

Lorien Wood

Head of School Prospectus

Position to Begin July 1, 2027

Option to start as early as January 1, 2027



Lorien Wood is a Christ-centered private school in Vienna, Virginia, serving PreK - 12th grade.



At Lorien Wood, we believe education is a journey of discovery, engaging the heart, mind, body, and soul. Our unique approach to education emphasizes the integration of faith and learning, ensuring our students grow in knowledge, wisdom, and character.

Our Values

We are passionate about nurturing the God-given potential in each child, guiding them to become courageous, compassionate, and confident leaders who reflect an unwavering Biblical worldview, demonstrating the love of Christ in all they do.

Vision

Lorien Wood Christian School will lead in reimagining Christ-centered education, growing wise and courageous people through a rich, whole-child approach. Formed through real-world, hands-on experiences, using creation as our classroom, students will seek truth, invite wisdom, awaken wonder and be nourished by beauty, forging confidence for an ever-changing world.

Mission

Outfitting a stalwart and faithful fellowship for a noble adventure.

Statement of Faith

Lorien Wood is a Christ-centered school teaching from a Biblical worldview, and as such, it maintains a statement of faith. Our core beliefs can be summed up in the Apostles Creed. We require all families, faculty, and staff to sign [our statement of faith](#).

Distinctives

- **Biblical Worldview:** We believe that God is the source of all Truth. All areas of life at Lorien Wood School are to be understood in the light of the Word of God.
- **Integral Curriculum:** Our approach to curriculum aims to align with the integral nature of God, reflecting the interconnectedness of His design of the world.
- **Classical Study & Joyful Discovery:** We use a comprehensive approach to education that embodies our understanding of what it means to be a lifelong learner, including elements of both classical study and joyful discovery.
- **Cultivate Character:** The curriculum emphasizes biblical virtues such as self-control, discernment, kindness, humility, integrity, joy, responsibility, and diligence.
- **Every Child is Unique:** Our faculty strives to develop a deep knowledge of and appreciation for every child at Lorien Wood. Our small, mixed-age classes are designed to provide a supportive environment in which each child's unique and God-given design is revealed and developed.
- **Nature & Experiential Learning:** We believe that Outdoor Education offers children the opportunity to explore their rich curriculum in the context of nature.
- **Parental Service:** We believe that excellence in education requires parents to see themselves as part of their children's community of learning and to be willing to assume a high level of service.

Our School

Our school community and structure reflects our commitment to whole-person education, combining classical principles, Charlotte Mason's holistic insights, and joyful discovery. This multifaceted approach ensures that every child engages meaningfully with the material while developing intellectual, spiritual, and emotional maturity.

Enrollment
2026-27

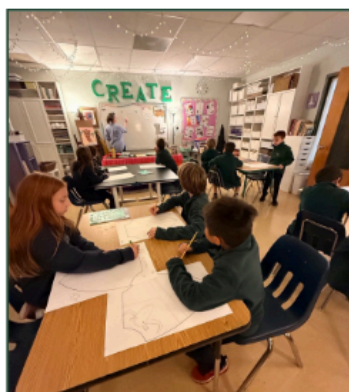
36
Lower School

17
Upper School



Avg, # of
Student Per
Family

1.8



Student -
Teacher Ratio
5:1 Pre-K



Student -
Teacher Ratio

10:1
Lower School
and
Upper School



Local
Churches
Represented

12+



31
Families
Enrolled



Our Methodology

Form System

Lorien Wood utilizes a form system. Each form consists of two grades. These small, mixed-age classes give teachers flexibility to nurture children at different ability levels and allow students to progress at their own pace in particular skills. Math and Phonics are taught at grade-specific levels.

Form	Grade Level	Program Name	
n/a	Pre-K	Shire	
1	Kindergarten & 1st	Lower School	
2	2nd & 3rd		
3	4th & 5th		
4	6th, 7th, 8th	The Watershed	Upper School
5	9th & 10th	Scholars of Rohan	
6	11th & 12th		

Integral Curriculum

A key differentiator of our school is the use of integral curriculum across all the forms. At Lorien Wood, learning reflects the interconnectedness of God’s creation by integrating subjects into unified, purposeful themes. By designing thematic units that blur traditional subject boundaries, we foster a deeper understanding of complex ideas and inspire curiosity.

Each Form highlights a core concept for the year to tie together a series of units that are approximately six weeks in length. Form concepts rotate in alternating years. These form concepts extend through all disciplines of study including math, science, reading, grammar, history, religion, languages, art, and music. See our [Overview of Curricular Themes and Offerings](#) for more detailed information about the studies at each grade level.

A highlight of the year for each form is the celebration of at least one “Feast” which serves as a pinnacle in the integral curriculum, bringing together all the concepts, people, places, and culture of the era they are studying into an immersive experience. Complete with costumes, food, and activities these experiences bring learning to life with the guidance of the faculty and support from parent volunteers.



