



EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

A High School Where Students Engage and Excel



**EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

NORTH HALEDON, NJ

www.easternchristian.org



Let's Begin the Journey

Looking back on the middle school years, you're probably amazed by how quickly your family has arrived at this important next step — high school. You have high hopes for what comes next. But it's no secret that parenting teens brings its own set of worries and challenges.

You want them to grow in independence and responsibility, but you know that they aren't ready to face all the world throws at them.

They still need guidance from people who uphold your family's values and stand with your teen as they face challenges that put their faith to the test. This is the time when they begin to decide who they want to become, and we help students grow into their God-given potential as compassionate and productive members of society.

We understand how important this school decision is for you and your family. That's why we've created this guide. In the next few pages, you'll see how we can help your teen engage and excel through:

- ✓ Academics that are second to none
- ✓ Talented teachers who serve as trusted mentors
- ✓ A schoolwide culture of sharing God's love and grace
- ✓ College and career prep, including internships
- ✓ Arts, athletics and many other specialized clubs and classes



A Culture of Encouragement

Have you heard some of the frustrations teenagers express about high school? Perhaps those conversations are even happening around your dinner table.

I CAN BARELY FOCUS ON MY SCHOOLWORK BECAUSE OF ALL THE DISTRACTIONS.

I DON'T DO IT, BUT ALL MY FRIENDS ARE POSTING THINGS THEY SHOULDN'T.

I THINK I MIGHT BE THE ONLY CHRISTIAN IN THE WHOLE CLASS.

But the students at Eastern Christian School tell a different story.

"EC HAS PROVIDED ME WITH THE KINDEST, MOST LOVING, PASSIONATE, INTELLIGENT, AND **WONDERFUL FRIENDS** I COULD EVER ASK FOR. THEY CHALLENGE ME TO GROW INTO MYSELF AND EXPLORE NEW AND UNCOMFORTABLE PLACES. THEY ARE EXTREMELY HONEST AND GENTLE AND **HELP ME TO BECOME A BETTER VERSION OF MYSELF.**"

- REBECCA

"CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HAS **MATURED MY FAITH** BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO TALK ABOUT DOUBTS AND BE **REASSURED BY BIBLE TEACHERS AND OTHER STUDENTS**. DOUBTING FAITH ISN'T A SIGN OF BAD FAITH, BUT RATHER THAT IT'S HEALTHY. IF YOU NEVER DOUBT FAITH, IS IT REAL FAITH? IT'S ABOUT HOW YOU RESPOND TO THE DOUBT."

- DAVID



The culture of encouragement at EC is an overflow of our Christian commitments. It shines through in how our students feel supported in their day-to-day lives and, over time, influences their long-term trajectory in life.

We believe our supportive culture leads to more confidence — and that self-assurance can lead to your teen registering for a challenging class, trying a new sport, going on a missions trip, or discovering a new skill.

An Education that Prepares Your Teen to Excel

Regardless of your teen's academic giftings, Eastern Christian School pushes students to do their personal best. Our academic and college counselors work with students on a variety of strategic and practical matters — from

determining which classes to take to align with their college goals to making the most of EC's block schedule. Your young scholar will get the help they need to excel.

- ▶ If your teen hopes to get a jump start on college credits, we offer **Project Acceleration**, which is a dual enrollment program with Seton Hall University. While in high school, students have access to courses bearing 30+ college credits, which can shorten an undergraduate degree to three years or a master's to four years.
- ▶ **The Education Support Services** helps students with a wide range of abilities. Through TESS, students sharpen study skills, practice self-advocacy, and grow in specific academic subject areas.
- ▶ If it's hands-on learning that helps your teen thrive, we provide an internship program called **WINGS** in which students can learn trades or experience careers firsthand while receiving high school credit toward graduation. Past internships have included career exploration in law, veterinary science, healthcare and marketing.
- ▶ And, if your teen is ready for an extra academic challenge, our newly launched **Honors Academy** is specifically designed to mentor eligible students toward college success and encourage students to pursue academic competitions, service learning, and leadership experience. (It is expected to launch in the fall of 2024.)

STUDENTS CAN CUSTOMIZE THEIR LEARNING WITH OVER **60** ELECTIVES, INCLUDING:



GRAPHIC DESIGN



PSYCHOLOGY



ECONOMICS AND FINANCE



JOURNALISM



VIDEO PRODUCTION



CERAMICS



ROBOTICS



CRIMINAL JUSTICE

QUALIFIED, EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

You know how quickly the world is changing. Our teachers — and even our class offerings — keep up with that pace. The information your teen learns at EC is always current because our teachers continuously learn and grow, too. Many of them have professional experience outside of teaching, and they stay up-to-date in their industries and areas of expertise.

