

## FAQ's

### About Wildlings & Our Philosophy

1. What is Wildlings, and how does it differ from other homeschool co-ops?
2. What does it mean to be a Charlotte Mason co-op?
3. What subjects or areas of study do you focus on?
4. Do you follow a specific curriculum, or is there flexibility?

### Participation & Commitment

5. What is expected of families who join Wildlings?
6. How do parents contribute? Will I be required to teach or lead?
7. Can I drop off my child, or is this a parent-involved co-op?
8. What is the time commitment for families participating?
9. What ages/grades do you serve?

### Schedule & Structure

10. What does a typical co-op day look like?
11. What are the meeting days and times?
12. What is "The Feast" and how do children participate?
13. What is Exam Day?
14. Do you follow a traditional school calendar?
15. Will there be homework or at-home expectations?

### Community & Faith

15. Is Wildlings a Christian co-op?
16. Do I have to be a Christian to join?
17. How does faith integrate into the co-op's learning and atmosphere?

### Logistics & Costs

18. Where do you meet?
19. Is there a cost to join? What does it cover?
20. Are there any required materials or books?
21. Are siblings welcome to attend, even if they are younger or older than the class range?

### Events & Extras

22. Do you offer field trips or outside gatherings?
23. What is Feast Day, and how do families participate?
24. Are there opportunities for parents to connect outside of co-op days?
25. How do I stay updated on co-op news and events?
26. What is your Discord Narration Club

## About Wildlings & Our Philosophy

### 1. **What is Wildlings, and how does it differ from other homeschool co-ops?**

Wildlings is a Charlotte Mason-inspired homeschool cooperative where families come together to provide a rich, living education for their children. Unlike a traditional co-op with set curricula and classes, we focus on cultivating a love of learning through literature, nature study, the arts, and meaningful discussions. Parents are active participants, and our goal is to model a learning atmosphere that flows naturally into home life.

### 2. **What does it mean to be a Charlotte Mason co-op?**

It means we follow Charlotte Mason's philosophy of education, which emphasizes living books, nature study, narration, short lessons, and the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty. We aim to spread a broad feast of ideas for children to engage with, fostering both curiosity and character development and leadership.

### 3. **What subjects or areas of study do you focus on?**

We emphasize the liberal arts and sciences, including literature, nature study, handicrafts, history, composer and artist study, poetry, recitation and foreign language. Our learning is discussion-based, hands-on, and centered around rich ideas rather than rote memorization.

### 4. **Do you follow a specific curriculum, or is there flexibility?**

While we do use AmblesideOnline in our homes and draw from AO Groups as a guide for our class days, we take inspiration from AmblesideOnline and other trusted Charlotte Mason resources to craft a plan that is structured yet flexible—rooted in the principles of a living education, but always adaptable to the unique rhythms of each family's home life. Our aim is not to replicate school, but to come alongside parents.

## Participation & Commitment

### 5. **What is expected of families who join Wildlings?**

We ask families to fully engage in our community by attending co-op days, participating in discussions, contributing to presenting, and embracing the Charlotte Mason method in their homes. Our success depends on families working together with a spirit of co-laboring and co-learning.

### 6. **How do parents contribute? Will I be required to present or lead?**

Yes, parents play an active role! Each family helps in some capacity—whether by presenting a lesson, leading an activity, or assisting younger children, and everyone helps with clean-up. We spread the work so no one carries too much at once, and we provide support for parents who are new to leading. (not required of parents who drop off, except for Feast Day; all hands on deck)

### 7. **Can I drop off my child, or is this a parent-involved co-op?**

Wildlings(currently) is a parent-involved co-op. We believe education is best modeled and experienced in the presence of a loving parent, so we require at least one parent or guardian to stay and participate. (We are considering drop off options which will have different fees).

### 8. **What is the time commitment for families participating?**

We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and families commit to attending regularly. While we encourage at-home continuation of the learning, there is no strict "homework," only an invitation to extend the feast into daily life.

### 9. **What ages/grades do you serve?**

- **Form 1 – Wanderers:** Kindergarten–2nd grade
- **Form 2 – Lorekeepers:** 3th–6th grade
- **Form 3 – Pathfinders:** 7th–9th grade
- **Form 4 – Inklings:** 10th–12th grade

## Schedule & Structure

### 10. What does a typical co-op day look like?

Our day includes **Morning Time**, where we gather for scripture, poetry, and recitation, foreign language. Then, students break into **Forms** for age-appropriate lessons and discussions. Afternoons may include nature study, handicrafts, composer or artist study, and community time.

