

INDIVIDUALITY
CHARACTER
SELF-GOVERNMENT
CONSCIENCE
INDIVIDUALITY
CHARACTER
SELF-GOVERNMENT
CONSCIENCE
INDIVIDUALITY
CHARACTER

ADMISSIONS GUIDE





“The focus at StoneBridge, to develop Christian leaders of character who reason from a Biblical worldview, was critical in preparing me to apply my faith during a military career in a fallen world.”

U.S. ARMY, MAJ. MILES BAKER
SBS Class of 1998


Table of Contents

Our Mission	2
Our Unique Culture	3
Frequently Asked Questions	4
SBS Quick Facts	5
Special Days, Events & Field Studies	6
Athletics	8
Fine & Performing Arts	9
College Prep	10
Portrait of a Graduate	11
Admissions Requirements	12
Admissions Process	13



Thank you for your interest in
STONEBRIDGE SCHOOL!

You can contact us at admissions@stonebridgeschool.com or
call the Director of Admissions at (757) 488-2214.



StoneBridge is a classical Christian school established to restore the Christian character of the Republic. We serve Christian families, enabling each child to reach the fullest expression of his value in Christ through a biblical Principle Approach® education.

Our Unique Culture



Noel Thomason

Noel Thomason
HEAD OF SCHOOL

To truly describe the culture of StoneBridge School, I believe no one says this better than our school's founder, Dr. Carole Adams:

"Our classroom methods and curriculum, governed by Principle Approach® philosophy of education, allow us the liberty and creative expression to satisfy the real needs of our students in a whole way. We see each child as an individual of infinite value, made in the image of God and worthy of our respect. We see children full, not empty, ready to be cultivated, inspired, consecrated and instructed – not stimulated, motivated, enculturated, or indoctrinated. We see the tutorial needs of students, that each one as an individual is entitled to his own learning style and instruction, that every child can be elevated to a worthy standard, and that our students need to be producing (not consuming) – expressing themselves in the arts, music, drama, and athletics, developing every talent, exercising their whole potential.

"Because we know that truth satisfies, we identify Biblical truth in every subject, giving our children the Bread of Life as a steady diet, not just crumbs and morsels. We show them the whole of God's purpose for man in history so that they can place themselves securely in the Kingdom of God, sure of where they stand, able to accept their position on the chain of Christianity, and envision the purpose of their personal lives." FACE Journal, vol. II, 1990

Eternal excellence through cultivating a Biblical worldview.

What makes StoneBridge School stand out amongst other local Christian schools? It is our unwavering commitment to our mission and an unsurpassed focus on discipleship. Elements of this are seen in how we develop principled thinking students, enabling them to cultivate a Biblical worldview. StoneBridge is resolute in its commitment to develop students who have a commanding presence for the Kingdom of God wherever He may place them.

Our students recognize they are commissioned and purposed to be image-bearers of Christ in every calling placed on them by God. For this reason, attending StoneBridge and supporting the mission with your time, money, and talents, is a commitment to something much larger than paying for a student's education. Tuition here is an investment in the Kingdom itself. As much as this sounds like an unsurmountable mission with an impossible goal, we not only believe it is possible for any committed student, we have many students who are living out this very vision.

With this said, we are humbled and thankful you are considering joining the StoneBridge mission.

Empowered in Christ. Equipped for life.

- We are a Biblical and classical school founded in 1980.
- We serve students from preschool through 12th grade with a total student body near 450.
- We are a college preparatory school: 99% of graduates attend college after graduation, including high caliber universities such as University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, College of William and Mary, West Point, Cornell, and Princeton.
- We are accredited through the Association of Christian Schools International and serve as a demonstration school for the Foundation of American Christian Education and the Principle Approach®.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the school day?

Lower School (Preschool-5th)

- 8:00 a.m. - Students may enter the building
- 8:15 a.m. - School day begins
- 3:05 p.m. - Regular dismissal
- 12:05 p.m. - Half day and Thursday dismissal

Upper School (6th-12th):

- 8:05 a.m. - School day begins
- 3:23 p.m. - Regular dismissal
- 12:23 p.m. - Half day and Thursday dismissal

Chapel is held on Thursday mornings.

