

FMCS Mission Statement

Fort Myers Christian School works with the home and the church to Academically Train and Spiritually Nurture students to become productive citizens in society and impact others for Jesus Christ.

Program Overview

In the FMCS Learning Resource Program, we will work diligently to prepare your child to achieve their highest academic level, develop appropriate social skills, and form good character qualities through the integration of faith and learning in all of our classroom situations.

We understand that children have different learning styles, strengths and weaknesses which can inhibit their best efforts to succeed academically. The Learning Resource Program will be a place students can get specific help in math, reading, spelling, language, writing and study skills as well as address certain processing problems that may block optimum achievement through explicit, systematic and researched based teaching strategies and materials.

McKay Scholarships

The McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program expands statewide the school choice program originally created in 1999 as a pilot program. The scholarships are available for eligible students with disabilities to attend an eligible public or private school of their choice. For more information on what students are eligible, go to: www.floridaschoolchoice.org

Our Learning Resource Program Coordinator is Mrs. Myra Stewart who holds a Florida teaching certificate and is certified in both Elementary Education and Learning Disabilities (K-12). She has taught at Fort Myers Christian School since 1979 in PreK-4, LD Resource Room and First grade. Mrs. Stewart has experience teaching students with various learning disabilities including dyslexia using an Orton-Gillingham approach.



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Learning Resource Program & Learning Disabilities Program 2012-2013



The Fusion of Faith and Learning

The Learning Resource Program at Fort Myers Christian School is designed to assist students who are enrolled in K-8 and struggle academically. We will work with the student, teachers, and parents to provide academic support for students who have been professionally diagnosed and have an IEP (Individualized Educational Plan) or 504 Plan for the following:

- Mild Learning Disabilities
- Dyslexia
- ADD/ADHD with academic difficulties

Elementary students enrolled in the Learning Resource Program can receive primary instruction in the academic areas of language arts (reading, spelling, writing, grammar) and math. Materials are chosen to address the ability level of the student. Both individual and small group instruction is available depending on the needs of those enrolled. The goal of instruction is to strengthen academic skills along with building visual and auditory processing skills and memory strategies. Each child is graded at his or her ability level for courses taught in the Learning Resource Program and are posted in School Dynamics. Regular classroom tests can be administered through the Learning Resource Program if the student's reading level may hinder performance on the test or as indicated on the student's educational plan.

Middle School Learning Resource students will be enrolled in a Guided Study Hall. During that time, study skills, test taking skills and learning strategies are addressed and applied. Middle school students can also receive primary instruction in math and/or language arts. Class notes can be supplied to those students with weak auditory processing or documented problems in handwriting and spelling. Regular classroom tests can be administered through the Learning Resource Program if the student's reading level may hinder performance on the test or as indicated on the student's educational plan.

To be enrolled in the Learning Resource Program, a student must have an IEP/504 plan, evidence of current psychological testing and be identified with mild learning disability, ADD/ADHD or dyslexia. Students who are struggling in the classroom, but have not been previously identified shall be referred to the Learning Resource Coordinator by the classroom teacher. The Coordinator will complete classroom observations and review the student's academic history then meet with the teacher and parents to discuss any changes that the teacher and parents can make in the current educational setting. These interventions are documented and evaluated to see if the student has made appropriate progress. If there is not adequate educational progress, parents shall take steps to

have their child evaluated by a licensed psychologist. Based on the results of the evaluation, teacher information, and observations, a program will be designed to provide the level of support required to meet the needs of the student.

Scripturally, the most important component in a student's education is the parent. As parents, you are their main advocate and support. You know your child in a way no one else can. We can teach many strategies and facts, but how you approach the work and your child's efforts and learning style is very important. Your support and encouragement of your child and his/her educational process sets a tone toward success or failure. Purposely having a study area and study time that is consistent tells your child their schooling is their most important job right now. Understanding some of the material is challenging, but encouraging your child to finish it and to do their best in the process is a life skill essential to your child's future.

LEVELS OF SERVICE AND FEES (space is limited)

Level One: (\$500 per school year)

*** This is the minimum level required for all McKay Scholarship enrolled students.**

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan)/504
- Staffing meeting to inform classroom teachers of student's academic needs and accommodations in the regular classroom.
- No primary academic instruction in the Learning Resource Program.
- **Consultation** with classroom teacher regarding modifications for student's individualized needs.
- **Test accommodations** allowed on classroom tests and/or standardized tests.

Level Two: (\$1160 per school year)

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan)/504
- Staffing meeting to inform classroom teachers of student's academic needs and accommodations in the regular classroom
- No primary academic instruction in the Learning Resource Program.
- Consultation with classroom teacher regarding modifications for student's individualized needs.
- Test accommodations allowed on classroom tests and/or standardized tests.
- Guided study hall to reinforce classroom concepts

and support organizational and study skills.

Level Three: (\$1510 per school year)

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan)/504
- Staffing meeting to inform classroom teachers of student's academic needs and accommodations in the regular classroom
- Primary academic instruction by Learning Resource teacher in mathematics.
- Quarterly grades issued from the Learning Resource Program for math.
- Test accommodations allowed on classroom tests and/or standardized tests.
- Guided study hall to reinforce classroom concepts and support organizational and study skills.

Level Four: (\$2075 per school year)

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan)/504
- Staffing meeting to inform classroom teachers of student's academic needs and accommodations in the regular classroom
- Primary academic instruction by Learning Resource teacher in language arts.
- Quarterly grades issued from the Learning Resource Program for language, reading, and spelling.
- Test accommodations allowed on classroom tests and/or standardized tests.
- Guided study hall to reinforce classroom concepts and support organizational and study skills.

Level Five:(\$2320 per school year)

- IEP (Individualized Education Plan)/504
- Staffing meeting to inform classroom teachers of student's academic needs and accommodations in the regular classroom
- Primary academic instruction by Learning Resource teacher in language arts and math.
- Quarterly grades issued from the Learning Resource Program for language, reading, and spelling.
- Test accommodations allowed on classroom tests and/or standardized tests.
- Guided study hall to reinforce classroom concepts and support organizational and study skills.