Form 2: Pioneer Day



Upper School: Historic Ball



Form 4: Ellis Island Simulation

Our Unique Campus

- 9 Indoor Form classrooms
- Art Studio
- Flexible activity rooms for music, breakout classes, and special events
- Library
- 7 acre property
- 6 Outdoor Classrooms
- Chapel in the Woods
- Certified “Schoolyard Habitat” by the National Wildlife Federation

As our students learn, play, and explore outside, they grow in confidence, teamwork, and appreciation for God’s beautiful creation



Our Commitment to the Outdoors

Outdoor education is an important part of shaping the whole child. Lorien Wood integrates the outdoors to deepen learning and stewardship of God’s creation. Inspired by Charlotte Mason, our teachers weave nature-based experiences into each unit, fostering observation and intellectual growth. We believe strongly in learning and playing outside in a variety of seasonal weather. This is enabled through daily outdoor play time and class time for all Forms as well as specially curated programming.

The Lower School gets to experience **Muddy Mondays**, an intentional weekly outdoor program where students leave the traditional classroom to build stewardship, engineering skills, and a joy for God’s creation in the elements. The Upper School takes part in several **outdoor overnight excursions** that include multiple nights of camping, canoeing, hiking, and more. As part of the Watershed, middle school students complete environmental studies in nearby Wolfrap Creek, including water testing, collecting soil samples, and raising fish to release into the wild.



*Movement is not a break
from learning;
It is a vital part of it.*

Opening

We begin each day at Lorien Wood with “Opening” in the outdoor chapel, a time where students and teachers spend time in prayer, worship, and God’s word. An overarching theme provides structure to the weekly scriptures, songs, and prayers. Recent themes have included Understanding the Names of God, Power of Hymns, and Books of The Bible.

Opening is more than just a morning prayer - this sets the tone for our school’s interpersonal relationships from the students who built the wooden seats of our outdoor chapel, to the big buddies paired with younger non-readers to help them stay focused and follow along with the scripture, to the large group interaction of voices lifted together in song and prayer.



Extracurriculars

Our extracurricular activities provide opportunities to expand on our mission through athletic team participation, cultivation of the arts, and exploration of new skills and interests.

Approved by the Head of School, organized by our Athletics Director, and implemented through parent volunteers, our coaches help each player discover how to best use their gifts and skills to strengthen the team.

Typical Athletic Offerings:

- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Co-Ed Running Club
- Girls Volleyball
- Boys & Girls Basketball
- Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee
- Co-Ed Flag Football

Lorien Wood has also run a robust Drama Club program featuring 2 annual productions with cast and crew spanning the entire student body age range. In 2025-26 we debuted a Dance Team and a STEM club. These offerings evolve annually based on parent volunteers, faculty, upper school student leadership, and the interests of the student.

Financial Architecture

Tuition and Financial Assistance

Lorien Wood aims to remove financial barriers to Christian private education through an equitable sliding scale based on the child's form, family capacity to volunteer, and financial need.

- 97% Families participate in Parental Service Tuition Credit
- 27% of families receives Variable Tuition
- Average Award: \$8,499

GRADE LEVEL	W/PSC	W/O PSC	ACTIVITY FEES	NEW FAMILY FEE
Junior Kindergarten	\$5,400	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kindergarten - 5th	\$14,925	\$17,125	\$750	\$500
6th - 8th	\$15,925	\$18,125	\$1,000	\$750
9th - 12th	\$16,925	\$19,125	\$1,500	\$1,000

*PSC: Parent Service Credit

Funding Structure

Each year, Lorien Wood augments the operating budget through charitable donations. We avoid typical school fundraisers so as not to distract from the important work in the classrooms and beyond. While we continue to be blessed by solid financial performance, charitable contributions provide the flexibility to deepen and extend the quality of our educational model and curriculum. Lorien Wood is a 501(c)(3) educational organization.



Our Leadership and Support

A child's academic success depends on a dynamic partnership between home and school.

Faculty and Staff

Our greatest asset in this special community of learning are the talented, energetic, and dedicated teachers across the forms. As a small school, these educators work in synergy and wear many hats to bring learning to life for the students in a way that honors our distinctives.

- 9 Faculty
- 1 Staff - Reception & Admin Records
- 1 Custodian
- Avg. 10+ years teaching experience (range 4-20 years)
- 30% of faculty hold advanced degrees
- 20% of faculty are male



overnight excursion chaperones
librarians
special event coordinators
recess duty prayer team
carpool duty readers
parental service
groundskeepers lunch duty
historic re-enactors
extracurricular coaches
field trip chaperones

Parental Service

The Lorien Wood Parental Service Distinctive explains why we value parents as participants in the school and how we create unique ways to support that. Whether families commit to 70 hours per year for a tuition credit, or volunteer as available, parents and caregivers are encouraged to get involved in the school community. 97% of families participate in Parental Service.

