



GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL . . . *AT A GLANCE* *(revised 2-1-2022)*

HISTORY: GCS was established in 1992 with a vision by Christians in the surrounding areas who recognized the need for an independent, non-denominational Christian school. The doors opened in the fall of 1992 with approximately 70 students.

ADMINISTRATION: The Head of School is Chris Johns, PhD. He is supported by 60 administrative staff and college-educated faculty. GCS policy is governed by a nine-member School Board of Directors.

ACCREDITATION: GCS is accredited by the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS), and AdvancED/Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). GCS is a member of the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA). The school serves families from Abbeville, Anderson, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick and Saluda counties with an August 2021 enrollment of 470 students in K3 through 12th grade.

FACULTY: Teachers hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree. In addition, all faculty members are required to fulfill the teacher certification requirements set forth by ACTS with continuing education classes. Also on staff are four college professors who teach Dual-Enrollment courses in Religion, Science, English, and Social Sciences

FAITH: GCS serves families from seven counties who represent about 75 churches. Being non-denominational, the Bible curriculum focuses on scriptural truths and not specific denominational doctrines. Chapel services (four age appropriate sessions) are conducted weekly or bi-monthly. Worship teams, composed of middle and high school students who express interest and talent in music, participate in the sessions.

ADMISSIONS: The three-step enrollment process includes an online application with \$120 fee; student testing/family interviews and, upon acceptance, enrollment fee of \$175.

ACADEMICS: GCS teaches a six subject core curriculum to all enrolled students with a strong emphasis on traditional values: Math, Science, History, Bible, Grammar and Handwriting/Literature. The adopted curricula is primarily Bob Jones University based. National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society inducts students from grades 7-11 who meet the criteria. Graduation requirements are supervised by a high school guidance counselor. Foreign language, honors classes and dual enrollment classes are introduced at the high school level. GCS has introduced an aggressive Dual Enrollment program with Piedmont Technical College and Lander University to expand the number of courses already available to juniors and seniors.

TESTING: Students in K5-8 take the Terra Nova test annually. Grades 9-11 are given the PSAT each fall. We also provide on-site SAT and ACT testing for 11th, 12th and selected 10th graders. Since 1992, GCS has graduated 626 students, with about 99 percent accepted to 4-year or 2-year colleges. GCS Graduates are extremely competitive for scholarships to the college of their choice. SAT and ACT scores of GCS students are above the state and national average.

ENRICHMENT & FINE ARTS: Students do not thrive on academics alone. GCS offers various enrichment and electives to balance the rigors of academia. Related arts classes for elementary students include: PE, Media Center, Music and Art. Middle school students take a study hall and a rotation of the following electives: PE, Music, Art, Band and Basic Computer. High school students may choose from the following electives: PE, Music, Art, Communications, Life Skills and Media Arts as well as STEMS based electives: Construction & Manufacturing Science, Coding, and Pre-Engineering.

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP: Eighth grade classes host an annual Valentine fundraiser. Middle school students may be elected to student council or service as GCS Ambassadors. High school students have leadership opportunities by serving on the Student Activities Council or the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy. Emerald City Rotary Club sponsors the GCS Interact Club. High school students are required to complete pre-approved volunteer service to graduate. High School students also organize a Mission Day to provide service in the community.

STUDENT LIFE: All students are encouraged to participate in field day and seasonal musical performances for their grade level as well as spirit week. Elementary students attend various field trips that coordinate with classroom lessons. High school students host Homecoming activities, selection of Homecoming Queen, annual prom and various extra-curricular events.

ATHLETICS: GCS offers seasonal sports teams for male and female students in Grades 6-12: Cross Country, Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Wrestling, Baseball, Softball, Golf, Soccer, Track & Field and Speed & Strength. School colors are Navy, Silver and White; athletic mascot is the Hawk. GCS has a no-cut policy to promote inclusivity, however, for safety precautions, playing time is based on skill level of each athlete.

CONNECT: Located at 2026 Woodlawn Rd. in Greenwood, SC, 29649. Office phone: 864-229-2427; Follow gcs_now on Instagram or visit our website at greenwoodchristianschool.org
Like us on Facebook at Greenwood Christian School – Official.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

Does GCS follow the local school district's year round calendar?

GCS board voted not to adopt a year round calendar because our students do not need added remediation teaching time. However, for convenience to our parents who work in the local school districts, the board has compromised by streamlining our Fall, Christmas and Spring breaks for the next few years to better align with the district.

Do students wear uniforms?

Students do not wear official uniforms. GCS students and staff adhere to a modest dress code which minimizes distractions in the classroom. Specifications are found in the family handbook.

Are students allowed to use their cell phones during the school day?

Students are not allowed to have cell phones with them, in their lockers or in their book bags during school hours. Cell phones must be stored with homeroom teacher or school office. Specifications are found in the family handbook.

Are GCS teachers certified?

