

## BVCS Frequently Asked Questions

Is BVCS accredited?	BVCS is accredited K-12 by <u>The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)</u> and the <u>Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)</u> . WASC is a regional association that accredits public and private schools, colleges, and universities in the United States.
Are your teachers credentialed?	Our teachers have or are working on completing an ACSI credential as well as a state credential.
Do you take a standardized test each year?	Yes. We use assessments that give us a prediction of how our students would perform on college entrance exams. All 7 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> grade students take the ACT Aspire, 8 <sup>th</sup> grade takes PSAT 8/9, 10 <sup>th</sup> grade takes the PreACT, and 11 <sup>th</sup> grade takes the PSAT/NMSQT. We are not given the opportunity to take the California standards test.
Do you teach to the standards?	We are selective in choosing the best sequential curriculum for our students across the PS-12 grades. We teach most of the California State Standards, as well as some Common Core. In addition, we will not teach any standard that is contrary to God's Word.
Does the high school offer AP courses?	Advanced Placement and Honor courses are open to students of high motivation and/or proven ability who wish to study a subject in greater depth. BVCS offers AP classes in Literature, Psychology, U.S. History, Biology, Computer Science, Computer Science Principles, Art, and Calculus. Honors classes are available for English, Biology & Chemistry.
What curriculum do you use?	We have a wide variety of textbooks we choose from to create our rich curriculum.
Is there financial assistance?	Tuition Assistance is available to those that qualify. For more information, please refer to <a href="http://www.bvcs.org">www.bvcs.org</a> .
Do you have an all-day Kindergarten?	Students in transitional kindergarten and kindergarten have an 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. academic day and may stay for an optional 12:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. afternoon care program for an additional fee.
How many students are in a class?	There are typically 22 to 30 students per class.
What extracurricular activities/classes do we offer?	We offer a variety of extracurricular activities such as PE, drama, technology, music, electives, sports and clubs.

Do you have a hot lunch program?	We have a hot lunch program for all PS-12 grade levels. PS-6 <sup>th</sup> is pre-paid/pre-ordered. JH & HS pay for what they select daily.
What kind of technology is used/offered to the students?	Students primarily use iPads in preschool-1 <sup>st</sup> grade and Google Chromebooks in 2 <sup>nd</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade.
Do you have a before school and after school program?	We provide extended care for PS-8 <sup>th</sup> grade for an additional fee of \$5 per hour or any part of an hour. The before school program begins at 6:30 a.m. and the after school program goes until 6:00 p.m. for TK-8 <sup>th</sup> . The hours for preschool are 7:30-8:30 a.m and 3:00-5:00 p.m.
How much homework do the students have on a daily basis?	Lower elementary students have between 10-30 minutes of homework on most school nights. Upper elementary students have between 40-60 minutes on average. JH/HS can expect about an hour of homework each night on average.
Do you require uniforms or is there a dress code?	No. Uniforms are not required for BVCS students; however, we do have a dress code policy that is enforced. Please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook for specific dress code policy.
What time does school begin and end?	Preschool-kindergarten: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Are there pull-outs offered for special needs?	We offer some additional support services. It is our desire to meet the needs of all students the best we can. Each child's special needs are assessed to design individual services.
Do you offer chapel?	All students attend a weekly chapel service. Students in preschool through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade receive daily Bible instruction as well as biblical integration in each subject area. Additionally, high school students have the opportunity to join other Bible studies and prayer groups.
What religious affiliation does the school have?	BVCS is a ministry of Big Valley Grace Community Church which is a non-denominational church.
Do you offer TK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade?	Yes. In addition, we offer preschool starting at age 2 years, 9 months (and fully toilet trained).
How many children attend the school?	870 students in Preschool-12 <sup>th</sup> grade