



LYONS CREEK

Middle School

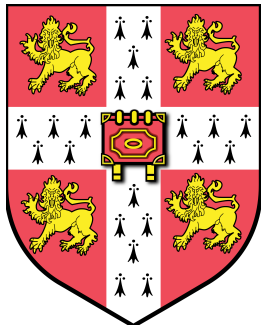
Cultivating a positive community of life-long learning and self-discovery
Principal, Vernicca B. Wynter



L.E.A.P.

Lions Excellence in Academics Program

For Gifted/High Achiever Students



CAMBRIDGE

International School
Language Arts
Program



GEARS

Genuine
Explorations,
Applications, &
Research in
Science



GEM

Great
Exploration in
Mathematics



gifted & talented
Accelerated Program



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

LCMS is committed to an educational program that recognizes individual student differences, abilities, interests, and needs. Our goal is to enrich the education of all students through curriculum and activities designed to expose them to a variety of challenging and higher-order critical and creative thinking experiences. We are committed to the differentiation for our gifted and high achieving students in order to help them maximize their high potential and allow them to thrive, flourish, and create. Curriculum differentiation is incorporated to provide flexibility in instruction. Strategies used may include, in depth study, high degree of complexity, advanced content, variety in content, process and/or product, acceleration of instruction, Project Based Learning and much more! In addition, LEAP students have the opportunity to earn more than five high school credit classes by the end of their 8th grade year.

GIFTED/ HIGH ACHIEVER POSSIBLE SCHEDULES

6 th Grade Sample Schedule	7 th Grade Sample Schedule	8 th Grade Sample Schedule
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period 1 - GEM Math • Period 2 - GEARS Science • Period 3 - Cambridge Language Arts • Period 4 - ADV/Gifted Social Studies • Period 5 - Elective • Period 6 - Coding Fundamentals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period 1 - GEM Algebra (HS Credit)* • Period 2 - GEARS Science • Period 3 - Cambridge Language Arts • Period 4 - ADV/Gifted Social Studies • Period 5 - Spanish 1 (HS Credit)* • Period 6 - Digital Discoveries (HS Credit)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Period 1 - GEM Geometry (HS Credit)* • Period 2 - Biology (HS Credit)* • Period 3 - Cambridge Language Arts • Period 4 - ADV/Gifted Social Studies • Period 5 - Spanish 2 (HS Credit)* • Period 6 - Adv. Info Tech (HS Credit)*

PROGRAM PLACEMENT

Lyons Creek Middle School uses the Gifted/High Achiever Model to place students into the LEAP program. LEAP students will be enrolled in the following four Gifted/Advanced core classes: GEM Math, Cambridge Language Arts, Advanced/Gifted Social Studies, and GEARS Science. They will have two elective classes during the school year. Students automatically qualify for all 4 core classes of the LEAP program if they meet the following criteria:

- student is classified as gifted
- and score a level 5 or 4 in Reading
- and a level 5 or a level 4 (with a scale score no lower than 336) in Math

No application process is needed if students meet the above criteria.

- For placement of Gifted/High Achiever students in Cambridge Language Arts, Gifted/Advanced Social Studies and the Science GEARS program, a Level 5 or Level 4 in Reading on the most recent statewide standardized assessment is necessary. If there are more Level 5s than available seats, the students are ordered by their scale scores. If there are multiple students who have the same –scaled scores, then their GPAs from the previous year will be considered.
- For placement of Gifted/High Achiever students in GEM Math and GEARS Science, a Level 4 with a minimum scale score of 346 in the 5th grade Math FSA is necessary. If there are more Level 5s than available seats, the students are ordered by their scale scores. If there are multiple students who have the same –scaled scores, then their GPAs from the previous year will be considered.

Personalized academic scheduling is provided for the gifted/high achiever student who does not meet all the required criteria. For example, if a student scores a 5 on the Reading FSA but a 3 in the Math FSA the student will be placed in all of the LEAP core classes with the exception of GEM Math. Cambridge application is available for students who do not meet the Reading FSA criteria for the program and could be placed in the program if seats are available.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Cambridge English Language Arts program encourages a life-long enthusiasm for reading, writing and spoken communication. Learners develop English skills for different purposes and audiences.

Learners develop skills and understanding in four areas: reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will learn how to communicate effectively and respond to a range of information, media and texts to:

- become confident communicators, able to apply all four skills effectively in everyday situations
- see themselves as readers, engaging with a range of texts for information and for pleasure, including texts from different times and cultures
- see themselves as writers, using the written word clearly and creatively for a range of different audiences and purposes.

This curriculum supports an integrated approach to teaching the four skills. With the support available, you can deliver Cambridge Lower Secondary English using a broad range of activities that promote experience, reflection and improvement.

We recommend a range of fiction genres, poetry, playscripts and non-fiction texts to provide authentic contexts for skills development.

