The Art of Living and Learning
Dear Student and Family,
Oak Grove asks our middle school students to actively engage in the learning process. Our progressive program features project-based learning, self-reflective practices, community service, adventurous camping and travel, small group discussions, and a rigorous academic program.

Middle school students ask practical and perennial questions alike, engage in provocative intellectual explorations, and foster sensitivity to the world outside them, as well as the world within. Close relationships among students and teachers allow for powerful learning opportunities in and out of the classroom. Enjoy your discovery of Oak Grove!

Yours in learning,
Jodi Grass, Head of School
the art of Caring & Relationships

self • others • local & global communities
environmental stewardship

Through self-understanding and sensitivity, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students create and sustain relationships with peers, with the community, and by extension, with the world. In many ways the expansiveness of our campus mirrors the openness and discovery reflected in the middle school’s emphasis on inquiry and relationship.
Middle school students are paired with Preschool and Kindergarten buddies, creating opportunities to mentor, work, and play.
Students are also asked to think deeply, approach learning from multiple perspectives, and make connections across disciplines. Assessments are holistic and utilize portfolios, demonstrations of learning, exhibitions, and traditional exams.
the art of Aesthetics

sensitivity & appreciation of beauty in all forms finding the artist within • artistic expression

Oak Grove’s engaging academic program is balanced with a rich array of extracurricular opportunities. All middle school students take courses in vocal and instrumental music, fine and practical arts (drawing, painting, ceramics, weaving, and more), drama, horticulture, research skills, and physical education.
the art of Inquiry

observation • questioning
fact-finding • research
self-reflection

"So when you are listening to somebody, completely, attentively, then you are listening not only to the words, but also to the feeling of what is being conveyed, to the whole of it, not part of it."

- J. Krishnamurti
Each spring students travel to a special destination for an experiential learning adventure. Over the two-year program, trips include winter ecological studies at the Teton Science School in Wyoming, and the study of Native American cultures in the Southwest.
the art of Engagement

attention • self-direction
self-motivation • learning how one learns
examining one’s own thinking

Middle school is a complex transitional journey from childhood to young adulthood. A two-year advisory program supplements our academic curriculum and supports this transformation.
Advisory offers the opportunity to gain self-understanding and explore fundamental questions about human life and relationship. The intent is to find joy and humor in this phase of development while also considering more serious challenges facing teenagers.

“Relationship means communication; relationship means building together.”

- J. Krishnamurti
the art of Communication

speaking • writing • listening • collaboration

For adolescents to grow aware of, even resistant to, bias and conditioning, they must feel safe and understood. Once we understand our own thinking, we are able to see how that thinking can unconsciously guide our actions.

"Self-knowledge, or the learning about yourself every day, brings about a new mind. The conditioning of the mind can be denied only when the mind is aware of its operations, how it works, what it thinks, what it says, its motives."

- J. Krishnamurti
ADMISSIONS STEPS

1 • APPLICATION AND TOURS
Tours are offered by our admissions team beginning in October and can be scheduled on our website. The Application for Enrollment is also available online at oakgroveschool.org/apply. The priority deadline is February 1, and admissions decisions are sent by mid-March. Late applications are processed on a space-available basis.

2 • RECOMMENDATIONS, TRANSCRIPTS, IMMUNIZATIONS
Teacher recommendations and transcripts are part of the application process. Students must be in compliance with California immunization requirements, and records are submitted upon enrollment.

3 • PARENT INTERVIEW AND STUDENT VISITS
Parents will meet with an Admissions Associate to discuss their family’s educational expectations and goals. When possible, applicants are invited to join their peers at school, engaging in classes and experiencing a typical day at Oak Grove. Alternatively, applicants may meet with faculty on a Saturday.

4 • DECISIONS
Admissions decisions are sent by mid-March. Late applications are processed on a space-available basis. Because we cannot make an offer of enrollment to every applicant, we maintain an active waitpool. Applications in the waitpool are non-prioritized and are considered based on our need to balance class groupings.

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ANY QUESTIONS
805.646.8236 • admissions@oakgroveschool.org

COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION
Apply at oakgroveschool.org/apply
Oak Grove School does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, creed, religion, national origin, cultural heritage, age, gender, marital status, political beliefs, disability, sexual orientation, or family style in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and other school-administered programs.