Please refer to the Lower School and Upper School handbooks for more details.

Why do you have a half day on Thursdays?

Teachers use Thursday afternoons for curriculum and professional development. Parents are encouraged to use this time for lessons or appointments, so that students do not miss important class time. Extended Care is available on Thursday afternoons for an additional charge.

What are the hours for Extended Care?

- 6:30-8:10 a.m. - Morning (M-F)
- 3:15-6:00 p.m. - Afternoon (M-W, F)
- 12:15-6:00 p.m. - Thursday Afternoon

Please visit our website for more Extended Care information and registration.

What are the school year holidays?

Generally, school holidays are as follows:

- Labor Day
- One week at Thanksgiving
- Two weeks at Christmas
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Winter Break
- One week at Spring Break
- Memorial Day
- Good Friday is a half day
- Teacher Workdays (no school)

What is the dress code?

We desire to have a dress code that upholds our SBS Ethos, nurtures Christian character and scholarship, and expresses individual uniqueness. Details are included in the the school's Policies and Procedures handbook.

How often do students have P.E.?

All students in grades preschool-5th have physical education three times per week and recess for 30 minutes per day. Students in grades 6th-8th have P.E. four times per week.

Do you have a lunch service?

Yes. Hot lunches are delivered to the school daily from various vendors in the area. No lunch service is provided on Thursdays. Ordering can be completed through the school app.

What is Principle Approach®?

In short, the Principle Approach® is America's historic method of Biblical reasoning. It is a tried, true, and tested method and philosophy of education based on the premise that the Bible is the source of all learning and life.

- ✓ The Word of God is at the heart of education—it's the truth!
- ✓ Students are taught how to be critical thinkers using God's word.
- ✓ Students learn how to discern and apply Biblical principles in many different subject areas.
- ✓ Students are taught how to view the world through the lens of scripture, a Biblical worldview!
- ✓ A unique partnership helps develop Christian character: Family → Local Church → StoneBridge.

Quick Facts



1 STUDENT BODY: StoneBridge is a community of Christian families who share a commitment to Biblical, classical education in preschool through 12th grade. Students are admitted without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.

2 ACCREDITATION: StoneBridge is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), and is a member of the Virginia Council of Private Education (VCPE).

3 THE PRINCIPLE APPROACH: The Principle Approach® is a method and philosophy of education that equips learners to reason from Biblical principles in every area of life. Our curriculum focuses on individual learning and employs elements of classical education, such as foreign languages, poetry, history, math and the fine arts.

4 CHURCH AFFILIATION: StoneBridge is an independent Christian school and is not affiliated with any church or denomination. United in agreement with our statement of faith, our families represent many Christian denominations.

5 TUITION ASSISTANCE: StoneBridge School makes every effort to offer need-based financial aid to qualifying families. Financial aid is donated by our generous friends and families. We have been able to provide more than \$800,000 in aid to our families. Please call for more information.

6 SCHOOL FUNDING: StoneBridge School does not receive any government funding. We rely on tuition and the generous gifts of donors to support our programs and scholarships.



7 BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW: StoneBridge School partners with the Nehemiah Institute to administer the PEERS test annually, an assessment of Biblical principles in the areas of politics, education, economics, religion and social values. StoneBridge seniors have consistently scored at the top of the nation on this test, well above Christian students attending public schools or traditional Christian schools.

8 ACADEMICS: More than half of our juniors and seniors are inducted into the National Honor Society.

SAT scores are consistently higher than the regional and national average.

99% of SBS graduates attend college or university.

SBS grads are consistently accepted to their top college choices, often including the most selective schools.

9 DEDICATED TEACHERS At least half of our faculty have advanced degrees.

Among our faculty, 40% have earned the Master Teacher level, dedicated to imparting the love of learning to all students and mentoring newer teachers in the Principle Approach®.

StoneBridge teachers have a combined average tenure of 10 years at the school.

Special Days, Events & Field Studies

Uniquely StoneBridge! Our special days and events are a rich heritage of traditions that sets SBS apart, enhances the educational process, and unites students, faculty and parents.



