first semester on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> and the second semester on or before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Option Three:** Ten Monthly Payments starting on August 1<sup>st</sup> continuing through May 1<sup>st</sup>.

At this time, no discounts are given for siblings or early payments.

Per our Withdrawal Policy, once a student has begun a semester, parents are expected to pay the tuition for the remainder of the semester unless the family is moving out of the area.

## **Calendar 2025-2026**

Verity Schoolhouse meets for 30 weeks from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Verity Schoolhouse Academic Program classes meet from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday & Thursday. The Fantastic Fridays Enrichment Program meets from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. on 24 select Fridays.

### **Academic Program Dates:**

First Day: Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Last Day: Thursday, May 15, 2026

### **Breaks:**

Fall: 10/20 - 10/24

Thanksgiving: 11/24 - 11/28

Winter: 12/22 - 1/16

Spring: 3/30 - 4/3

### **Friday Enrichment Dates:**

September 5, 12, 19

October 3, 10, 17

November 7, 14, 21

December 5, 12, 19

January 30

February 6, 13, 27

March 6, 13, 27

April 10, 17, 24

May 1, 8, 15

\*Please note that there is at least one day/month that we do NOT meet on Friday. In general, we meet for three Fridays in a row, then have one Friday off.

## **Policies and Procedures**

### **Attendance**

Verity Schoolhouse meets for 30 weeks from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Verity Schoolhouse classes meet from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday & Thursday, and 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. on select Fridays. If a student is unable to attend the schoolhouse on a scheduled day, please send a Brightwheel message to the Director before 8:45 a.m. If a student needs to leave early, please send a Brightwheel message to the Director. **Refunds will not be given for absences or tardiness.**

### **Cell Phones**

Students will not be allowed to have cell phone usage during Schoolhouse hours.

## **Dress Code**

### **Shirts:**

Verity Schoolhouse uniform t-shirt and/or sweatshirt. If a Verity sweatshirt is worn, a Verity t-shirt must be worn underneath.

### **Pants:**

Jeans or pants without holes, shorts, or skorts may be worn.

All items besides jeans must be a neutral color such as, black, tan, gray, or navy.

### **Shoes:**

Students should wear tennis shoes and socks. No open toe shoes or sandals.

**NOTE:** Students will remove their shoes when entering the schoolhouse, so please make sure students wear socks for their comfort.

## **Food**

Students will need to bring 2 snacks and a lunch on Tuesday & Thursday, and 1 snack on Friday.

## **Transportation**

**T/Th Drop-Off: 8:15 - 8:25 a.m. Please use the second entrance into the circle drive.** When you drop off your student at the Schoolhouse, the first car in line should pull up to the portico drive. Please wait for someone to open the car door to let your student out. A staff member will direct your student into the Schoolhouse. **If you arrive late, please send a Brighthwheel message to the Director to let her know when you will be arriving. Park and walk your student/s to the side entrance. An adult will open the door for your student/s.**

**Friday Drop-Off: 8:50 - 9:00 a.m.**

**T/Th Pick-Up: 3:00 p.m.** The first car in line should pull up to the portico drive. An adult will bring your children to your car, open the door, and help them get in. You are responsible for buckling your child. Exit by driving forward and turning right at the end of the circle. Please drive slowly. Students not picked up by 3:15 p.m. (without prior notice and approval) will be charged a \$15.00 late fee after the 2nd occurrence.

**Friday Pick-Up: 12:00 p.m.**

Parents are to provide transportation to and from the Schoolhouse and to and from any Schoolhouse events. Carpools and ride-share can be arranged between families.

### **Drop-off/Pick-up Safety Rules:**

- Please have your child exit the car on the passenger side (right) side.
- Please do not engage staff or other parents in conversation while in the carpool line during drop-off and pick-up.



- Only drivers listed on Brightwheel will be allowed to pick up your child. Identification will be required if we are not familiar with the driver.

***NOTE:*** Please be sure grandparents, siblings, etc. who may be dropping off or picking up your child are aware of these procedures.