FERNANDO GARCIA, a 5X Emmy Award-winning television director and producer.



A Plan For Your Teen's Future

At this stage, you're working hard to get your teen ready for life after high school. Choosing a college major and a career path are high-stake decisions, but your family won't be on its own. Eastern Christian School has a team of professionals who are here to help.

THE ACADEMIC & COLLEGE COUNSELING TEAM WILL GUIDE YOUR TEEN

The ACC Team begins meeting with students in eighth grade to help map out their future. As your teen gets closer to graduation, they meet with this team more often.

You and your scholar will be invited to workshops and informational events, like College Application Night and Financial Planning Workshop - and there's even a **college application boot camp** and a road trip with stops at several colleges for tours. Each fall, we bring in **more than 50 college representatives** to the EC campus to talk to students.

Thanks to this high level of support and our academic rigor, our college acceptance rate is **100%** for those who apply. Plus, our graduates attend some of the best universities in the nation.



and many more!

"I LOVE THE ACADEMIC & COLLEGE COUNSELING TEAM. THEY WERE LIKE **MY NORTH STAR, GUIDING ME THROUGH THIS WHOLE COLLEGE PROCESS**. IT'S NERVE-WRACKING, ESPECIALLY FOR STUDENTS STRIVING TO GET INTO THESE TIER-ONE SCHOOLS BECAUSE YOU ARE COMPETING WITH STUDENTS NOT ONLY FROM THE U.S. BUT ALSO INTERNATIONALLY. THEY WERE VERY FLEXIBLE WITH HOURS. THEY **TOOK ME IN WITH OPEN ARMS** WHEN I WALKED IN THEIR OFFICE."

- SAM





A Chance to Lead and Grow

You've seen the difference leadership skills make in the home, at work, and in the larger community. But how can you cultivate those skills in your teen? And how can they build their confidence to lead?

WE BELIEVE IT STARTS WITH PRACTICE.

At Eastern Christian School, your teen can have the chance to lead on stage in one of our **theater** productions or with our **worship team, band, orchestra, or choir**. They might also connect with fellow students who share their interests in topics like content creation, protecting the environment, or learning about other cultures.

And — this is the exciting part — if they don't see a group or a club that they like, we'll walk them through the steps to start their own.

TEACHING YOUR TEEN TO SOAR

Our **Student Opted Academic Resource** period is 40 minutes four days a week, and it is time dedicated to exploring and developing interests. Many clubs meet during the SOAR period.

Your teen can discover passions in these areas — and more:

- ▶ **OUTDOOR ADVENTURES CLUB**
- ▶ **HEARTS AND HANDS CLUB**
- ▶ **RECYCLE EC**
- ▶ **CONTENT CREATORS CLUB**
- ▶ **DEBATE CLUB**
- ▶ **ANCHORED BIBLE STUDY**
- ▶ **COURTYARD GARDENING**
- ▶ **MODEL UN**
- ▶ **DANCERS WITH A PURPOSE**
- ▶ **ROBOTICS CLUB**
- ▶ **STUDENT SENATE**
- ▶ **EC INNOCENCE PROJECT**
- ▶ **PRE-HEALTH CARE CLUB**
- ▶ **LITERARY JOURNAL**
- ▶ **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**



"I AM VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST AND TAKING CARE OF GOD'S EARTH. I HOPE TO BECOME A TEACHER TO YOUNG KIDS AND HELP THEM GROW AND FLOURISH IN MANY WAYS. AT EC, I AM A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY AND ORCHESTRA. I ALSO ENJOY HELPING OUT IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS."

- MICHELLE

A Team that Builds Character



"I PARTICIPATE IN THE EC SOCCER TEAM WHERE I PLAY AROUND **AMAZING TEAMMATES** WHO HAVE A **STRONG FAITH** FOR GOD; AND WHO WORK TOGETHER AND **PLAY AS ONE.**"

- GIANMARCO

Maybe your teen plays tennis for fun or runs track for exercise. Or, maybe you're hoping their athletic skill will earn them a scholarship and a place on a college team.

