

Christian Homeschool Enrichment and Encouragement Resource LLC (CHEER)

Who We Are

Vision Statement

CHEER exists to support and encourage homeschooling families by providing a supervised group environment within which children are nurtured and guided while parents are refreshed.

Purpose Statement

CHEER comprises a local group of Christian homeschool parents and teachers who desire to come alongside and join hands with other Christian homeschool parents to provide a learning enhanced environment. We are open to students in grades 1-12.

Why We're Different

What makes us different than other homeschool co-ops? Rather than provide a set schedule of classes, students work each morning on their own family-chosen curriculum! This way, you are in full control of your child's learning. This is not simply a "study hall" but rather an environment where students will be assisted by our coordinator, professional tutors, and parent volunteers, on Tuesdays.

Each morning, students start off the day with a 15 min. Chapel for Bible Study. Then they begin Study Time. After lunch, afternoons are time for hands-on learning activities. Students will choose from several options according to their individual interests. Some examples of these activities STEM, Geography, Creative Writing, History, Watercolor Lessons, Cooking, Art, Sign Language, Engineering, Simple Machines, and Community Service Projects. These subjects depend on the volunteers and workshop leaders who are involved during the particular year. A current list of choices available to students will be created by the beginning of each new school year.

To meet the needs of a variety of family situations, we offer different options for attendance. You may choose to have your child attend a full Tuesday each week, come in later in the morning, or drop them off in the afternoon only. Please use this option based on if your child is able to work independently for at least 2 ½ hours, if you choose to drop off at 8:30 am. Come in later based on your families situation. We provide a safe, structured environment for kids to work on their schoolwork while receiving any help they may need.

Because of our unique structure and mission, we are equipped to meet the following needs:

- To help with subjects that may be difficult for both parent and child
- To give students the opportunity to experience a vast array of daily enrichment activities
- To give students the opportunity to grow and gain confidence in their spiritual life, and be challenged to go deeper in their walk with God
- To give parents some adult time for work, errands, appointments, or just a cup of coffee with a friend
- To give students the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with other homeschool children and to develop social skills with a variety of personalities

Typical Tuesday Schedule

Children are divided into age groups for Chapel and Morning Study Time

8:30 Pray together
8:45-9:00 Chapel
9:00-9:50 Study Time
9:50-10:00 Break
10:00- 10:50 Study Time
10:50-11:00 Break
11:00- 11:45 Study Time
11:45-12:00 Singing Worship together (All ages together)
12:00-1:00 Lunch and Recess (All ages together)
1:00-3:00 Afternoon activities based on individual choices
3:00 Dismissal

Typical Daily Plan Details:

8:45-9:00 Chapel: Pastor Dan Nickerson takes the older students verse by verse, teaching the truths from Scripture. Younger students also study the Bible in an appropriate setting for their age.

9:00- 11:45 Students work on individual studies according to a daily plan provided by parents. Staff, comprising a coordinator, tutor, and parents who have chosen to work that particular day, will assist students as needed. Ten minute breaks allow children to eat a quick snack, get up, stretch, and move about.

11:45-12:00 We all enjoy singing praises to God. We sing from Maranatha! Music books, Hymnals, and modern Christian music books we design and set to CD.

12:00 Lunch Recess

1:00 – 3:00 During this time, students participate in enrichment projects. This may be a skill that is led by a teacher, another parent who is willing to share their skill with students, or a guest speaker. Examples of afternoon enrichment activities are listed above. You may view all of the activities planned for the current year on the *Calendar of Events* on the CHEER website. The current year's activities will be posted by August of that year. (These may be subject to change.) Registered students and their parents will have an opportunity to choose what workshops appeal to them after August 1st of each school year.

3:00 Dismiss Students are signed in and out by a parent, and are kept in the building under supervision until parents arrive. Please be punctual.

Parents interested in CHEER are welcome to schedule a prearranged visit. Parents must remain with child during the visit.

Snow days and holidays will follow Lakeland public school district schedule.

CHEER Rules of Honor and Respect:

Following these rules will teach children self-discipline; respect for self, others, and property; provide a pleasant learning environment for students and teachers alike; and honor God.

Listen attentively

Follow directions

Always show respect for the speaker. Do not interrupt. Thank our speakers.