Board of Trustees

Lorien Wood is blessed with a dedicated Board of Trustees who bring both professional expertise and spiritual insight to their leadership. The Board plays a vital role in guiding the school's growth, developing policies, and ensuring they remain aligned with its Christ-centered mission. Composed of 5-10 members, the Board is in charge of hiring our next Head of School. The ideal Board and Head of School relationship at Lorien Wood is a partnership with each playing their distinct roles in a collaborative environment.

Our Past, Present, and Future

Origins

Lorien Wood first opened its doors in the fall of 2004, with 18 families and 23 students in grades K-2nd Grade. Since then, Lorien Wood has been blessed with growth and expansion as an additional grade was added each year, faculty grew, and enrollment increased. A long-term lease at the current campus at New Song Church was secured, a mature administrative staff was integrated, and an engaged Board of Trustees and parents continued to execute the Founder's vision for Lorien Wood as the school grew.

The Roots of Our Name

The name of our school comes from J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy, *The Lord of the Rings*. In *Fellowship of the Ring*, Lothlorien is a place of preparation where one becomes increasingly mindful of the beauty of God's creation, respectful of ancient things, and imaginative, curious creatures. Similarly, at Lorien Wood we seek to be an environment where children grow in their awe of and concern for all that God has created and are prepared for a lifelong journey serving Christ while extending his kingdom now.

20 Year Milestones

In 2024, we celebrated our 20th anniversary as a school as well as several milestones in our offerings:

- Graduated the first Senior Class of the High School
- Refined Vision and Mission Statements
- Updated school logo, website, and branding scheme



“The Road Goes Ever On and On”

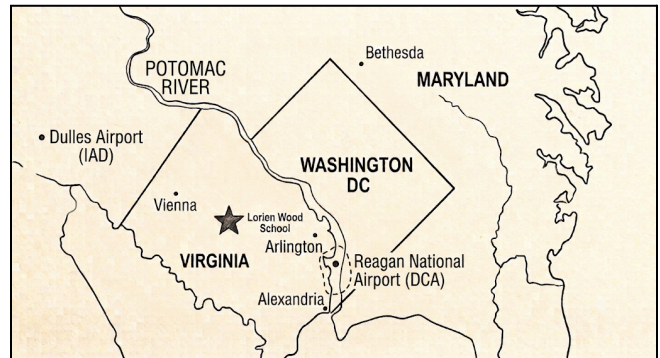
Our vision for the next decade is that Lorien Wood continues to lead in Christ-centered, whole-child education - blending academic excellence, outdoor learning, and digital wellness. By 2028, we plan to expand our outdoor learning spaces and strengthen our role as a thought leader in Christian education, inspiring our community and beyond.

Our Location

Our school is located in Northern Virginia, less than 10 miles from Washington D.C.

Situated near the small town of Vienna, VA, this area is a great mix of residential and nearby commerce, federal government, and businesses, with close proximity to all the culture of a major capital city, and the unique learning opportunities of our nation's capital.

Our campus is less than 30 minutes from 2 major airports, and within 2 miles of multiple metro transit stations. This is one of the most desirable residential neighborhoods in the greater D.C. area.



Brief Job Description - Head of School

Primary Operational Responsibilities

- Admissions
- Classroom Education
- School Administration and Facilities
- School Community-Building Events

Qualifications

- Practicing Christian (required)
- Bachelor's Degree (required)
- Preferred Master's degree or higher in education
- Evidence of prior classroom and/or school administration experience
- Excellent knowledge of curriculum and pedagogy
- At least five years teaching experience

Necessary Skills

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to maintain a high level of organization
- Ability to listen well and make sound decisions
- Ability to mentor, supervise, and to give direction
- Ability to build trust and relationships
- Effective conflict-resolution skills

Oversight

The Head of School reports to the Board of Trustees concerning all matters relating to the life and activity of the school.

Salary

Base Salary is \$80-100k, depending on the candidate's experience and qualifications. There are bonus opportunities for meeting enrollment goals.

Qualified candidates should complete the following application.

Email questions to HOSsearch@lorienwood.org

Head of School Application

Thank you for your interest in Lorien Wood Christian School. We trust that the Lord has brought you to this point in applying for the Head of School position by His providence and we will prayerfully seek to discern His will in considering all candidates.

How to Apply:

Please send your resume and answers to the 2 Application Questions below to HOSsearch@lorienwood.org

If the following Demographic and Reference information is not on your resume, please include it as well.

Demographic Information

- Full Legal Name:
- Address:
- Email address:
- Phone Number:
- Colleges Attended and Degrees:
- Education and Work Experience:

References

Contact information for three references, one from each of the following categories:

1. Former Employee or Subordinate:
 - a. Name
 - b. Email
 - c. Phone
 - d. Where/how you worked together
2. Former Employer or Supervisor:
 - a. Name
 - b. Email
 - c. Phone
 - d. Where/how you worked together
3. Pastor or Elder from your Church:
 - a. Name
 - b. Email
 - c. Phone
 - d. Where/how you worked together

Application Questions

Please answer the following questions in paragraph form:

1. What motivated you to apply for this position?
2. Briefly describe your walk with Jesus Christ.