Schoolwide Special Days

Christian Heritage Day: A celebration of how God used specific individuals to bring about His purpose in American History. Students, faculty, and volunteers celebrate and remember the original purposes of the American holiday of Thanksgiving. This day is filled with demonstrations, games, story interpreters, hands on activities and delicious food! Upper School students have an opportunity to serve on this day as well.

Grandparents & Special Friends Day: Grandparents and family friends are integral members of the StoneBridge community. We celebrate them and their contribution to our students on this special day. Guests are invited to a chapel service and a special time in the classroom with their grandchildren and special friends.

Liberty Day: A candle lighting ceremony and pictorial slideshow are highlights of this moving chapel service, our annual tribute to the contributions of our U.S. military service members. This special service is followed by the Presidents Wax Museum, presented by our 5th grade students.

Spirit Week: Every day is themed to bring excitement and to join our community together in their love for SBS. A Pep Rally and other activities are planned this week. Spirit Days also happen throughout the school year to show support for our sports teams. Go Cavaliers!

STEM Day: A celebration of learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Volunteers from our SBS and Hampton Roads community share hands-on activities that relate to STEM careers. Homeroom classes also participate in group STEM challenges using steps of the scientific method.

Lower School Special Days

Classrooms come alive with costumes, authentic foods, crafts, music, visual aids and more.

- **Preschool:** Noah's Ark Day
- **Pre-K:** Beatrix Potter Day
- **Kindergarten:** Pioneer Day
- **1st Grade:** Italy Day
- **2nd Grade:** Heidi Day
- **3rd Grade:** Bach Tea Day, Narnia Day
- **4th Grade:** Swiss Family Robinson Day
- **5th Grade:** Science Fair, Etiquette Luncheon, and Presidents Wax Museum

Constitution Day: A celebration of self-government and the country's foundation on faith, prayer, and trust in God. Students participate in a chapel service, watch a reenactment of the Constitution signing by the 5th grade, and sign their classroom constitutions.

Field Studies: Students in both Lower School and Upper School experience historical, scientific, and cultural opportunities at local establishments and beyond. Each grade takes at least one trip to enrich their academics and provide hands-on learning.

Upper School Events, Projects, & Opportunities

Fall Retreat: A three-day retreat to experience adventure, fellowship, and spiritual renewal to kick off the school year held at Rockbridge Alum Springs, owned and operated by Young Life.

Student Prefects: Prefectships are servant-leadership positions open to high school students, with preference given to 11th and 12th graders.

Spiritual Emphasis Week: The Upper School community carves out extra time on the three days leading up to mid-winter break to refocus on the Lord through worship, prayer, Bible study, teaching, and small group discussion. It is always a time of renewal, growth, and excitement that sets the tone for the remainder of the school year!

Mentoring: Beginning in 6th grade, students begin their day with their mentoring group. Mentors are the Upper School faculty and staff who partner with parents to support students and foster academic, spiritual, and social success. They develop lasting relationships with students over the course of their time in middle and high school.

Student Life: Social Life prefects are in charge of planning fun social activities for their classmates throughout the entire year. They work together with administration to bring unity to our 6th-12th grades.

Key Club: Students have an opportunity to serve others as part of the Key Club organization.

Student Government: Provides students with the training and experience in our form of government. Students serve as elected class representatives by grade level. Student governors communicate and collaborate with peers, faculty, and administrators to represent the best interests of the student body.

National Honor Society: Eligible students can be inducted into the National Honor Society.

Special Literary and Public Speaking Projects:

- 8th Grade Speech
- 9th Grade English Literature Research Project
- 10th Grade Biography Portfolio Project
- 11th Grade Oration Project
- 12th Grade Thesis Paper & Defense

A Focus on Christian History

Students in both Lower School and Upper School travel to significant U.S. landmarks, including Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Richmond, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Boston to learn about our country's history and relate it to Biblical teachings.

These lessons culminate during the senior year with the European Christian History Tour, an experience taken through different countries overseas.

Students experience different cultures and cuisines, stay in hotels and hostels, travel by trains, planes, and motor coaches, and complete a mission project.



