

Rosslyn Academy Grade 8



Thank you for your interest in Rosslyn Academy Middle School.

We hope that you will find this information helpful in reaching the important decision of where to continue your child/children's education, and/or knowing more about what is taught at Rosslyn.

If we can be of further assistance, or answer any questions, please feel free to contact us.

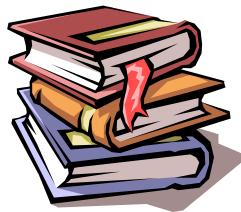
Rosslyn Academy

Telephone: 7122-407

Email: info@RosslynAcademy.com

Web: www.RosslynAcademy.com

...to inspire and equip each student to develop God-given gifts for Christ-like service in the world community



Program Overview with Selected Sample Objectives

Language Arts 8

Language Arts, and specifically writing, is the focus of the 8th grade curriculum. Six-trait writing is used as a guideline for measuring student growth in writing. Writing skills are enhanced through the contextual use of reading, speaking, and listening skills.

The student will learn about, and attain the following skills:

- Six-trait writing
- Sentence, paragraph, and essay structure
- Understanding and applying the writing process
- Reading comprehension in both an individual and group setting
- Reading, responding, and analyzing different literary forms and genres (novel, short story, drama, essay, multimedia)
- Different writing styles
- Presenting and analyzing oral material
- General grammar review, learning, and introduction
- Building and using effective study skills
- Proper research use

Math

Students take Pre-Algebra or Algebra in grade 8. The course taken depends on math readiness.

Pre Algebra

Textbook: Holt Middle School Mathematics Course Pre-Algebra

Course Outline

- Algebra Toolbox
- Integers and Exponents
- Rational and Real Numbers
- Collecting, Displaying, and Analyzing Data
- Plane Geometry
- Perimeter, Area, and Volume
- Ratios and Similarities
- Percents
- Probability
- Graphing Lines
- Sequences and Functions
- Polynomials
- Logic and Discrete Math

Algebra I Grade 8

Students learn to use mathematical language in problem solving. Students study operations with polynomials and rational and irrational numbers. Other topics include factoring, graphing equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations, and solving systems of equations and inequalities.

*Algebra 1 for eighth graders is a high school level course taught in the middle school. Students do not receive high school credit at Rosslyn for this course. The goal for bringing the course to the middle school is to help advanced math students to continue high school math through Calculus without having to take two math courses in one year in high school.

Textbook: Glencoe Algebra I

Course Outline

Variables, Expressions, Equations and Function
Rational Numbers
Solving Linear Equations
Proportional Reasoning
Graphing Relations and Functions
Analyzing Linear Equations
Solving Linear Inequalities
Solving Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities
Polynomials
Factoring
Quadratic and Exponential Functions
Rational Expressions and Equations

Integrated Science 8

Integrated Science 8 is the third course in a 3-year science series that studies earth, life and physical sciences using an integrated approach.

Textbook: Glencoe Science Level Blue
Course Outline:

- **Humans and Heredity**
 - Traits and How They Change
 - Interactions of Human Systems
- **Ecology**
 - Interactions of Life
 - The Nonliving Environment
 - Ecosystems
- **Earth's Changes Over Time**
 - Plate Tectonics
 - Earthquakes and Volcanoes
 - Clues to Earth's Past
 - Geologic Time
- **Earth's Place in the Universe**
 - The Sun-Earth-Moon System
 - The Solar System
 - Stars and Galaxies
- **Chemistry of Matter**
 - Inside the Atom
 - The Periodic Table
 - Atomic Structure and Chemical Bonds
 - Chemical Reactions
 - Animal and Human Reproduction
- **Physical Interactions**
 - Electricity Magnetism
 - Waves, Sound, and Light

Social Studies 8

Middle School Model United Nations and Africa are the focus of 8th Grade Social Studies. Current events and African literature are often integrated into the curriculum.

The student will learn about:

- Current events affecting the world in the following areas: politics health, technology, ecology/environment, and human rights
- Model United Nations debate procedures
- Specific information, such as form of government, leader, trading partners, allies, enemies, geography, etc., on the country to which they were assigned
- Different parts of Africa: North, South, East, Central, and Southern Africa
- General characteristics of each region, such as religion, languages, tribes, etc.
- Diversity of Africa even in its geographic sections
- Problems that diversity sometimes causes as well as the wealth of knowledge that it brings
- Current African conflicts
- Role of colonialism on Africa
- African governments since independence
- Basic geography of Africa, including countries, capitals, major river, and major mountain regions

Skills attained in class:

- Critical thinking skills through representing a country's position in Model United Nations
- Leadership skills
- Writing skills through persuasive and position essays
- Research skills through emphasis of the Big 6

Physical Education 8

By the end of middle school, a student will have learned the basic skills, rules and strategies of major team sports and how to participate as a cooperating team member. Each physical education period should contain extended periods of running or other strenuous activity. Fitness tests are given with a pre-test in August and the fitness test in December and May.

