

# **NEW PARENT ORIENTATION 2025-2026**

Address: 2955 Old Fountain Rd Dacula GA 30019 Phone number: (770) 338-7945 Website: www.oakhillclassical.org Office email: admin@oakhillclassical.org Instagram: oakhillclassical Facebook: Oak Hill Classical School Facebook Private Parent Group: Oak Hill Gryphon Parents/Students/Alumni

## EVENTS TO START THE YEAR

#### **New Parent Orientation**

Tuesday, July 29 at 7:00pm at Oak Hill *(Parent required event, no students please)* This is a time for parents of new students to gather for the purpose of giving specific start of school details, emphasizing important policies/procedures and answering questions.

#### Meet the Teacher

Monday, August 4 (Times will be emailed)

This is a time for all students to drop in and meet their teachers, bring school supplies and get specific instructions for the first day of school.

#### First Day of School

Thursday, August 7 (early release at noon) Parents are welcome to walk new students to their classroom and take a few photos

#### **Curriculum Night**

Upper School (6th-9th): Thursday, August 14 (*Parent required event, no students please*) Lower School (K4-5th): Tuesday, August 19 (*Parent required event, no students please*) This is a night for parents to hear from their student's teacher about curriculum and procedures specific to that class.

# DROP OFF AND PICK UP

For standing carpool arrangements, please fill out the Carpool Permission Form and list the individuals who have your permission to pick up your students.

#### **Morning Carpool Procedures**

Grammar School carpool runs from 8:10–8:25 AM. Doors close promptly at 8:25 AM.

- 1. Any student arriving after the doors are closed must be signed in by a parent at the front desk and will receive a tardy slip.
- 2. Students must be **in their seats and ready to begin the day by 8:30 AM.** Any student not seated and prepared by 8:30 will be marked tardy.

#### Upper School carpool runs from 8:00-8:10 AM.

- 1. Students must be in their seats and ready to begin class by 8:15 AM. Any student not in their seat by 8:15 will be marked tardy.
- 2. Upper School students who miss more than half of the first period will be considered absent for that class.

#### Afternoon Carpool Procedures

- Afternoon carpool runs from 3:00–3:20 PM.
- Parents arriving after 3:20 PM must come inside to sign out their student. A tardy will be recorded for late pickup.
- 1. Parents should pull in front of the school and follow the directions of the traffic director.
- 2. IN AFTERNOON CARPOOL IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT EVERY VEHICLE TURN RIGHT OUT OF THE PARKING LOT. (If you do not want to turn right please proceed through the carpool line and then park until carpool has finished, at that point you may exit.)
- 3. Car engines are to be turned off while waiting for students to load.
- 4. Cell phones are not to be used during carpool.
- 5. Carpool tags must be visible upon entering school property.
- 6. Follow all directions of staff members managing carpool.
- 7. Your line of cars will be dismissed when all children are loaded safely.
- 8. If for any reason you need to wait for a child, or take a few extra minutes to buckle, etc., you will be asked to pull up and wait in the parking spots directly in front of the carpool lines.
- 9. Students may not, for any reason, come back to the classroom after their name has been called for carpool. If the student has left something in the classroom, they need to still proceed to the carpool line and the parent will need to pull around, park, wait for a lull in traffic and then accompany the student back into the building to get the left item(s).
- 10. If a parent has arrived after carpool to pick up children, he or she will be asked to come in and sign the student out. This will count towards a tardy (see Attendance Policy).
- 11. Please avoid stopping traffic on Old Fountain road, even if it means passing the school and turning around or parking in the gas station parking lot to wait for the line to clear a bit.

#### **Alternate Pick-up Procedures**

- 1. Early drop off and late pick up are not permitted.
- 2. For day-of or occasional carpool changes, a parent must notify the school of such changes by email (admin@oakhillclassical.org) or phone (770-338-7945) before 2:30pm the day of the change.

#### Tardies

Please refer to the Handbook for our Tardy policies.

## VISITING SCHOOL

We welcome parent involvement and strive to maintain a safe and focused learning environment. Campus visits should be for a specic purpose, such as a conference with a teacher, celebrating a birthday, or joining a student for lunch. To help us plan well and protect classroom time, all visits must follow these guidelines:

- 1. Request approval at least one day in advance.
  - Email both the classroom teacher and admin@oakhillclassical.org to request a visit.
  - Non-parent visitors (e.g., grandparents, siblings) must be approved by the administration and accompanied at all times by an Oak Hill parent or guardian.
- 2. Check in and remain in designated areas.
  - Sign in at the front desk and wear a visitor badge while on campus.
  - Stay only in the classroom or area approved for your visit.
  - Visitors may not move freely around campus. Observations should be quiet and nondisruptive.
- 3. Sign out when leaving.

