



Northside Academy Parent Handbook 2018-2019

Mission Statement:

Northside Academy was formed as a ministry of Northside Bible Church to enable parents to take responsibility for their children's academic, emotional, and moral growth through teaching at home. We believe in the family and in its ability as an institution to teach children the most positive and loving environment possible. Northside Academy is designed to offer support through record keeping, information, meetings, field trips, co-op classes, and other events.

Alabama State Law on Home School:

There are now 3 ways to legally homeschool in Alabama. Each one is different & has different rules & fees. You are free to choose the method that is right for your family and your situation. If you do Virtual Schooling through the public school system these laws do not pertain to you as you are considered a member of the public school system. You are still welcome to join our cover but understand that you do not legally HAVE to. This way you can join us for all the fun stuff.

- 1) Hire a teacher or private tutor who reports to the school board.
- 2) Declare yourself a private school. You will be responsible for completing and turning the proper forms to the school board. You still need to keep track of attendance in the event you are asked to provide this information by a DHR or truancy officer.
- 3) Join a cover school such as Northside Academy that will take care of any paperwork, keep track of attendance and grades, as well as providing additional services.

NOTE: You will see Facebook groups and others stating that you do not have to turn in anything to the state or the school board and you do not have to keep track of attendance. Although many claim to have a document from the AL Board of Education, please know that this information is obsolete and was an incorrect summary of the law when it was originally posted. Many of us cover school admins and other leadership in the statewide homeschool community have made an extreme effort to determine what the actual law says with the help of HSLDA. If you have any questions or know anyone with questions please point them in my direction and I will be happy to clarify any confusion.

Services Included With Enrollment at Northside:

1. *Required Records:* We take care of all records required by state law including your church school enrollment form and attendance.
2. *Additional Records and Forms:* Report cards, transcripts, proof of enrollment for driver's license, and work permits are provided as requested by the parent for no additional cost. Disability forms are also completed as requested.
3. *Diplomas and Graduation:* We will work with you to provide a valid diploma as well as a very nice graduation ceremony including a banquet for family and friends of the graduates.
4. *Freedom:* The parent/guardian may teach anything, anyhow, anytime, anywhere they choose. We do not require (nor provide) any certain curriculum. You may use anything you like. You may use any teaching method you choose. You may homeschool around your schedule as needed. There is no requirement whatsoever from the state beyond enrollment (somewhere) and attendance. Homeschooling at Northside gives you, the parent, complete control of your homeschool. We do our best to stay out of your way, unless you need us, then we will do all we can to help.
5. *Fellowship:* Through our meetings and co-op classes we provide opportunities for both parents and students to form friendships with other homeschooling families and opportunities to learn from and support each other.
6. *Field Trips:* We offer field trips several times a year as opportunities arise. Anyone wanting to schedule a field trip for us will be welcome. Just contact us so we can work on scheduling.
7. *Co-op Classes:* We offer co-op classes for all grade levels although this year we only have elementary ages currently enrolled. Classes are held on Mondays and begin at 930.
8. *Enrichment:* Other than our mandatory enrollment meeting, further optional meetings will be provided to allow for opportunities for enrichment, fellowship, sharing of ideas, and special speaker to provide help and encouragement for parents and special activities for students. Be sure to join our Facebook group to keep up to date on all activities.

Fees:

\$50 per year per family with a first time registration fee of \$25.

Enrollment process:

1. Parents must complete a *Family Enrollment Form*. Completing and signing this form constitutes your acceptance of the rules and regulations of Northside Academy.
2. Parents must complete a *Church School Enrollment Form* for each child aged 6 to 17 in the household that will be homeschooled. This is form that is turned in to school board and your copy is proof that your child is enrolled in school. A copy is also kept in your file in the event you need additional copies in the future.
3. Parents must sign a *Waiver of Liability* and have it notarized releasing Northside Bible Church and Northside Academy from responsibility and liability for the education of your children. Only the parents are responsible and liable for the education of their children.