StoneBridge Athletics

Our Philosophy

Our exceptional character and team building programs foster excellent physical training and sportsmanship. SBS Athletics core values are **character, confidence, cohesion and competition**. *Go Cavaliers!*

"StoneBridge Athletics endeavors to serve the Lord well by preparing our athletes to contend for His Kingdom. We understand the arena of play to be a microcosm of life where endurance through adversity, discipline to train, and perseverance to find victory when applied rightly will yield the character that produces victories in this life and in eternity. We enjoy the partnership with parents, staff, and faculty to bring this goal into reality."

~Paul Martin, SBS Director of Athletics

Team Sports

Stonebridge offers a variety of sports for grades 6th-12th.

Fall: Boys Soccer, Cross Country , Girls Volleyball

Winter: Basketball, Cheerleading, Indoor Track

Spring: Girls Soccer, Golf, Track and Field

Special Awards

Arising from our guiding philosophy, we award our student-athletes with categories to include: **Leadership, Servanthood, Perseverance, Loyalty, Most Improved**. Because we value each participant's contribution, we don't use the Most Valuable Player category.

Facilities

Our facilities include a full court gymnasium with scoreboards, bleachers and concession, a weight room, a soccer field, access to track field, and a playground.

Development

Junior Leagues: Open to the community, all boys and girls in grades Kindergarten-5th can participate in junior sports leagues. These training programs are designed for children to experience the benefits of sports and serve as a model of SBS Athletics values.



Summer Camps: Sports camps includes advanced basketball, soccer, volleyball, and junior basketball.

Open Gym: During offseason, SBS provides opportunity for open workouts for basketball, soccer, and volleyball.



Conference

StoneBridge competes locally in the Metropolitan Athletic Conference (Metro), which includes the following schools:

- Atlantic Shores
- Broadwater Academy
- Denbigh Baptist
- Gateway Christian
- Greenbrier Christian
- Hampton Christian
- Portsmouth Christian

SBS also competes in the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA) conference, which is state-wide.

Accomplishments

StoneBridge has won numerous conferences and state titles, both as teams and individuals. Please visit our website for a recent list.

Fine & Performing Arts

Fine and performing arts serve to strengthen students' skills and talents, as well as encourage individual creativity inspired by the Creator. An appreciation for the fine and performing arts is cultivated through electives in music, art, and drama.

Art

The SBS art program is designed to give students a life-long love for art and beauty as viewed through a Christian perspective. Courses include:

- Foundations of Color and Design
- Technique and Design Development
- Communication through the Visual Arts
- Advanced Art Theory and Applications
- Yearbook/Photography

Students also participate in the Annual Art Festival.

Drama

The drama department produces two or more productions each year, ranging from classical and contemporary plays, film, and musical theatre. Students learn about theatre primarily through hands-on experience in:

- Acting
- Musical theatre
- Theatre history
- Costuming
- Set design
- Stage management
- Technical theatre
- Scriptwriting/Film

Music

Chorus is offered with several school performance opportunities. The music department will work alongside our drama department to create amazing theatre productions, as well. Upper School students can also be a part of the worship team as well as the Middle School instrumental band.

Private music lessons are also offered to enrolled families. Please inquire for more details.



College Prep



Developing Leaders of the Future...

Thesis & Oration Projects

Academic writing and oral presentation are distinct features of a StoneBridge education. By their junior year, students will complete a research paper and oral presentation in economics or government. Seniors are required to write a 20- to 25-page thesis and orally defend it before a panel of faculty and community leaders.

Senior Seminar

Bible courses are required throughout a student's StoneBridge School experience. The Senior Seminar is a year-long required course that helps future graduates take ownership of their spiritual formation and apply their Biblical understanding as they prepare for life beyond high school.

Leadership Project

Service is an integral part of what it means to be a Christian and a leader. Seniors are required to study leadership through volunteering or by observing a recognized leader. This hands-on experience culminates in a final leadership paper.

Academics

StoneBridge teaches students how to reason from Biblical principles in every area of life. Our curriculum employs elements of classical education, such as foreign languages, history, math and fine arts. We offer several AP and honors courses in science, math, history, literature, and psychology, as well as dual enrollment in English.