Odd Year Rotation

- Softball
- Soccer
- Flag football
- Floor hockey
- Volleyball

- Frisbee games



Even Year Rotation

- Touch rugby
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Field hockey
- Track and field
- racquet sports

Music

All students in Grade 8 take music. The options are Band and Choir, and students wishing to do so may take both by attending each ensemble every other day. All students in Music are required to participate in the end-of-semester concerts as well as other performances scheduled throughout the semester.

Choir:

Students in Choir learn the foundations of good singing (such as breath support, diction, proper jaw space, posture) as well as the basics of musical notation and sight singing. They also work on songs to be performed in chapels and concerts.

Band:

Students in Band continue the foundations of proper instrumental performance (such as breath support, embouchure, hand position, posture) as well as the basics of musical notation and sight-reading. They also work on compositions for Band to be performed in chapels and concerts.

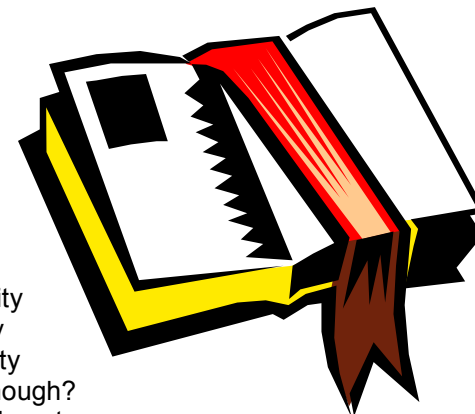


Christian Religious Education 8

Christian Religious Education is the academic study of the Bible and its implications for student's lives. Recognizing each student has spiritual worth to God, Rosslyn Academy teaches a scriptural-based curriculum which integrates Biblical knowledge, principles, and life applications. Each student is presented with the authority of the Bible, and the Lordship of Jesus Christ as the model for relationships, behavior, values, purpose, and eternal life.

Course Outline:

- Introduction: What is Wisdom?
- A study of various ethics cases focusing on:
 - values and stewardship
 - fighting evil
 - parental authority
 - the cost of unity
 - personal integrity
 - how much is enough?
 - value from inside out



Scripture Memory is an integral part of each of the above topics with passages chosen in such a way to help reinforce concepts discovered in class.

Exploratories

Three different exploratories are offered during the Academic Year. The intent of the Exploratory Period is to give the students skills in areas that we see as being important in their own personal development, preparing them for a fuller life experience not only within the Rosslyn or Kenyan context, but as they live in the world at large.

1. Foreign Language (Spanish or French) Every day for one semester.

This language course is designed to introduce the student to the language and culture of Spain/France and to provide a sound foundation for language learning in high school.

2. Computer Technology (Every other day for semester)

Students practice keyboarding daily, with an emphasis on proper fingering and accuracy. They review and expand on their word processing and spreadsheeting skills, and are introduced to databases as a means of organizing information.

3. Careers (Every other day for a semester)

Students participate in career inventories to learn their career preferences. They then explore the requirements of several careers, developing a portfolio for further reference.

The USA National Middle School Association notes in their policy paper,

“Every day young adolescents enter school searching for what research and practice have shown to help middle level students excel: challenging and engaging instruction that recognizes that 10- to 15-year-olds are undergoing the most rapid intellectual and developmental changes of their lives; teachers and administrators well prepared to provide young adolescents with a safe, stimulating, and supportive learning environment; and organizational structures that promote high expectations, collaboration, and continual learning for both adolescents and adults.

“The middle grades represent the most critical period in education because so many decisions made during this stage determine whether children will reach their full potential. By the eighth grade, for instance, many students have decided whether they will drop out or graduate from high school, whether they will take algebra and other “gatekeeper” courses that predict success in college, and whether they will engage in risky behaviors.”

Rosslyn Academy is committed to providing a middle school focused on the academic, social, physical, behavioral and spiritual needs of these young adolescents.