## **Weather Policy**

Verity Schoolhouse believes strongly in a child's need for play, especially outdoors. During our generous recess periods, students are generally expected to be outside, rain or shine. Parents are encouraged to purchase appropriate clothing for outdoor play in all types of weather. The temperature will be noted daily before recess times. If the temperature is below 32F (with wind chill) students will be permitted to go inside for warming breaks but still encouraged to stay outside for as long as they are comfortable. If the temperature is below 25F (with wind chill) an indoor recess period will be given.

## **Snow Days (Delays and Closures)**

We will follow the Washington School District announcements for school closings due to weather. No in person class will be taught if our local school district has closed.

If you feel it is unsafe to travel, please stay home. You can complete your studies that day at home and log it as a school day. Let the Director know, if this is the course you are taking that day, by sending a Brightwheel message.

## **Grading and Level Placement**

Parents will assess the student's level before attending class. Students in grades Pre-K through 8th will not be given letter grades. We will send all completed work home to be graded by parents.

## **Discipline**

### **Classroom Rules**

1. Listen carefully and follow directions.
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
3. Walk inside the Schoolhouse, and use inside voices.
4. Raise your hand to talk or ask questions in class.
5. Stay within the sight and hearing range of an adult at all times.

### **Behavior Management**

Students will be expected to obey the Schoolhouse rules as stated on the Verity Conduct Agreement signed by the parent and student.

Please see Verity Conduct Agreement for Schoolhouse rules and behavior expectations.

## **Health and Safety**

### **Safety**

The safety of Verity Schoolhoused students is of utmost importance. Doors to the Schoolhouse will be locked during classroom hours. When outside, students must stay within the hearing and vision of the supervising adults. Verity students play hard: we climb trees, run, play on the playground, play gaga ball and other team sports during our recess time. We keep a first aid kit on site and will distribute bandages and ice packs as needed. If a student has a serious injury, we will contact 911 and parents. If a student has a minor injury, we will send parents an incident report and treat with first aid as necessary.

### **Illness**

A student should stay home if they are not feeling well or if they have an illness that may be contagious. If an antibiotic has been prescribed for the illness, the child may not return until the antibiotic has been taken for 24 hours. A clear, runny nose and/or mild cough are permitted at the Schoolhouse. **If anyone in your household has fevers, or vomiting, please keep your students home until the household is free of those symptoms for 24 hours.**

Please follow this chart for further guidelines:

### I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100.4 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" drainage from eye	Hospital stay and/or ER visit

### I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...

Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication (i.e. Tylenol, Motrin)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash, itching, or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to nurse	Evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return to school	Released by my medical provider to return to school
---	---------------------------------	--	--	--	--	---

## **Illnesses at School**

If a student becomes ill at school, a Director or teacher will contact the parent to immediately pick up the child. The child will be allowed to rest away from other children until they can be picked up. If the parent cannot be reached, the people on the emergency contact form will be called.

## **Prescriptions and OTC Medicine**

Every effort should be made to give children their prescribed medication at home. Medication cannot be stored at Verity Schoolhouse. Inhalers and EpiPens are an exception, and may be brought to the Schoolhouse if the Director has been made aware.

If a child needs pain medication, e.g. for a headache, we will always contact the parent and get approval before dispensing children's tylenol or ibuprofen.

## **Allergies**

Please make Verity Schoolhouse aware of any allergies your child may have when completing the registration form. Although Verity Schoolhouse cannot be an allergen free space, efforts will be made to be sensitive and safe to all allergy concerns.

## **Medical Emergencies**

In the event of an illness or accident that requires immediate medical treatment, 911 will be contacted. Every effort will be made to contact the parent, the child's doctor, and other persons listed for emergency contact. If a parent cannot be contacted, a Verity Schoolhouse staff member may authorize emergency treatment including transportation

for the child to any hospital reasonably accessible.

## **Emergency Contact**

As part of the Registration Form, parents will be asked to provide emergency contacts. These contacts will be a backup if the parent is not available in case of sickness, injury, or emergency. Please keep these contacts up-to-date.

***Your online signature on the Registration Form on Brightwheel indicates that you have read this Handbook and agree to follow the policies and procedures therein.***