Colleges & Universities Attended by SBS Alumni

Adrian College
Asbury College
Aquinas College
Auburn University
Brown University
Cambridge University
Calvin College
Campbell University
Carson-Newman College
Cedarville University
Christopher Newport University
The College of William & Mary
Concordia College
Converse College
Cornell University
Covenant College
Duke University

East Carolina University
Furman University
Gardner-Webb University
Georgia Tech University
George Mason University
Grove City College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hillsdale College
High Point University
James Madison University
Liberty University
Longwood University
Louisiana State University
Meredith College
Norfolk State University
North Carolina State University
Old Dominion University

Patrick Henry College
Princeton University
Syracuse University
University of Pennsylvania
University of South Carolina
Upstate
University of Virginia
US Air Force Academy
US Coast Guard Academy
US Military Academy at West Point
US Naval Academy
Virginia Commonwealth Univ.
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Tech
Virginia Wesleyan College
Wheaton College
Yale University

Portrait of a Graduate

A scholar is one who is teachable; one who is a disciple of the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ; one able to Biblically research and reason from the Word of God in all areas of life.

A servant is one who voluntarily serves in a spirit of love; one willing to make sacrifices for other's needs.

A steward is one entrusted with the care and management of his God-given internal property and the external property; one whose character and service is found trustworthy and reliable.

A statesman encompasses all of the qualities of a scholar, servant and steward. Additionally, a statesman is one who is able to lead his own generation by example in a spirit of selflessness as a representative of Christ locally, nationally, and internationally.

StoneBridge graduates are prepared to demonstrate the following:

- ✓ Academic preparation to pursue the life to which God has called them
- ✓ The ability to defend their faith and support a Biblical worldview
- ✓ A heart to serve as Jesus served his disciples
- ✓ Active involvement in a local church and community
- ✓ Thoughtfulness and consideration regarding their actions
- ✓ Ability to lead with courage and wisdom
- ✓ Service as an ambassador for Christ locally, nationally, and internationally



Admissions Requirements

We seek families who desire to develop a child's spiritual stature in accordance with Biblical principles, through academic excellence, Christian self-government, and servant leadership.



PLACEMENT TESTING

The goal of testing is to ensure proper placement. We want our students to be challenged but not frustrated. Testing will be scheduled after a complete application (including references and school records) is received.

• **Pre-K & Kindergarten:**

The one-and-a-half hour session recreates the classroom to provide an opportunity for observation and the administration of readiness tests.

• **Grades 1st through 12th:**

The two-to-three hour testing session presents a variety of standard achievement tests based on the student's grade level. The student will provide a writing sample as well.

Learning Profile:

After testing is completed, a Learning Profile is prepared to summarize and interpret test results. The Learning Profile is reviewed with parents as part of the Final Parent Interview. (See Admissions Checklist, p. 5.)

The criteria for admitting any child begins with the family:

- ✓ Are the parents in agreement with the philosophy, Ethos, and Statement of Faith of StoneBridge School? (These can be found on the school's website.)
- ✓ Do the parents uphold the spirit and principles of a Christian home? This includes abiding by a Biblical living arrangement (i.e., cohabitation only occurs in the context of marriage between husband and wife.)
- ✓ Is the family actively involved, in-person, in a local church? Families new to the area must have prior involvement in a local church in their previous community.
- ✓ Are the parents committed to working with the school and teachers in accomplishing Biblical, spiritual, and educational goals for their child(ren)?
- ✓ Does the student display evidence of a teachable spirit, able to be disciplined by teachers and mentors?

Additional Requirements by Grade Level:

Preschool

- Family Pastoral Reference
- Fully potty-trained
- 3 years old by Sept. 30

Pre-K-5th

- Family Pastoral Reference
- Teacher Recommendation

6th-8th

- Family Pastoral Reference
- Math Teacher Recommendation
- English Teacher Recommendation

9th-12th

- Family Pastoral Reference
- Student Pastoral Reference
- Personal Reference
- Math Teacher Recommendation
- English Teacher Recommendation
- Add'l Teacher Recommendation
- Student must have a relationship with Jesus Christ and desire to attend SBS.