# EARLY CHECK OUT & ABSENCES

#### Early Check-out

Parents must see the front office staff to check a student in or out of school. All requests for early check out should be done before 2:30 pm. Parents must let the school and teacher know if a student will need to be checked out early so that the teacher can have the student packed up and ready to go. If the student has multiple unexcused early checkouts the policies regarding absences will apply. For student's safety, students will not be allowed to check out over the phone, except in the case of an emergency or illness.

Oak Hill Staff will not let a student be dismissed to go with anyone other than the legal guardians or the people who have been given permission to pick up the student either by email or by phone call. If it has not been communicated to the staff, the staff must check with the legal guardian/parent before that child leaves.

#### **Unplanned Absence**

If a student needs to be absent from school for sickness or any other unplanned absence, the parents should contact the school office and student's teacher as soon as possible. For more information on absences and makeup work, please reference the handbook.

## COMMUNICATIONS

#### **Monday Email**

Every Monday you will receive an email from our Head of School, communicating any important information for the week and upcoming weeks.

#### Social Media

- **Facebook Private Group:** You can request to join this private group on Facebook for Parents, Teachers, Staff, and Alumni to communicate with each other about a variety of topics and events.
- Facebook: We will post about upcoming events and also post about classroom happenings
- Instagram: We will post about upcoming events and also post about classroom happenings

#### Calendar

Please reference our calendar for the most up-to-date information about school events. This includes our year-at-a-glance with events and holidays.

#### Emergencies

The safety of our students, staff and faculty is of paramount importance. In the event of an emergency (fire, severe weather, intruder), parents will be notified as soon as possible by email and by text. (Parents must sign up for the Remind texts to receive these communications.) Please do not contact the school during a presumed emergency, as our staff and faculty will be working hard to keep students as safe as possible.

#### **Remind Text**

The most immediate source of "high importance" information.

#### Green "Take-Home" Folder or Student Planner

In Grammar School in particular, many things will be communicated through the 'Green Take Home Folder', which should be checked daily. Grades 4th-9th will have a Student Planner in which their assignments will be listed by the student.

#### Educate

This is where Upper School parents can check grades, etc. You will receive a login for this.

## **UNIFORMS & DRESS CODE**

Oak Hill's designated uniform supplier for all logoed uniform items is Lands' End. Lands' End: landsend.com/school. Oak Hill ID: 900155771 For more details on uniforms, please reference our Handbook and our Visual Guide

#### Label Everything!

Please put names inside/on your children's clothing, coats, water bottles, lunch bags, even shoes and tote bags/backpacks. This makes it much easier for students to identify their items and makes it possible for us to return misplaced items to their owners. Lost and found items can be found in the lobby.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Updated Lists for 2025/2026 can be found on our website. School supplies can be dropped off at our Meet the Teacher event.

### FRIDAYS AT OAK HILL

#### Gryphon (Spiritwear) Fridays

Gryphon Fridays give students a chance to show school spirit and exercise some individualism. All students may wear any Oak Hill t-shirts or sweatshirts, tucked or untucked, and any uniform bottoms. Oak Hill tops must be school-issued (field day, athletic competitions, capstone trips, 5K, etc.) No sleeveless shirts are permitted. Rhetoric (9th grade) students are free from color restrictions for socks and shoes. They may also wear jeans on Gryphon Fridays. Jeans may not be tight and may not have rips, holes, or tears, etc. The Administrative Staff reserves the right to take away the privilege of Gryphon Fridays.

#### Hot Lunch Fridays

We provide hot lunch for those who choose to purchase them from vendors like Chick-fil-A, Austin's Burritos, and Johnny's Pizza. You will receive an email about how to order hot lunch.

## MEDICAL

#### **Health Policy**

- 1. Following Georgia state law, Oak Hill Classical School requires a current immunization record or a notarized religious affidavit statement for every student upon initial enrollment and again upon entering K5 and 7th grade. Immunization records must be turned in to the school office by September 1 of the school year.
- 2. Students are also required to have a Certificate of Birth on File. Birth certificates must be turned in by the first day of the school year.
- 3. It is expected that students are sent to school healthy, well rested, and ready for class. Students who are lethargic, tired, and unable to do their schoolwork will be sent home for needed rest and recuperation. Oak Hill Classical School does not have a nurse on staff. Do not send a child to school if they have a temperature over 100.4 or if they are showing signs of a virus or infection (vomiting, diarrhea, severe colds, etc.)
- 4. Parents should provide the school with updated emergency numbers of friends and/or family who can pick up their child from school if the child becomes ill. Medical information and emergency contacts must be turned in by the first day of school.
- 5. Oak Hill will not keep over the counter medicine on hand to be dispensed to students. If a student needs medication (over the counter or prescription), it must be given to the front desk personnel with a parent permission note and instructions. Students will need to come to the front desk to administer medication.