Use inside voices and inside actions. (This includes during breaks, and lunch.)

Leave the classroom at least as clean as it was when you arrived.

Treat others the way you would want to be treated. Include others, no one should feel left out. Use kind uplifting words.

Knives or other weapons may not be brought to class or any CHEER function. Please be sure to leave pocket knives or any other potentially dangerous objects at home.

We wish students to interact with each other, rather than electronic devices. Only computers required for on line assignments will be permissible. No cell phone use during CHEER hours, unless calling home. Cell phones need to remain in the backpack until the end of the day. If they are seen out, they will be held by the coordinator until the end of the day. (This includes high school students.)

Discipline Policy

When students have a disagreement we believe that it is important to take the time to help them work through their problem. This is the perfect time to learn how to talk to each other, express feelings, listen, and repeat what each heard the other say. These are life-long communication skills!

If a child is disobedient or disrespectful, an adult leader, along with the coordinator, will implement the following consequences:

1. At the time of the first offense, the child will be taught the acceptable behavior and asked by a leader to correct his/her behavior.
2. At the time of the second offense, the child may be asked to work away from the group for a time. Depending on the circumstances, we may send home a quick pink slip alerting you to the problem, or a child may be required to complete a Think Sheet. The Think Sheet encourages the child to take personal responsibility. Both the pink slip or the Think Sheet go home and are required to be signed by the parent and returned the next CHEER day. The child will be reminded of the expected behavior and may resume activities.
3. When negative choices continue to happen throughout the day, the parent will be contacted to take the child home. The next CHEER day is a new beginning and a fresh opportunity for success!

We use praise, and encouragement to promote academic performance and socially appropriate behavior. *We reserve the right to send a child home for any reason at the discretion of the staff and coordinator.*

CHEER Costs:

Annual registration fee per child \$25 up to a maximum of \$75 per family

Tuition: The cost for one month of CHEER is \$50 per child. You may choose to have your child attend as much or as little as you prefer. Here are your options:

- Tuesday Morning Drop off at 8:30 (2 ½ hours of work must be sent with child)
- Tuesday Morning Drop off at a later time (Please send enough work to keep your child busy for the time they attend)
- Tuesday afternoon drop off
- You may like to accompany your child, (or children) to CHEER for the day, and if you are willing to help us during that time, (once a month or more) you would qualify for tuition reduction.
(See below)

We provide a quiet study environment for Morning Study time. Your child will be expected to have 2 ½ hours of school work with them. Children who run out of work to may present a behavior challenge. Please send more work than you think they will need. If your child struggles to work independently for this amount of time, simply bring them later in the morning or at lunch time.

Payments: Please: Payments are to be paid no later than the 1st CHEER day of the month.

What Tuition Pays For:

Insurance

Coordinator, Assistant, Professional Tutor, Occasional guest speakers

Supplies

Accountant

Annual Registration Fee pays for: Background checks and supplies

Monthly Tuition Reduction Opportunities

Cheer depends on the \$50 monthly tuition fee to run. However, we do appreciate parent helpers and need them for our program to run smoothly. If you would like to pay less per month (\$25 - \$50), here are some opportunities:

- 8:15 help set up tables and arrange supplies for the day
- End of day, help oversee children as they leave with parents at 3:00 dismissal time
- 12:00 – 1:00 Lunchtime and recess helper
- Lead an afternoon workshop activity for 1 -2 hours once a month. We have ideas or would love to hear your idea. Do you see this as a one time event lasting one or two hours? Would you prefer a longer commitment such as once a month for 6 weeks, 3 months, or all year?
- If you want to stay at CHEER with your child, are you willing to help us while there, one or more days per month?

Responsibilities of Coordinator:

- Oversee and monitor volunteers and student activity, work directly with parents and staff, and assess needs as they arise
- Plan afternoon enrichment activities, arrange for supplies, schedule speakers and guests; recruit volunteer parents when needed
- Maintain budget and work closely with accountant

Tutors: We have professional tutors scheduled for each Tuesday morning. Our tutors are available to give help and guidance to children who may need assistance on concepts that are difficult for both parent and child.

For further information please contact Teresa Sausser at 661-1122.