

What is the Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy program?

The Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy, an advanced academic program for middle school students, will be offered to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at Sacajawea and Lakota Middle Schools during the 2007-2008 school year. An internationally recognized program sponsored by Cambridge University in England, Checkpoint offers a rigorous and relevant curriculum, preparing students to take a series of comprehensive examinations at the end of their 8th grade year. The examinations, or “papers,” are scored by Cambridge University, and the students receive feedback about their performance compared to students across the world. Academically talented students are encouraged to apply for entry into the first Federal Way School District Academy classes at Sacajawea or Lakota Middle Schools.

Cambridge Checkpoint Academy contacts:

District Coordinator

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Sacajawea Middle School

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Lakota Middle School

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Federal Way
Public Schools

Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy

at Sacajawea and Lakota Middle Schools

Mission Statements

School

Sacajawea and Lakota Middle Schools, in partnership with the community, seek to educate, inspire, and empower the leaders of tomorrow through the art of knowledge and creativity working hand-in-hand.

Program

The Cambridge Checkpoint Program at Sacajawea and Lakota Middle Schools seeks to enable dedicated students to prepare for success in future academic pursuits while obtaining a comprehensive view of the world.



Federal Way
Public Schools

Federal Way Public Schools
31405 18th Avenue South
Federal Way WA 98003

www.fwps.org

Educate — Inspire — Empower

What are the benefits of the Cambridge Checkpoint program?

- An advanced academic curriculum in Math, Science, and English for academically talented students
- ‘Spiraling’ Curriculum — teachers can condense Cambridge curriculum to meet the accelerated needs of individual students
- Prepares students for an international, pre-university curriculum and academic examination system leading to the International General Certificate of Secondary Education at grades 9 and 10 and the Advanced International Certificate of Education at grades 11 and 12
- Enhanced learning environment
- International recognition and ranking
- Foreign language studies every other day at 6th, 7th, and 8th grade

What is the application process?

- Obtain an application packet from your student’s school guidance counselor or at the Lakota or Sacajawea Middle School office, or at www.fwps.org/info/cambridge/
- Middle school students must ask two teachers (elementary students, ask one teacher) in the core areas of Math, Science and/or English to complete a teacher recommendation form
- Supply a copy of your student’s most recent report card
- Complete the application form

Submit these items to Sacajawea or Lakota Middle Schools by April 30, 2007. Notification of acceptance will be sent out by May 15th.

Frequently asked questions about the Cambridge Checkpoint program:

Q. What is the purpose of the Cambridge Checkpoint program?

- A.** There are a number of ways in which Cambridge Checkpoint might be of use. Some of these are outlined below:
- To prepare students for the demands and expectations of the specialized, advanced academic programs at the Cambridge Preparatory Academy at Federal Way High School, as well as the International Baccalaureate Program at Thomas Jefferson and Advanced Placement classes at Decatur and Todd Beamer high schools
 - To provide students the opportunity to excel beyond state grade level expectations

Q. Who will teach the Cambridge Checkpoint program?

- A.** Cambridge-trained teachers knowledgeable about subject matter and curriculum will teach the Cambridge Checkpoint classes.

Q. Who is eligible for the Cambridge Checkpoint program?

- A.** The program is available to 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade students. Students will be selected using the criteria outlined in this brochure. **Students who reside outside the Lakota or Sacajawea service areas will be asked to participate in the Choice selection process, and will be admitted if space permits and other requirements are met. Out of district students may apply too, and will be accepted after qualifying FWPS students are placed. Transportation is provided to students living in the Sacajawea and Lakota service areas only.**

Q. How does the Cambridge Checkpoint program differ from other accelerated programs?

- A.** Checkpoint will focus on preparing students for Cambridge Checkpoint progression tests at grades 6 and 7, as well as the Cambridge diagnostic test at Grade 8. Cambridge Checkpoint will prepare students for the AS and A level examinations offered at the internationally recognized Cambridge Preparatory Academy at FWHS.

Criteria for acceptance into the Cambridge Checkpoint Preparatory Academy

- WASL scores of 400 or better on reading, writing, math and science, or passing scores on the most recent District Course Assessments
- Complete an essay in 3 paragraphs, but no longer than 1 page —“What are the qualities of a successful student?”
- 3.0+ GPA in core academic classes, or be meeting or exceeding grade level standards
- Teacher recommendation forms from no more than 2 current teachers in Math, Science or English