Admissions Process

Admissions Checklist:

- ☐ 1. **Attend an Admissions Tour or Open House:** All new applicants are required to attend a monthly admissions tour or Open House. RSVP to reserve space at a time that best suits your needs. Private campus tours are available by appointment.

RSVP to the Director of Admissions at admissions@stonebridgeschool.com or (757) 488-2214.

- ☐ 2. **Submit an Online Application:** Applying is easy using our Online Application. Go to www.stonebridgeschool.com → Admissions → Online Application and follow the prompts.
 - ☐ The **Record Release Form** should be submitted with the application for students transferring from another school. Homeschool students should provide copies of recent testing and course overviews.
 - ☐ A copy of the student's most **recent report card** should also be submitted with the online application.
 - ☐ For grades Pre-K through 12th there is a \$125 non-refundable fee due at the time of submission. *Preschool applications require a non-refundable \$50 fee.*
-

- ☐ 4. **Admissions Processing:** All new applicants are held for processing until our early re-enrollment deadline (mid-February) as the Admissions Committee determines final enrollment availability. To expedite the application process, we encourage you to notify the reference contacts you submitted via your online application (pastor, teachers, school).
-

- ☐ 5. **Placement Testing:** Students applying for Pre-K through 12th grade proceed to testing unless references are incomplete or indicate that further communication between administration and parent/student is required. Testing is not required for preschool applicants. A non-refundable **\$130 testing fee** is due at the time of testing.
-

- ☐ 6. **Final Parent Interview:** Both parents participate in a final meeting with administration. At this appointment, testing results will be reviewed for students applying for Pre-K through 12th grade and an **Enrollment Contract** may be offered to qualified applicants. For our Upper School applicants (grades 6th-12th), this appointment will also include a separate student interview with Upper School administration.

If a contract is offered, a Business Office representative will be present for any questions concerning your payment options. You will complete your online enrollment contract with the Director of Admissions.



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StoneBridge Tuition Rates 2024-2025

PRESCHOOL ANNUAL TUITION	HALF DAY		FULL DAY	
	4 Day: M-Th	5 Day: M-F	4 Day: M-Th	5 Day: M-F
	\$5,562	\$6,337	\$7,957	\$9,270

PRE-K ANNUAL TUITION	HALF DAY		FULL DAY	
	4 Day: M-Th	5 Day: M-F	4 Day: M-Th	5 Day: M-F
	\$5,562	\$6,337	\$7,957	\$9,270

K-12TH ANNUAL TUITION	Kindergarten	1st	2nd - 5th	6th - 12th	Family Cap:
	\$9,682	\$10,609	\$10,815	\$11,257	\$31,392

Tuition Discounts: Families with three or more children enrolled will receive a 35% discount on the third child, and any younger siblings enrolled thereafter.

Standard Fees: 2024-2025

Standard fees apply to all students and cover the items listed in the chart below. Additional fees/charges may be billed separately throughout the school year for special course materials, athletic participation, voluntary student clubs, tutoring/Riverview services, and other activities.

FACILITY FEE: \$250	Per student/per year. Family cap is \$600 per year. For your convenience, this fee can be included in your tuition payments.
PS-5th: \$175	Covers field studies, testing, technology, consumables, accident insurance, & special days.
6th-12th: \$350	Includes retreat, field studies, testing, technology, accident insurance, and special days. 7th grade DC trip, 8th grade Boston trip, and Senior Trip are paid separately.
6th-12th: *Not included in Standard Fees.	7th grade DC trip, 8th grade Boston trip, and Senior Trip are paid separately.

Tuition Assistance

StoneBridge School acknowledges the significant investment families make by choosing a Principle Approach® education. This is why we have chosen to partner with FACTS® Grant & Aid, an independent, third party company that conducts financial analysis to determine your family's financial need. StoneBridge School receives a confidential report outlining your financial situation based on your application information and supporting tax documents. This allows us to offer tuition assistance to qualifying families.

The application fee is \$35. Tuition assistance is not available for preschool and Pre-K students.

New families will be able to apply for financial aid while completing the student's [online application](#).

Current families can access the application through the FACTS® Grant & Aid link in your [FACTS Family Portal](#).