

What is The Daniel Academy

About Us

The Daniel Academy, established in 2007, is a private Christian school in Kansas City, Missouri, serving students in preschool through 12th grade. We sit on 18 beautiful acres of land in the heart of the city, and have students join us from all over the area. We have classroom instruction 4 days per week (Monday through Thursday) and the students school at home on Fridays. TDA currently has over 230 students enrolled, PreK – 12th. Our model integrates families into the education process, allowing parents to directly participate at the school with their children.

Our Vision for Natural and Spiritual Wisdom

Our vision is to train our students like modern-day versions of Daniel in the Old Testament, helping them become young men and women prepared with both spiritual and academic excellence. We equip them to be ready to bring the Lord's presence and use their gifts to serve others wherever they go. We build around these 4 main pillars:

- Prayer
- Consecration, or a dedicated lifestyle
- Excellence in academics and character
- Marvelous Camaraderie, or cultivating wonderful friends

Our desire is to launch students who are well-educated and trained in both academics and Biblical/spiritual understanding, having cultivated pure hearts and been given discernment to walk in positions of influence (Daniel 1:4).

Family Partnership Private School

Our Model for Education

We know parents are the most important part of a child's life and education. Our goal is to become individual "Daniel Families" and then join together to raise our children in the context of this model. Our goal is for our families and our school to be linked, both walking out our four pillars with His grace – lifestyle of prayer, consecration/dedication, excellence, and with marvelous friends.

Preschool students – parents of preschoolers beginning to broaden their child's world in terms of meeting new friends, learning how to relate in a classroom, beginning academic learning, and enjoying a little bit of independence. While your child will be learning quite a bit academically, we also focus on all the other areas of a child's first experience in a classroom to make it a positive experience.

Elementary students – parents in this category are a strong support academically and in all areas. They should be aware of how amazing, and at times challenging, these ages can be. Children need a great deal of time with their parents to thrive. Parents should also plan to sit with their students during the home-study times to ensure comprehension and follow through of work assigned. (Parents will not be expected to teach new concepts during home-study times.)

Junior High students – parents of these students are helping them transition from direct parental oversight to more independence and choices. Parents now are monitoring assigned work from the classroom teacher and providing accountability in the follow through. In this season, parents are more of a guide in helping their students become independent learners. However, this age is so critical for very involved parenting in helping students understand godly values in our complex world.

Senior High students – parenting in this season is a joy as we get ready to launch our students into the world. Parents play a key role in this development and should work on establishing good communication in all areas with their teen. At this level our students should be preparing for autonomous learning where parents help monitor the status of grades and work done from time to time, allowing the students to learn faithfulness and accountability to their classroom teachers.

We utilize a web-based online system (RenWeb/FACTS) that allows parents to track and monitor all homework assignments and grades. Parents need to access RenWeb daily or a couple of times a week in order to monitor their students grades and assignments.

Ways to Participate with The Daniel Academy

The Daniel Academy would love to find the best way for your family to join us!

We know each family has unique needs in different seasons. Therefore we offer both a 4-day schooling option and a 5-day schooling option (Monday – Thursday). We also offer full time or part time within these two options. (See pre-schooling options at the end.)

4 Day Option:

- Students will attend the classroom for academic instruction Monday – Thursday.
- Students will do Friday work at home.

5 Day Option:

- Students will attend the classroom for academic instruction Monday – Thursday.
- Students will have a less formal day on Friday, working on homework, tutoring, taking private or group lessons (such as music, art, karate, krav, etc). These days will have structure but will be more low-key, and some grades will be combined. (Some extra activities may have fees associated.)

Full-time and Part-time Options for Kindergarten – 8th grade (with either the 4 day or 5 day option):

To offer the opportunity for families to participate as much as they are able to in their child's education, TDA offers both full-time and part-time options for our Elementary K-5th graders and also for our Junior High students in 6th-8th (see high school options below).

Elementary families who choose the part-time option will send their children each morning (Monday – Thursday) and have all the required math and language arts covered for the year. This allows families to supplement the other requirements themselves at home. Wednesday afternoons these students will attend a full day and be a part of Bible class. Fridays are schooling days at home with parents.

Families with junior high students will have all their required math, English and science covered in the mornings (Monday – Thursday) and can then supplement other requirements themselves at home in the afternoons. Wednesday afternoons these students will attend a full day and be a part of Bible class. Fridays are schooling days at home with parents.

Full-time or Part-time Options for High School

Our high school students can either attend TDA as a full time student, or they may join us for up to 3 classes per semester to supplement their own homeschooling program. For full-time students, TDA will track and record all credits on the student's transcript required for graduation. For homeschool students who take extra classes with us, they will receive their final grade but will not have credits tracked or a transcript completed by TDA.

Preschool Children

We offer a 2-day or a 4-day specialized preschool program for any 3-5 year old (students must be potty-trained). Children will learn new skills, build new friendships, enjoy hands-on activities, and prepare for kindergarten.