Teachers hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree. In addition, all faculty members are required to fulfill the teacher certification requirements set forth by ACTS with continuing education classes.

What are drop off and pick up times?

*Drop off students as early as 7:30 am. Class starts at 8 am for 6th - 12th grade and 8:10 am for K3 - 5th grade.
Dismissal: K3 - 2nd grade at 2:30 pm; 3rd - 5th grade at 2:40 pm; 6th - 12th grade at 3:02 pm*

What is the average classroom roster size?

K3 - K4 maximum of 16 students per classroom; K5 - 8th grade have two classrooms per grade with approximately 18 students in each classroom/homeroom. High school averages about 28 students per grade.

Do you teach cursive handwriting?

Yes, beginning in second grade.

What safety precautions do you have in place?

GCS employs a fulltime safety coordinator. Other safety measures include secured exterior doors, video surveillance, practice numerous drills and contingency plans.

Do you have an afterschool program?

Yes, it's called Hawks Nest and is open to K3 - 8th grade GCS students. Hours of operation are 3 - 6 pm and rates are \$45 per week, includes adult supervision, homework help, snack and recreation.

GCS, accredited by ACTS (nationally); AdvancED / SACS (regionally); a member of SCISA (statewide); does not discriminate against race or ethnic origin in administration of its educational, admission and athletic policies, tuition assistance or any other school administered programs.



GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TEST SCORES

(revised 2-1-2022)

SAT SCORES – SAT SCHOOL DAY OCTOBER 28, 2021

GCS SAT SCORES

Number of 10th grade tested 7 of 29
 Number of 11th grade tested 19 of 20
 Number of 12th grade tested 20 of 28

TEST DATE	10 th grade average overall	10 th grade average English	10 th grade average Math	11 th grade average overall	11 th grade average English	11 th grade average Math	12 th grade average overall	12 th grade average English	12 th grade average Math
OCT 28 2021	1082	597	485	1047	565	482	1056	549	507

SAT COMPARISON OF GCS GROUP TO ALL TEST-TAKERS OCT 28, 2021

	TOTAL SCORE	ENGLISH SCORE	MATH SCORE
GCS test-takers	1056	563	493
ALL test-takers	958	488	470
GCS 11 th grade	1047	565	482
All 11 th grade	1027	519	509
GCS 12 th grade	1056	549	507
All 12 th grade	956	488	469

% who MET BENCHMARKS OCT 28, 2021

	English	Math	Both
GCS 11 th grade	95%	32%	32%
GCS 12 th grade	85%	40%	40%



GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TEST SCORES

(revised 2-1-2022)

SAT: National AVG 1010; SC AVG 1056
 1033 (2021) *GCS began SAT testing on campus to include all juniors and seniors (66% of senior class scored about 1000)
 1020 (2020) *Covid 19 affected testing average
 1052 (2019) *increased number of students taking the test affected average
 1076 (2018)

ACT: National AVG is 20.8; state average is 18.3.
 n/a (2021) *all testing sites were closed due to Covid 19
 24.5 (2020)
 22.0 (2019)
 22.6 (2018)

Where recent graduates are attending:

Anderson University	Lander University
Bob Jones University	Liberty University
Carson-Newman University	Lipscomb University
Charleston Southern University	Louisiana Tech University
Clemson University	North Greenville University
Coastal Carolina University	Piedmont Technical College
College of Charleston	The Citadel
Erskine College	Tri-County Technical College
Francis Marion University	University of Kentucky
Furman University	University of South Carolina
Greenville Technical College	Wofford College

Acceptance rates for GCS students to 4-year or 2-year colleges averages about 99 percent. GCS students are extremely competitive for college scholarships including the South Carolina Palmetto, Life, Hope Award as well as Greenwood Promise. Through the high school guidance department, students receive encouragement and opportunities to pursue their choice of career or field of interest. GCS has awarded diplomas to 626 graduates since opening its doors August 1992. Class of 2020: 63% of the 30 graduates had 4.0 GPA on 5.0 scale. Class of 2021 64% of the 24 graduates had a 4.0 GPA on 5.0 scale

Terra Nova – Based on National Percentile (test taken in April; results reported in September)

GCS sets 65 Percentile for achievement. National AVG is 50.

ES (K5-5th grade) combined AVG:

No testing due to Covid 19 Pandemic (2020)
 Reading-77.4; Language-71.3; Math-74.1 (2019)
 Reading-78.3; Language-76.8; Math-73.0 (2018)
 Reading-67.4; Language-63.8; Math-65.6 (2017) *drop due to high number of transfer students from previous year
 Reading-75.9; Language-71.5; Math-72.3 (2016)

MS (6th-8th grade) average of Science, Math, History and English

No testing due to Covid 19 Pandemic (2020)
 70.6 (2019)
 67.0 (2018)
 65.2 (2017) *drop due to high number of transfer students from previous year
 76.9 (2016)

Revised 2-1-2022 afm