

Welcome to Grade Seven!

We are pleased that you have chosen CHEK to be your schooling family for the next year! We are so excited to be working with you and your family to bring Christian education into your home and to assist you in the discipleship of your children to be all that God has called them to be. We will work together with you to make this year a positive experience for all involved.

Grade Seven is the first year your child is in Junior High. It is a year of significant change as your child reaches puberty and begins to mature into a young man or woman. It is a year of great individuation as your child discovers who they are, what they believe, and where God has called them.

Your child will develop in these ways this year:

- Your child will focus on and be loyal to one or two very close friends.
- Group participation is difficult due to insecurities ('best friends'), but otherwise groups are not as focused on friendship as you may think.
- Being concerned with keeping on top of trends and fads
- Your child will compare you and the family with the parents and family of friends.
- You may notice a tendency towards low self-esteem, particularly in girls. This is a great age to begin talking about our identity in Christ
- Your child will begin to form his/her own identity – fashion, music choice, etc..
- Less attention on cleanliness. You will have to remind them to take a shower, and the bedroom will be a continual mess.
- Be interested in adult newspapers and magazines, and current events.
- Engage more fully in adult-like conversation, being able to provide and support and opinion.
- Technology will become very important. Your child will use various types of electronic devices, as well as the internet for many things. Typically students this age are very technologically adept.
- Significant hormonal changes. This will create moodiness in emotions and reactions. Acne will begin to surface and create insecurities.
- Worry about his or her own development and wonder if they are "normal"
- Physical developments begin leading to the development of mature adult bodies.

This is a great year to be home with your child developing a deep relational bond with him or her. Though your child will seem like he/she doesn't want you around at times, your encouragement and support through this year will be very important. Your child's self confidence will increase significantly being with you at home and having the freedom to establish their individuality. What a privilege for you that you can share this journey with your child! We celebrate with you as you embark on this amazing year! This packet has been designed to make your year as smooth as possible and to support you as you walk with your child. Please inform your teacher when you have any questions along the way, as they are your guide.

We pray God's very best for you this year!  
CHEK Teachers and Staff Members