- 3 year olds and younger 4 year olds may choose the morning option, 8:00am-11:30am.
- Older 4 year olds and 5 years olds may choose the afternoon option, 12:30-3:30pm.

Testing and Individualized Programs for Students with Special Learning Issues

Our SOAR program is designed to help students who are typically gifted in some areas and behind in others, making traditional schooling difficult at times. With this program, we are able to test the student and create an individualized program for them, often partnering with the classroom experience.

Special Academic and Extracurricular Activities

We realize that much of learning and growth comes through enrichment activities outside the normal classroom instruction. Therefore we love to add in many opportunities to discover God and His amazing world.

Prayer and Morning Assemblies

TDA is known for prayer. ☺ We start every morning off with a half hour of student-led worship and prayer. We teach the value of adoration prayer – simply loving Jesus for who He is. We sing the Bible, pray over one another and ask Him to show us more about Himself. We also stop 3 times a day as Daniel of old was known for. We intercede for our families and nation and nations of the earth. And we remember what He's done in thanksgiving. This attitude of prayer shapes everything we do and positions our hearts to receive from Him.

Special Academics

We offer special school projects and events for our students to grow in different ways. For our elementary students we take many field trips and do much hands-on learning. In addition, we have spelling bees, science fairs, creation and art fairs, innovation fairs, accelerated reading programs and more. Students can take part in our Lego-robotics program or be involved in art and choir. The elementary math classes are augmented throughout the semester with math games, challenges and competitions designed to strengthen number sense and problem solving skills. These events are in addition to the daily scheduled math classes.

For our older students in addition to sports, music, art and drama, we also offer different classes and tracks for them to discover their interests and talents. We have classes such as Engineering Practicum, Innovation and Entrepreneurialism, Groundskeeping, Computer Coding, Personal Finance, Film Making, Web Design, and more.

Sports

Elementary – We enjoy fall and spring soccer through community leagues (K – 5th grade) and winter basketball through community leagues (K-7th). Karate is also offered at TDA

JH and HS – We offer TDA boys and girls soccer, boys basketball, and karate, as well as partnering with other schools for volleyball, football and track.

Clubs/Activities (not all are offered every year)

Explore FLL (First Lego League) Robotics – through Learn Math and Science Club

Musical Theater

Choir

Art

Writing competitions

Student Government

Junior High Club

Duke-TIP

SOAR Program

Student led worship teams

Early morning workouts

Our Vision for Our Students

Christian Reformers

We know this generation of youth is called to great things and we focus on helping them discover their gifts, talents and callings. We have been privileged to interact with a number of great men and women of God and allow our students to glean from their teaching and experiences. People such as Lou Engle, Todd White, Rick Santorum, Loren Cunningham, Peter Xu, George Verwer, Steve Douglas and Father Anton from India have visited our school to speak to and pray over our students. We have also had local Kansas City leaders including senators, doctors, businessmen and other professionals speak to our students about how to bring impact wherever the Lord sends them. We pray and counsel one-on-one with all our seniors, helping them map out their next steps.

Joining the Global Prayer Movement

We believe our students are called to a deep walk with the Lord, focusing on prayer and hosting his Presence. As the Lord establishes a prayer movement around the world, we want to fully partner with expressions of prayer in Kansas City, like the International House of Prayer (IHOP-KC), Youth With A Mission (YWAM), Radiant Church, Navah Church, Team Xtreme, and others. As part of this emphasis, our students participate in corporate prayer rooms in the city throughout the week as well as prayer at school. We start our days with morning assemblies where our students lead in corporate worship, prayer and adoration. We break mid-day for intercession prayer on current events or issues in the world and then end our days with prayers of thanksgiving. We have seen over the years how much these times have impacted the students' hearts.

Leadership in the "7 Mountains" preparation

We know today's students will be tomorrow's leaders in the mountains of influence. We seek to equip our students by offering a diverse set of classes, clubs, activities, and sports. Our school is like a greenhouse, where students feel safe and loved and are able to grow in leadership and wisdom in the areas they are called to.

We have opportunities for our students to lead in worship, student government, student humanitarian council, drama productions, sports, art and science. We have had the opportunity to offer classes that will give our students a taste of future areas of study including entrepreneurialism, sustainable gardening, music production, film production, web design, novel writing, international relations and foreign policies and more.

Innovation, Entrepreneurialism and STEM

We understand that our students today will be called upon to solve real issues and problems in the days ahead. We believe that by thinking creatively, many problems can be solved. We want to foster an entrepreneurial spirit in our classes, helping students think outside the box and create new ideas and plans. We have lego robotics for our younger students and Engineering Practicum for our older students. We also partner with colleges for dual credit classes and programs. And finally, want to be tied into the new things happening in Kansas City in this arena, and both glean from and be contributors to the wave of innovation and business start-up here.