

CCHS 9th Graders

Frequently Asked Questions and Yearly Snapshot

Course Placement

- The goal for CCHS is to help each student be the most successful they can be. Course placement is determined by the following:
 - Score from the High School Placement Test, which was taken by rising 9th graders in February and measured basic math and reading skills.
 - Academic performance in 8th grade along with any other standardized test scores and teacher recommendations.
- Students will be placed in courses that in which they will be appropriately challenged to set them up for success.
- Within the first two weeks of school, teacher will assess whether or not the student is appropriately placed. Parents may speak with the student's counselor if there is a question regarding placement. Placement can be adjusted if recommended by the teacher and if able to work in a student's schedule.

School Counselors

- Students are assigned to counselors alphabetically by last name. This breakdown may be found on the school website by clicking here <https://www.charlottecatholic.org/Page/249>.
- School counselors are available for social/emotional, academic, college and career support.

Course list and books.

- A course list was provided in June.
- Instructions on how to order your books will be provided by late July or early August.

Summer expectations.

- English is the only department requiring summer reading for rising 9th graders. The required book for 2021-22 is *Alas, Babylon* by Pat Frank, ISBN 978-0060741877.
- Read *The Summer Weekly* for updates and important school information. This is distributed weekly during the summer on Tuesdays.
- Check the school website <https://www.charlottecatholic.org/> and emails for information about sports or band tryouts that may happen before the first day of school. There are optional workouts throughout the summer for some sport teams.
- Enjoy your summer break! Be ready to work from day one of high school.

Snapshot of the School Year

August – Start of School

- Freshman Orientation 2021 is Tuesday, August 17.
- The first day of school is Wednesday, August 18.
- Students need to come to school well dressed. Pay attention to the uniform dress code which will be found on the school website.
- Come to school well rested and to start the school year strong!
- Students should come to school prepared to do their best and be productive. High school transcripts are sent with college applications, and, when applying to colleges at the beginning of senior year, that means transcripts will include 9th grade, 10th grade, and 11th grade schedule and grades. It will show senior year schedule, but oftentimes will be sent before any senior year grades are posted. Ninth grade is 1/3 of your GPA total therefore 9th grade is important!
- There are prerequisites for all honors and AP classes. (Advanced Placement are college level courses and are only offered in 11th and 12th grade). All requirements may be found through the curriculum guide by clicking here: <https://www.charlottecatholic.org/Page/941>.
- If a student is struggling in any of their classes, they are encouraged to talk with their teacher right away. Asking for help is a very important skill.
- Teachers can often help students before or after school time. Students should ask their teachers the best time to meet. Sometimes, lunch or break times are options.
- Extra tutoring is available at CCHS for free from the National Honor students. Talk with your student's counselor and they can help assign a peer tutor.
- There is a drop/add period the first few days of school if students want to change their elective. Students should go talk with their counselor during those few days if they want to make an elective change. If there is room and it works with the schedule, counselors will make the change.
- Each student should get to know his/her high school counselor: The counselors will call students down for a meeting within the first few weeks of school. However, students do not have to wait for an invitation. If your student has questions or concerns or simply has something to share; students can request an appointment by writing their name on the whiteboard by the counselor's door or email them. It is important for students to establish a relationship with his/her counselor.

September

- Student Club Day is in September.
- Back to School night is Wednesday, September 8.
- Pay attention to announcements, emails, and The Catholic Daily for information about joining clubs and athletic teams. Encourage your student to get involved!
- Students are encouraged to grow their social circle! Tips for students: Introduce yourself to new people. Invite someone sitting by themselves to join your group for lunch. If you are by yourself at lunch, try introducing yourself to someone else and ask if you can join them.

October

- End of the first quarter. Hopefully students have transitioned well and are doing well in classes. But if not, please contact the student's counselor.

November

- Parent-Teacher conferences are held November 11 and 12.
- Students should start preparing for midterms. Midterms are comprehensive in scope therefore, they are not the type of tests that students can study for in one night.

December

- Mid-year comprehensive exams. These exams will cover all the material covered in the 1st semester.
- Enjoy Christmas Break! Which is December 20-31, 2021. This is a time to rest, relax and have fun with family and friends.

January

- Second semester begins January 3, 2022.

February

- Students may want to explore programs, camps, volunteer or work experiences they may be interested in and or provide new fun opportunities to learn and be challenged over the summer.
- A registration letter is sent to students and families about the registration process for the following school year.
- School re-enrollment begins.

March

- Course registration for the upcoming school year begins.
- Counselors will meet with each student to discuss their personal goals and what course work they are recommended to take in the following school year. More information will be given during the recommendation time.
- Teachers recommend placement levels for academic classes based on student performance in 9th grade and departmental guidelines for each class. Those guidelines are in the curriculum guide which may be found by clicking here: <https://www.charlottecatholic.org/Page/941>.
- Important to note that students should think about their elective choices. Some universities require an art credit for admissions. Some universities require 3 years of a language. Some universities need to see more academic types of electives rather than physical activity types of electives. Help your students to make elective choices carefully. Your counselor can help!

April

- Help keep your student motivated. Easter Break! It is April 14-22, 2022. Classes resume April 25.

May

- Stay focused.
- Final exams for underclassmen are May 31 – June 3.

June

- Final exams are comprehensive and will cover all material from 2nd semester.
- The last day of school is Friday, June 3, 2022.
- Students made it through their 1st year of high school! For those who felt the year went well, we are thrilled, go enjoy your summer! For those who felt like there were some bumps in the road and are concerned about 10th grade, please reach out to a counselor before school ends and discuss. We are here to offer support and look for ways to improve the situation. We want your student to feel good about this past year and excited about coming back!