



734 Apple Street  
Burlington, NC 27217  
(336)226-8526 ext.7016

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# Welcome to Kindergarten at Excel Christian Academy

Imagine being part of a school community that's not just about education but spiritual development and growth. A place where you can connect with others who share your beliefs and values and discover your unique path in life. That's what we're all about—creating a vibrant, welcoming community that reflects the beauty and diversity of God's Kingdom. Join us and discover a world of endless possibilities!

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## Mission & Vision

Our Mission	Our Vision
At Excel Christian Academy, we empower a diverse community, bound together by our faith in Christ, to strive for excellence in education. We believe in fostering a lifelong love for learning, nurturing leadership skills, and instilling a spirit of service.	Our vision is establishing a spiritually active educational community representing the Kingdom of God.

# Parent Information

## Student Eligibility

We are committed to providing a strong foundation for our youngest learners to build their future. If your child will turn 5 by August 31, 2024, they are eligible for enrollment in Excel Christian Academy for the 2024-2025 school year.

## School Calendar

Excel Christian Academy will follow the local school district school calendar, starting school on August 26, 2024, and ending school on June 6, 2025. Our school year has a total of 180 days.

## Required Documents

### Documentation of Age

A birth certificate or alternative document(s) of birth is/are required. The child must be 5 years of age on or before August 31st of the year of school entry.

### Immunization

The parent/guardian must provide verification of the child's immunizations. North Carolina state law requires the following minimum doses:

- **5 DPT doses** - 5th dose MUST be on or after the 4th birthday.
- **4 Polio doses** - 4th dose to be given on or after the child's fourth birthday.
- **3-4 Hib doses** - at least 1 Hib on/after 1st birthday and before 5 years of age (Not required after age 5).
- **2 MMR doses** - 1st dose on/after 1st birthday and 2nd dose before enrolling in school for the first time.
- **3 Hepatitis B doses** - A series of 3 doses is required for all children born on or after July 1, 1994.
- **2 Varicella doses** - Vaccination is required unless documentation of disease history is provided by a healthcare provider.
- **4 Pneumococcal conjugate doses** - (Not required after age 5).

Be sure your child's name/birthdate, doctor's stamp or signature, and the month, day, and year of each immunization are on the record.

## Communications

Excel Christian Academy utilizes important phone calls, emails, and text messages relayed through the MadMimi communication system. Having accurate cell phone and email addresses on file is very important.

## Nutrition

Students will be served a hot, healthy lunch and afternoon snacks. School menus will list on the school website.

# Curriculum

We will use the GREAT MINDS curriculum (Standard Course of Study).

<b>Course</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Wit &amp; Wisdom - English Language Arts</b>	<p>The ELA approach used by Wit &amp; Wisdom enables students to improve their skills and knowledge with every lesson.</p> <p>Reading, Writing, Foundational Skills (Book &amp; Print Awareness, Handwriting, Phonics, Phonemic Awareness), Language, Speaking and Listening.</p> <p>Literacy Block: Our comprehensive approach includes whole and small-group sessions totaling 2.5 hours daily. This balanced approach covers phonemic awareness, phonics comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary instruction, ensuring a well-rounded literacy education.</p>
<b>Eureka Math</b>	<p>The Mathematics Block, a key component of our curriculum, is structured into whole-group and small-group sessions. It is allocated one hour per day and strongly emphasizes developing students' number sense, a fundamental aspect of mathematical understanding.</p>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<p>Thematic Units: Integration of Social Studies and Leadership content.</p>
<b>PhD Science</b>	<p>The PhD Science program is designed to help students move from simply reading about science to actively engaging in scientific inquiry. Students gain a better understanding of scientific concepts through a learning cycle that involves asking questions, investigating phenomena, developing evidence-based explanations, and applying new knowledge to explain additional phenomena. This program emphasizes hands-on engagement with the phenomena under investigation, allowing students to learn through experience.</p>
<b>Chapel</b>	<p>During chapel, students have the opportunity to pray, worship, and listen to Bible stories and object lessons. The atmosphere is lively and upbeat, and students can participate in games and lesson activities. The responsibilities of the chapel are shared by teachers, administrators, and church staff.</p>
<b>The Arts</b>	<p>Excel Christian Academy recognizes that the arts are important for the development of early learners. By integrating arts with STEM subjects, students can achieve enhanced outcomes.</p>

## Administration & Staff

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### **Rev. Dr. Larry E. Covington - Headmaster**

Excel Christian Academy is proud to have Rev. Dr. Larry E. Covington as its Headmaster. Dr. Covington is fully committed to providing a nurturing Christian environment that promotes academic excellence. His visionary leadership has created a learning environment where students receive a quality education and thrive emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Dr. Covington's passion for serving the community is evident in all aspects of his work, and he continuously seeks innovative ways to engage, empower, and uplift those around him. Under his guidance, Excel Christian Academy has become a beacon of hope and opportunity for all who enter its doors. This parent manual is a testament to Dr. Covington's dedication to providing a comprehensive educational experience that fosters growth, instills values, and prepares students to excel in all aspects of life. n Academy recognizes that the arts are important for the development of early learners. By integrating arts with STEM subjects, students can achieve enhanced outcomes.



### **Rev. Dr. Vanessa Diggs - Principal**

Vanessa Diggs is excited to serve as principal at Excel Christian Academy. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Special Education K-12 from Winston Salem State University, a Master of Education from the University of Maryland at College Park, and a PhD in Educational Management from Hampton University. Dr. Diggs's career in education extends over 37 years as a teacher/coach in Maryland and North Carolina.

Dr. Vanessa Diggs is an associate minister at The Ebenezer Church in Burlington, NC. She consults for public and private schools. Her passion is ensuring all children receive an equitable education and the needed resources.



### **Ms. Ernestine Holman - Educator**

Ernestine Holman, a Burlington native and alumna of Hugh M. Cummings High School, holds a Bachelor's degree in Human Environment Family Sciences with a focus in Child Development from North Carolina A&T State University. She furthered her education by earning a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Elon University, specializing in grades Kindergarten through 6th, and obtained certification for Birth through Kindergarten teaching. With an impressive 33-year tenure in public education, Ms. Holman has taught various grade levels, including Kindergarten through 6th grade and NC Pre-K. Her teaching experience spans across diverse settings, complemented by continuous professional development, including her adjunct professorship at NC A&T and instructional role at Alamance Community College. Beyond her professional endeavors, Ms. Holman actively engages in community service as a member of esteemed organizations such as the North Carolina Association of Educators – Alamance Burlington chapter and the Elon Black Alumni Network. She also demonstrates steadfast commitment to her faith community at Queen's Chapel AME Church, where she has held leadership positions for over two decades. As a mother of two sons, Curtis and Jauron, and two bonus sons, Willie and James, Ms. Holman takes pride in her family, which includes five grandchildren and six bonus grandchildren.



# School Expenses

Grade Level	Description	Tuition (2024-2025)
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Single Student	\$6800.00
	Second Student	\$6500.00
	Additional Student	\$2500.00
<b>Elementary</b>	Single Student	\$7400.00
	Second Student	\$6900.00
	Additional Student	\$3000.00

*Inquire about payment plan options.*

# School Fees

Course	Description	Fees (2024-2025)
<b>Application Fee</b>		\$75.00
<b>Enrollment Fee</b>	Kindergarten	\$185.00
	Elementary (1-3 <sup>rd</sup> grade)	\$225.00
<b>Curriculum &amp; Technology Fee</b>		\$300.00

*All tuition and fees are non-refundable.*