### 11. What are the meeting days and times?

We meet on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, with morning sessions from **9:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

### 12. What is "The Feast" and how do children participate?

"The Feast" refers to the wide and generous spread of knowledge and beauty we present to children, including literature, music, art, and nature. Children participate by engaging with living ideas, narrating what they learn, and sharing their discoveries in discussion.

### 13. **Exam Day** focusing on narration, reflection, and joyful recall rather than rote testing.

Inspired by Ambleside Online, students share what they've learned through oral narration, written responses, recitation, artwork, and hands-on demonstrations. It's a celebration of knowledge, where children express ideas in their own words, fostering true understanding and retention. The goal is to honor their growth and curiosity in a gentle, meaningful way while reinforcing that education is about forming connections, not just memorizing facts.

### 14. Do you follow a traditional school calendar?

We follow a homeschool-friendly calendar with three terms, aligning roughly with traditional school years while allowing flexibility for home learning.

### 15. Will there be homework or at-home expectations?

There is no required homework unless for a specific project, but we encourage families to continue reading, narrating, and exploring the subjects introduced at co-op to create a seamless learning experience, and those deep dive projects for Feast Day and families can follow the recommended plan that leads to Ambleside Online.

## Community & Faith

### 15. Is Wildlings a Christian co-op?

Yes, we are a Christian co-op, and our faith informs how we teach, serve, and learn together.

### 16. Do I have to be a Christian to join?

While our co-op is rooted in a Christian worldview, families are welcome, as long as they respect our faith-based approach and values.

### 17. How does faith integrate into the co-op's learning and atmosphere?

Our day begins with scripture, prayer, and hymns. We approach education as a way to seek truth, goodness, and beauty, recognizing that "all knowledge is connected" through God's creation.

## Logistics & Costs

**18. Where do you meet?**

We meet at **Northwood Baptist Church Berkeley 1446 State Road Summerville.**

**19. Is there a cost to join? What does it cover?**

There is a fee per family. Specific details will be shared at the open house.

**20. Are there any required materials or books?**

A materials and book list will be provided once you have committed to joining our group.

**21. Are siblings welcome to attend, even if they are younger or older than the class range?**

Yes! Younger siblings are welcome, and older students may participate in a way that suits their learning level. We have a growing Highschool Form as well.

## Events & Extras

**22. Do you offer field trips or outside gatherings?**

Yes, we organize nature walks, museum visits, and other community outings throughout the year which are independent of our class days.

**23. What is Feast Day, and how do families participate?**

**Feast Day** is our year-end celebration where students showcase what they've learned, present projects that they have worked on in class or at home, recite poetry, and share their work with family and friends. We end with a potluck-style meal to celebrate a year well spent.

**24. Are there opportunities for parents to connect outside of co-op days?**

Absolutely! We encourage community-building through book discussions, mom's nights, and informal gatherings.

**25. How do I stay updated on co-op news and events?**

We use a private **Facebook group**, **Discord**, and **email updates** to keep families informed about schedules, announcements, and upcoming events. (website coming soon).

**26. What is Discord Narration Club?**

Think of Narration Club as a simple, yet deeply meaningful way for our students to engage with living books, not just as school assignments, but as fellow readers entering into conversation with ideas. It's not a test or a worksheet. It's the habit of telling back, in your own words, what you've read. As Charlotte Mason said, this kind of narration builds attention, memory, and most importantly, ownership of knowledge.

And in our modern world, this habit has found a new home: **Discord**. Think of it like a book club—but one that happens all week long. As students read, they can hop on to share what struck them, what they're still pondering, what made them laugh or left them puzzled. It's still narration, just in a dynamic, living form.

Now, here's the gentle wisdom: slow down. So many of these books are rich, layered, full of ideas worth chewing on. When we rush through a chapter just to be done, we often miss the best parts. I always encourage small, meaningful bites. Read less and think more. That's how ideas are digested and made a part of us.

Then, when we gather; whether in person or over a voice chat, the conversation is full of life because the students have been walking with the book all week. They've mulled over the ideas, let them take root, and are ready to share them in their own words.

We're not just reading books, we're becoming people who *think*, who *wonder*, and who know how to *listen* and *respond*. That's the gift of narration. That's the beauty of a slow, thoughtful education.