



Developing Christlike Character  
and Academic Excellence

# RELATIONSHIPS

From our hallways to your home. Stories of Christlike Character and Academic Excellence.

Winter 2025



## 2024-2025 Theme Verse

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet My unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor My covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.”

-Isaiah 54:10

## Pursuit of Excellence

Excellence in Christian education is the idea that Christians are called to be excellent because God is excellent, and that we should imitate God by acquiring excellence. It also means that academic excellence is a way to worship God and glorify him. We develop excellence in Christian education by helping our students grow in critical thinking so they can learn to examine complex issues from multiple perspectives and develop problem-solving skills. It also means that we help students learn to apply their knowledge to real circumstances in their daily lives.

Because we are a Christian school, we have the privilege of helping students strive to live an excellent, Christ-centered life and apply the Bible's message and principles into their daily lives. We also have the privilege of helping students embrace the power of the Holy Spirit to help them achieve excellence. We are blessed to be able to encourage our students to understand their role in God's larger narrative by being part of his story of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.

However, excellence does not necessarily mean bigger, better, or more. It means the most appropriate

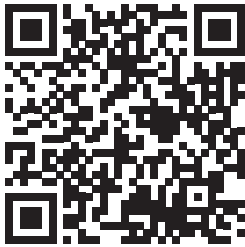
use of God-given resources to best accomplish His purposes at Isaac Newton Christian Academy as outlined in the Scriptures and the school Mission Statement. We are here to accomplish God's excellent plan under His mighty control. (Psalm 90:17; Colossians 3:23-24; Genesis 1:4,10; Ephesians 5:1) Our ultimate goal is not to achieve perfection, but to continually grow and reflect god's character through diligent effort and a commitment to Christian learning.



Dr. Ridder  
Head of School  
Isaac Newton Christian Academy

# PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

An Isaac Newton Christian Academy Graduate is well-educated, caring, and ready and able to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the community.



Scan the QR code to learn more about our  
Upper School (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>).

## Spiritual Development

- Understand and commit to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Know, understand, and apply God's word in daily life.
- Personally respond to carry out the Great Commission locally and around the world in a culturally sensitive manner.
- Can articulate and defend their Christian worldview while having a basic understanding of opposing worldviews.
- Possess apologetic skills to defend their faith.
- Understand the worth of every human being as created in the image of God.

## Intellectual Development

- Are well prepared in all academic disciplines and are skilled in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking
- Are proficient in mathematics and science.
- Have a knowledge and an understanding of people, events, and movements in history, and the cultures of their peoples and places.
- Appreciate literature and the arts and understand how they express and shape the students' beliefs and values.
- Know how to utilize resources—including technology—to find, analyze, and evaluate information
- Are committed to lifelong learning.
- Explore, create, experiment, observe, plan, analyze, reason, investigate, and question.

## Social/Emotional Development

- Embrace and practice justice, mercy, and peacemaking in family and society.
- Value intellectual inquiry.
- Have the skills to question, solve problems, and make wise decisions.
- Have an appreciation for the natural environment and practice responsible stewardship of God's creation.
- Enjoy and initiate friendships with a variety of individuals. Take pride in their work.
- Show empathy and kindness to others.
- Recognize that their body is created by God and that special responsibility is needed to care for it.
- Engage with others in learning activities.



## Introducing Patriot Paths

Isaac Newton Christian Academy offers a unique and valuable Christian education experience through 12th grade. I am so excited to share our Patriot Path programs for all high school students enrolled at Isaac Newton Christian Academy during the fall of 2025.

Patriot Path 25 allows students to choose their classes based on their

academic and post secondary goals. Patriot Path with Academic Honors is our advanced track option for students seeking additional academic challenges. The Academic Honors track will require students to be challenged in dual credit, college level courses and academic rigor, while keeping them engaged in the Biblical Worldview. These paths will help to create an academically inclusive

environment while demonstrating the school's commitment to providing a personalized education that prepares students for their future endeavors.



Erin Harlan  
Secondary Principal  
Isaac Newton Christian Academy

## What do recent graduates have to say?



I will say that Isaac Newton Christian Academy's environment of positivity and prayer definitely changed the way I viewed school and I'm not sure I would have been able to graduate if I was anywhere else.



The push for academic excellence drove my classmates and me to develop strong work ethics, and to accept the challenges that came our way. The opportunity for college level instruction and credits was a life changer for myself, and many of my peers. A considerable portion of my class was able to graduate college at an accelerated rate, providing for greater career opportunity earlier on.

I found my time at Isaac Newton to be foundational for my faith, and the rest of my life. My relationship with the Lord was strengthened, and the friends I made and skills I learned have shaped my very being.





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Linn Christian Education Association  
1635 Linmar Dr. NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

# EMPOWER

Empowerment → Confidence → Resiliency



**Isaac Newton Christian Academy's  
2025 Annual Banquet  
Friday, April 25, 6:00-8:30 PM  
DoubleTree Hotel Downtown**

Hear from Dr. Kathy Koch, founder and president of  
Celebrate Kids, Inc.

**Visit us online to learn more & RSVP!**



[www.incaonline.org/news-and-events/annualbanquet.cfm](http://www.incaonline.org/news-and-events/annualbanquet.cfm)

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All proceeds will be used to further the mission and vision of Linn Christian Education Association (Isaac Newton Christian Academy).