#### Other

For policies on other illnesses, head lice, allergies, injuries and medical distribution, please reference our Handbook.

# PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

#### Ways to Get Involved

- 1. Attend all required parent events: Curriculum Night, State of the School and Parent Teacher conferences.
- 2. Read emails from teachers and administrators to stay up to date.
- 3. Be involved in your student's learning at home. (Helping with homework, reading aloud, conversations, etc.)
- 4. Act as chaperone on field trips or as a host for class parties or a room parent.
- 5. Join the Gryphon Flight Team (the Parent Volunteer organization) and become involved in the Special School events. (See below)
- 6. Closely monitor and praise your child's progress by reading all teacher notes and papers sent home in the green take home folder for Grammar school and through Thinkwave for Logic School.
- 7. Communicate your ideas for school improvement and comments regarding the school program to the administration.
- 8. Support our Oak Hill Community by giving not only of your time, but also of your resources. Visit OakHillClassical.org/Give for more information.

### Gryphon Flight Team (GFT)

Oak Hill is not just an organization of students, but one of students, staff, faculty, and families. It is through this association that volunteers are recruited for volunteer activities, including but not limited to the following teams:

- 1. Hot Lunch Volunteers
- 2. Room Parent and Teacher Appreciation
- 3. Facilities Team: Library, Kitchen, Campus Beautification, etc.
- 4. Morning Special Events: Muffins with Moms, Donuts with Dads, Grandparents Day, Pastors' Brunch
- 5. Evening Special Events: : Parent Events (Evenings at Oak Hill, etc), Daddy Daughter Dance, Mother Son Pizza and Game night
- 6. Fundraising Events: Great Pumpkin Race, Spring Celebration Dinner
- 7. Student Activities: Paper Airplane Competition, Olympic Games, Logic School Gala

# HOUSE SYSTEM

Reminiscent of traditional British schools, Oak Hill students, 3rd Grade and up, are divided into Houses (new students inducted in the fall).. In the traditional boarding schools, the students actually lived in and with these houses, but our system is a bit less ambitious. Besides the natural fun that comes along with such a system, the house system affords additional opportunities for:

- Nurturing relationships across grade levels
- Leadership, friendly competition, and service
- Faculty involvement with students on a different relational level
- Positive peer pressure and mentorship

As a classical school, Oak Hill delves into the works of antiquity, learning that all truth is God's truth. In developing the houses, we have sought to emphasize the four classic virtues, which reflect God's truth — prudence or wisdom, temperance or moderation, fortitude or courage, and justice. We have selected a Christian saint to exemplify these virtues and inspire our students to model them in their own lives.

#### Oak Hill Houses

- Augustine was born in 354 in Tagaste (modern-day Algeria) to a Christian mother and a pagan father. Raised in Roman North Africa, educated in Carthage, and employed as a rhetoric professor in Milan, he became a Christian through the influence of Ambrose, the bishop of Milan. He made important contributions to theology and philosophy, including developing the Christian understanding of the cardinal virtues.
  - Virtue: Temperance (temperantio)
  - Color: Blue
- **Boniface** (Latin: Bonifacius), (c. 672 June 5, 754 or 755), the Apostle of the Germans, was born Winfrid or Wynfrith at Crediton in Devonshire. He later became a missionary who propagated Christianity in Germany during the 8th century.
  - Virtue: Prudence (prudentia)
  - Color: Gold
- **Martin** of Tours (Latin: Martinus), was a bishop of Tours in the fourth century. He showed interest in Christianity at an early age. After service in the Roman army, he was baptized and became a disciple of St. Hilary of Poitiers, who was prominent in the trinitarian disputes with the Arians.
  - Virtue: Justice (iustitia)
  - Color: Red
- **Patrick** of Ireland, Bishop of Armagh and Enlightener of Ireland, was born a Briton. Captured and brought to Ireland as a slave, he escaped and returned home. Later, he returned to Ireland, bringing Christianity to its people.
  - Virtue: Courage (fortitudo)
  - Color: Green