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LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HOME EDUCATION INFORMATION HANDBOOK 2018-2019

Lighthouse Christian Academy
Sylvan Lake, AB

Welcome to Lighthouse Christian Academy

Lighthouse Christian Academy is a fun, safe, and caring place where everyone is encouraged to do his or her best. We believe in developing a personal relationship with Jesus, building character, achieving academic excellence and developing the giftings and leadership qualities of each student.

Lighthouse Christian Academy began offering traditional home education in September of 2013. We offer a program where parents teach, deliver and evaluate in their child's learning. You are encouraged to teach your children in a way that reflects your values, fits your lifestyle and schedule; all while receiving encouragement and support from our staff.

We coordinate many activities and events with other home education groups in the area to ensure that students are given great opportunities to meet new friends, develop relationships, and learn in group settings.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HOME EDUCATION PROGRAM (K-12)

When making the choice to home educate you are creating an educational opportunity in which you, as parents, direct all aspects of your child's learning. You develop a program that works for both you and your child(ren). It provides an opportunity for families to spend more time with one another while being able to create a schedule that is flexible in an environment tailored to a child's learning needs.

A traditional home education program through high school does not give an official Alberta Diploma. A certificate of completion is awarded and students are invited to participate in our graduation ceremony at LCA. Students in our home education program wishing to attain an official Alberta High School Diploma should contact LCA administration.

What We Offer:

- \$835.40 available in reimbursement (Grades 1-12)
- Traditional home education programs in which parents choose learning objectives, curriculum, teaching methods and develop the child's program; program may or may not be aligned with Alberta Curriculum
- Easily accessible support
- Field trips, workshops and educational opportunities
- A friendly learning community
- Opportunity to attend options classes and chapel at Lighthouse Christian Academy
- Program planning available upon request from an Alberta Certified Teacher
- Flexible school day and year

- Minimum of two visits per school year by an Alberta Certified Teacher to evaluate student progress and to provide encouragement and/or recommendations for student success

Please feel free to contact our school if you have any questions.

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www.lighthousechristianacademy.ca

Where to Start

General Inquiry/Program Planning: Brittany Krook (403) 877-1487

Registration: Abby Schimke (403) 887-2166

How Funding/Reimbursement Works

The Alberta government allots \$835.40 to be available for educational use for each child in grades 1-12. This can be used to cover a number of education expenses including curriculum, classes, educational field trips and resources. As you purchase school items throughout the year or spend money on educational opportunities please keep all of your receipts. You may then submit these to Mrs. Schimke in the LCA school office and you will be given a cheque to reimburse expenses. Once you have used up the amount given to you for the year, then any further expenses incurred will be assumed by the parent(s)/guardian(s).

Receipts cannot be submitted before Sept 30. Only 40% of your total year funding is available at this time, with the remainder being received by the school after January 30 at which time you can be reimbursed the full amount that is available to you. August 31 is the last day to claim expenses for the school year. Funding cannot be carried forward to the next school year. Please note that funding is not reimbursed prior to the Program Plan and Rights & Responsibilities documents being completed and signed.

In order for funding from Alberta Education to be released for students, proof of learning must be evident. Two in-home visits are completed by the facilitator in the months of Oct/Nov and May/June. During the fall visit the first assessment is completed, during the spring visit a final assessment is completed. Failure to meet this requirement will result in funds being with-held.

Attending Options Classes

Registered home education students are provided the opportunity to attend art, music and phys ed classes at LCA. The cost of which is \$100 per year/per class or \$5 per day (drop in) which can be deducted from your available funding. Students are also welcome to attend chapel, any field trips or special opportunities that the school participates in.

Attending Field Trips

Monthly workshops, sport events and field trips will be offered throughout the year. Activities such as science workshops, sports days, bowling and Young Writer's Guild will be planned.

All field trips taken by Lighthouse Christian Academy are open to our registered home education students. Please sign up for the weekly school newsletter to receive information about these opportunities.

The Town of Sylvan Lake recreation department has spent this past year developing some wonderful new opportunities for home educated students including gym times, skating times, and swimming lessons that are only for homeschoolers and open to all boards.

We work closely with other home education groups for events in order to increase numbers and have a number of more opportunities for learning and fellowship.