Whatever your teen's goals are for playing sports, we're here to help them. Clear expectations help us create an environment where athletes learn how to excel in sports — *and in life*. That's why we follow these six pillars:

- ▶ **GLORIFY GOD** the true measure of our success
- ▶ **EXEMPLIFY CHRISTIAN CHARACTER** in attitude, behavior, and sportsmanship
- ▶ **STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE** by exhibiting a heart for hard work, passion, enthusiasm, and energy in the classroom and on the field
- ▶ **COMPETE AS ONE** by doing what is best for the team
- ▶ **RUN THE RACE TO WIN** by competing at the highest possible level
- ▶ **BE COMMITTED** to showing up and honoring your word

59%

OF EC ATHLETES
PLAY MORE THAN
ONE SPORT

60%

OF HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ARE
INVOLVED IN
ATHLETICS

SEASON	BOYS	GIRLS
FALL	Soccer (V&JV)	Soccer (V)
	Cross-Country (V)	Cross-Country (V)
		Tennis (V&JV)
		Volleyball (V&JV)
WINTER	Basketball (V, JV, & F)	Basketball (V)
	Bowling (V&JV)	Bowling (V)
	Indoor Track (V&JV)	Indoor Track (V&JV)
SPRING	Baseball (V)*	Softball (V)
	Track & Field (V)	Track & Field (V)
	Lacrosse (V)	Lacrosse (JV)
	Golf (V)	* co-op team
	Tennis (V)	

A Supportive Christian Environment

If you're looking for a steady partner to help you build a strong faith foundation for your teen, you've come to the right place. At Eastern Christian School, we are unapologetically Christian. Your teen will be immersed in a curriculum taught from a biblical perspective, and every student studies the Bible as an academic offering.

Your teen will be surrounded by prayer — in class, at special events, and during chapel. And they will experience God's love not just in our interactions but also in our acts of service.

When they question or doubt their faith, we'll be here alongside them.

Together, we will study the scriptures and find the answers they need to walk confidently in Christ.

CHAPEL

Chapel is an opportunity for leadership and learning at Eastern Christian School. Each week, your teen will gather with their peers and faculty to attend a worship service organized by a class called Bible & Worship. Chapels are often led by student groups, including student worship bands, a dance ministry, and an American Sign Language choir. Parents and family friends are welcome to join us anytime for a time of praise and a message from guest pastors, youth pastors, or EC faculty.

FAITH IN ACTION

FIA is an opportunity for your teen to gain firsthand experience acting as the hands and feet of Jesus. Between freshman and senior year, students complete a minimum of 50 Faith in Action service hours as a graduation requirement.

For our high school students, service learning includes fundraising, local work, and opportunities to serve abroad to address issues of global poverty, education, and human rights.

MISSIONS

If your teen is interested in making meaningful change happen in the world, trips and service opportunities are provided through our Cross-Cultural Perspectives and Service class. Students first learn about culture, poverty, and other important subjects before going on an impactful Spring Break mission trip.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Eastern Christian School admits students of any color, gender, race, ethnic or national origin to all the rights, programs and activities made available to students of the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, race, ethnic or national origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletics or any other school administered programs.



An Opportunity to Explore Eastern Christian School

Now that you have had a chance to see how your teen can engage and excel at EC, we look forward to meeting you in person and hearing more about you and your family's specific needs. We'll happily walk you through any questions you have about the admissions process and explain how investing in your teen's education makes an incredible difference for your family today — and for generations to come.

WE OFFER FOUR WAYS FOR YOUR FAMILY TO TOUR OUR CAMPUS:

- 1 PERSONAL AND GROUP TOURS** allow you and your teen to meet with a member of our enrollment team for a tour of our beautiful campus.
- 2 A STUDENT SHADOW EXPERIENCE** provides a way for prospective students to experience a day in the life of an Eastern Christian School Eagle. Our student hosts are trained in hospitality and offer a great introduction to our school's culture and atmosphere. (Shadow Days are generally available from Sept. 25 to June 1.)
- 3 OPEN HOUSES** feature a tour of the campus; an explanation of the academic programs and student opportunities; and time to meet student-leaders, administrators, the enrollment team, and lead teachers.
- 4 HIGH SCHOOL PREVIEW DAY** is open to eighth graders. Visitors are escorted by high school students through a tour of the campus that introduces them to the facilities, classes, programs, teachers, and more. Visitors enjoy a large extracurricular fair and join in our weekly worship.

Please contact our admissions team at

(973) 427-4729 TO PLAN YOUR VISIT.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON!

Suzanne Kraai - *Director of Enrollment*

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