

# Elementary English, Reading, and Spelling Overview

## English

### Vision

To equip students to master foundational grammar and writing skills, enabling them to craft effective written and oral communication that honors God and serves others.

### Goals

- To foster an appreciation of language as a gift from God
- To develop a foundational knowledge of English grammar and mechanics
- To develop study and reference skills
- To teach the writing process for narrative, informative, opinion, and expository writing
- To encourage clear and effective writing through mentor text analysis and regular practice of writing in real-world contexts
- To develop digital literacy
- To guide the development of collaboration, listening, speaking, and viewing skills
- To provide space for reflection on communication that serves others

## Reading

### Vision

To equip students to enjoy lifelong reading, to analyze and interpret a variety of genres, to evaluate all that they read from a biblical worldview, and to become effective communicators.

### Goals

- Foster a joy of reading
- Differentiate instruction with reading groups to meet the instructional needs of individual students
- Integrate a phonogram approach to phonics teaching and word-work instruction

- Teach vocabulary in context
- Encourage fluency by first reading silently for comprehension and then orally for communication
- Enhance comprehension through literary skills and strategies
- Develop discernment by evaluating literature from a biblical worldview

## Spelling

### Vision

To equip students to master spelling by using word-building skills and to apply spelling strategies to produce God-honoring written communication.

### Goals

- Guide students in developing spelling skills using phonics patterns, word studies, syllable patterns, high-frequency words, derivational suffixes and prefixes, and Greek and Latin word parts
- Promote the spelling-meaning connection through word study and word sorting activities
- Develop spelling consciousness through proofreading and writing activities
- Strengthen students' word knowledge, reference skills, and writing vocabulary by teaching dictionary skills
- Meet the needs of individual students by using activities that differentiate instruction