Cambridge Recommended Criteria:

- Score a level 4/5 on both FSA Reading and Math
- A and/or AB grades in elementary school
- Strong writing skills
- Good attendance (Cambridge focuses on team and group work; attendance is vital for the success of the program)

Qualities of a Cambridge Student:

- Confident in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others.
- Responsible for themselves, responsive to and respectful of others
- Reflective as learners, developing their ability to learn
- Innovative and equipped for new and future challenges
- Engaged intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference

6th Grade Theme
Heroes & Myths

7th Grade Theme
Real World Injustices

8th Grade Theme
Dystopian Societies



Genuine
Explorations,
Applications, &
Research in
Science

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

LCMS is proud to have an excellent Comprehensive Science Accelerated Honors Program. Genuine Exploration, Applications, and Research in Science (G.E.A.R.S.) Comprehensive Science (GEARS 1 & 2) is an accelerated, inquiry-based science course designed for a high-impact learning experience. GEARS 1 students will complete all 6th grade standards associated with Earth/ Space Science and a 1/2 year of their 8th grade Physical Science standards (Introduction to Physics). Students who have completed GEARS 1 in 6th grade will continue their journey into GEARS 2, completing the 2nd half of Physical Science (Introduction to Chemistry), as well as complete their 7th grade Life Science standards. Completing this course successfully will enable your child to matriculate into Honors Biology I in 8th grade, earning high school credit.

G.E.A.R.S. Entrance Criteria:

- 5th Grade FSA ELA - Level 4 or 5
- 5th Grade Science FCAT - Level 4 or 5
- 5th Grade Science Grades - A's and B's

6th Grade

G.E.A.R.S. 6

PART 1

- Module A- Engineering & Science
- Module E- Earth's Water & Atmosphere
- Module F- Geologic Processes & History
- Module G- Earth & Human Activity
- Module H- Space Science
- Module K- Forces, Motion, and Fields
- Module L- Waves & Their Applications

7th Grade

G.E.A.R.S. 7

PART 2

- Module A- Engineering & Science
- Module B- Cells & Heredity
- Module C- Ecology & The Environment
- Module D- The Diversity of Living Things
- Module I- Energy & Energy Transfer
- Module J- Chemistry

8th Grade

G.E.A.R.S. 8

HS Biology 1 Honors

- Science and Engineering Practices
- Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)
- Developing and using models
- Planning and carrying out investigations
- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)



Great Exploration in Mathematics

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The GEM Program is designed to accelerate students two years in mathematics. Since some students are already good technicians, they can follow rules and apply those rules to routine exercises. GEM students need to go one step further, analyzing non-routine problems and digging beneath the surface in order to see the beauty, elegance, and application of the mathematics being learned.

GEM Program Characteristics

- Extremely rigorous
- Accelerated by two grade levels.
 - 6th Grade – Pre-Algebra
 - 7th Grade – Algebra I Honors
 - 8th Grade – Geometry Honors
- Designed for mature, mathematically talented students.
- Assignments are regularly given which may require many hours beyond the school day to complete.
- Students are continuously monitored and must maintain GEM criteria.
- The student successfully completing the Algebra I Honors course and Geometry Honors course will have two high school mathematics credits when they enter 9th grade.

GEM 6 Entrance Criteria

- Level 5 on Fifth Grade Math FSA (Minimum scale score 346) *(For 22-23 school year most recent available FSA scores will be used)*
- Level 4 on Fifth Grade Reading FSA (Minimum scale score 336)
- Teacher Recommendation

GEM-7 Criteria (Algebra Honors)

- Successful completion of GEM-6 with a grade of B or higher AND
- Average of 75% or higher on district semester examinations

GEM-8 Criteria (Geometry Honors)

- Successful completion of GEM-7 with a grade of B or higher AND
- Average of 75% or higher on mid-term examination AND
- Passing score on the Algebra I End-of-Course Exam

GEM Exit Criteria

- Any student who earns a C will be placed on probation. If the student receives a D or an F in the quarter after being placed on academic probation, they will be exited from the program.
- At the end of the school year, any student who does not have a course average of B or above and an average of 75% or higher on district semester examinations will be exited from the program.
- Any student who does not pass the State End-of Course Algebra or Geometry Exam should be exited from the program.



Accelerated Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

LCMS is committed to an educational program that recognizes individual student differences, abilities, interests, and needs. Our goal is to enrich the education of all students through curriculum and activities designed to expose them to a variety of challenging and higher-order critical and creative thinking experiences. We are committed to the differentiation for our gifted and high achieving students in order to help them maximize their high potential and allow them to thrive, flourish, and create.

CLASSROOM MODEL

Lyons Creek Middle School uses the Gifted/High Achiever Model for all three years of instruction of the core Gifted/Advanced Social Studies courses.

- For placement of High Achiever students in the Social Studies Gifted/Advanced courses, a Level 5 or 4 in Reading on the most recent statewide standardized assessment is necessary. If there are more Level 5s than available seats, the students are ordered by their scale scores. If there are multiple students who have the same –scaled scores, then their GPAs from the previous year will be considered.
- Gifted/High Achievers can participate in all available core curriculum programs.

CURRICULUM

Gifted/High Achiever students will take Gifted/Advanced World History in 6th grade, Gifted/Advanced Civics in 7th grade, and Gifted/Advanced US History in 8th grade. These advanced classes are distinguished by acceleration, enrichment, sophistication, and novelty. Gifted/High Achiever Social Studies is seen as a three-year program, in which students learn more than just the prescribed curricula. Students learn, as a thread through 6th, 7th & 8th grade, the research & analytical skills they need to have a head start in the Honors, AP, IB & Cambridge programs that are offered in high schools. Curriculum differentiation is incorporated to provide flexibility in instruction. Strategies used may include:

- In depth study
- A high degree of complexity
- Advanced content
- Variety in content, process and/or product
- Acceleration of instruction