What is Required From the Parent/Guardian:

1. Provide at least some instruction from all of, but not limited to, the following subjects: reading, spelling, writing, mathematics, English, geography, science, physical education, history and social studies. Again, the curriculum, methods, and scheduling is completely up to you.
2. Provide instruction for a minimum of 160 days per year. Field trips, workshops, museums etc... all count as school days for attendance purposes. We can provide forms for keeping track of school days if needed, but a particular form isn't required. Just the number of days. For those families that school year round, final attendance is not due until the first meeting of the next school year.
3. Submit the annual enrollment fee and paperwork by the first meeting of the school year. In the event you cannot make the initial meeting, you must make arrangements to get the paperwork and fees turned in no later than the end of August. If you are a renewing member and I do not receive your paperwork by the end of August, I am required by law to inform the school board that you did not renew. If this happens and you come in later, I will then be considered a new member and will have to pay the additional fees and fill out the additional paper again.
4. Membership in HSLDA - Homeschool Legal Defense Association is strongly recommended. The fees are around \$100 for the year and you have legal representation in the event anything comes up relating your decision to homeschool. Many incidences can be taken care of by Northside administration, but there is occasionally a need to contact a lawyer. HSLDA provides for that need as well as working to better homeschool laws around the country.

Enrollment Termination:

1. Parents must notify Northside Academy in writing when enrollment of any or all children is terminated.
2. The administration reserves the right to dismiss any member and their student(s) if in the administration's judgment the attitudes or actions of the individual or his/her family endanger the unity and well being of the school and/or endanger the rights of other homeschoolers.
3. Failure to comply with the enrollment requirements stated herein will result in membership denial or termination for Northside Academy.
4. Northside Academy is required by law to notify the local school board of any termination of enrollment.

PE/Athletics/Miscellaneous Classes, Clubs and Civic Opportunities

Mobile County

Physical Education/Athletics

(Other athletics also available through city and church leagues for younger children. These are additional options for homeschool families with older children who want to participate in sports.)

Boykin Park (Theodore) Baseball and Softball through 16yrs. Like the Facebook page for details.

Mobile Area Rugby Foundation www.rookierugby.com rcorley@mobilerrugby.org visit Competitive on the weekends up to 18yrs. Youth flag rugby 12 and under. Also offering a homeschool P.E. with a focus on health/nutrition.

Theodore Athletic Association (TAA) Patrick.caine@aol.com; Baseball/softball ages 3-15. www.TAAsportscomplex.com

Dreamland Skate Center (251) 661-6997; www.dreamlandskatecenter.com P.E. Classes every other Friday 10am-12pm. Tiny Tots (ages 8 and under) The other Fridays, 10am-12pm

YMCA Downtowner: 951 Downtowner Blvd, Mobile (251) 344-4856; Offers \$3 indoor free swim 1-3pm every Friday. www.ysal.org

Lazer Zone 790 Schillinger Rd, Mobile (251) 639-7330; \$10 Unlimited Laser Tag during school hours www.lazerzonemobile.com

Inner Strength Martial Arts 9120 Airport Blvd. Mobile AL. 36608 251-776-1978 www.ismartialarts.com/ Home School class Mondays and Wednesdays 11am-12am 60.00 a month 2nd child 40.00

Planet Gymnastics 900 Schillinger Rd. Mobile 251-650-0699 Home school Classes Wednesday at 2pm

David Miner Ballroom/Dancesport Academy 262 Azalea Rd, Mobile, Alabama 36609--- David Miner (251) 343-3339 Every Friday - Cost [\\$5.00](#) Friday morning practice at 9:30 for all - Advanced from 10 - 11am then Beginners from 11 -12 noon. On Facebook

Gulf Coast Parkour Locations vary. Current classes are held at Cottage Hill (Medal of Honor) Park every Friday morning at 9 for kids under 9 and 10:15AM for bigger more experienced students. [\\$10](#) per class or Punch Pass option. Birthday Parties and combined Ninja Warrior camps available as well! www.Gulfcoastparkour.com

Home School Bowling AMF Camellia Lanes 125 Schillinger Rd N (251) 639-1221 [\\$8.00](#) per person - each bowler gets 3 games and shoes for that day - Monday from 1-.3pm

Miscellaneous Classes, Clubs and Civic Opportunities (Mobile County)

Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center (251) 208-6818; www.exploreum.com Offers science classes for the homeschool year. Classes fill quickly. Email Haley Freeman, hfreeman@exploreum.com, for more information.

Mobile Museum of Art 4850 Museum Drive, Mobile (251) 208-5200 Offering homeschool classes on Wed & Thurs 1-3pm. 3 levels available: Art Splash 4-6yrs, Mid-Level 7-10yrs, and Upper-Level for ages 11+. www.mobilemuseumofart.com/learn/children-families/home-school

HOW (Hearts of Worship) Hearts of Hope Church 10160 Bldg E. , Mobile (251) 599-8571 or (251) 895-5380, offers Dance, Tumbling, Drama, Art. Also, homeschool edu classes. For more information see www.how-mobile.com.

4-H Clubs (251) 574-8445; www.offices.aces.edu/mobile sfb0010@auburn.edu Archery, Junior Master Gardener, Leadership, Sewing, Animal Sciences and more.

Azalea Trail Maids www.azaleatrailmaids.com; mobileazaleatrail@hotmail.com The Mobile Azalea Trail Maids serve as the city's "Official Ambassadors" at many events, both locally and nationally.

Boy Scouts 2587 Government Boulevard, Mobile (251) 476-4600; www.bsamac.org The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations.

Civil Air Patrol United States Air Force Auxiliary 2295 Michigan Avenue Mobile. (251) 455-8011, www.gocivilairpatrol.com. Scott Peters, Charter [#SERAL005](#) Facebook - Mobile CAP.

Distinguished Young Women (251) 438-3621; www.distinguishedyw.org Distinguished Young Women is a national scholarship program that inspires high school girls to develop their full, individual potential through a fun, transformative experience that culminates in a celebratory showcase of their accomplishments. Distinguished Young Women strives to give every young woman the opportunity to further her education and prepare for a successful future.

Girl Scouts 3483 Springhill Avenue, Mobile (251) 344-3330; www.girlscoutssa.org Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place!

Heritage Girls American Heritage Girls is the premier national character development organization for girls ages 5-18 that embraces Christian values and encourages family involvement. www.americanheritagegirls.org

Junior Civitan Cottagehilljuniorcivitan@yahoo.com Junior Civitan is an organization of youth service clubs dedicated to making the world a better place.

MACH Robotics Mobile Area Coalition of Homeschoolers, 6th-12th grades. Contact for more info: machrobotics@hotmail.com

Mobile Bay Area Homeschool National Honor Society www.lambdazetahonorsociety.com

Oakleigh Belles 300 Oakleigh Place, Mobile, (251) 432-1281; www.historicoakleigh.com The Oakleigh Belles are a group of young women who represent the Historic Mobile Preservation Society and the community as ambassadors of southern history, culture, and hospitality.

Trail Life Trail Life USA is a Christian Outdoor Adventure, Character, and Leadership Program for boys and young men. K-12. www.trailifeusa.com

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps 8501 Tanner Williams Rd. Mobile. www.seacadets.org Dunlap Division located at US Coast Guard Aviation Training Center

Full Scale School of Music 63 midtown park e. Mobile al 36606 251-454-6591 Music lessons, classes, concerts, and summer camps. www.fullscaleschool.com

History Museum of Mobile Learning Lunches, 2nd Wednesday of every month
www.museumofmobile.com

Dancing Needles Designs Kathy Baldrige Mobile, Al. 36619; 251-454-5263 Hand Sewing Classes Beginner to Advanced Machine Sewing Hand Embroidery Classes

ONLINE RESOURCES

FACEBOOK GROUPS

Northside Bible Academy
South Alabama Homeschooling
SAH Curric Share/Swap/Sell
SAH University of Mobile Homeschool co-op
Blue Collar Homeschool
North Mobile Homeschoolers
Mobile County Homeschooling
Homeschooling with Netflix
Discerning My Calling

CURRICULUM

Khan Academy (Free)
Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool (Free)
Time4Learning
Ambleside Online
Calvert Academy (free placement testing as well)
Abeka (online and books)
www.virtualhomeschoolgroup.org
Power Homeschool

There are many, many others. This is just to get you started.



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