

Discipline Policies

Code of Conduct

Cathedral School has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing student conduct. Our code of conduct is a guide for Catholic, Christian behavior. Its purpose is to create an atmosphere of respect for self, others, and the environment which we share each day. It is the responsibility of each student to contribute to this positive environment. Students will be rewarded for their contributions. Students who choose otherwise will accept the consequences outlined below. Individual teachers and teacher teams have the approval of the administration to establish rewards and consequences that are age/grade level appropriate and to communicate these to parents by the 10th school day. **All students are considered under the jurisdiction of these rules while on school grounds or off school grounds at a school sponsored club/activity.**

The following rules govern the behavior of students when they are in/on classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, playground, church, field trips, SPARC, extra curricular clubs, athletic teams and activities:

- Students will be respectful to clergy, administrators, teachers, staff, volunteers, and each other by using appropriate language and showing a cooperative attitude.
- Students will politely address and promptly obey any request or direction made by an adult affiliated with Cathedral School without discussion or argument.
- Students will demonstrate self-control by keeping hands, feet, objects, to themselves. They will: refrain from disturbing others, refrain from touching others inappropriately, remain seated, refrain from talking out, walk through the building in a quiet and orderly manner, and wait for a teacher to be present in the room before entering.
- Students will be responsible for completion of homework, wearing full uniform, being prepared for class, returning signed test papers, report cards, Friday envelope, permission slips, etc. in a timely fashion.
- Students will follow safety guidelines especially at recess and during arrival and dismissal. Horseplay/fighting will not be tolerated.

Methods of handling inappropriate behavior (minor offenses)

- Adult intervention.
- Student will “right the wrong”, and seek forgiveness.
- Student will sign a behavior contract.
- Written or telephone communication between school and home.
- Parent-Teacher-Student-Principal-Counselor-Clergy conference.
- Removal from activity/class - assignment of different/additional tasks.
- Detention

Methods of handling inappropriate behavior (Major offenses)

- Suspension:
 - In-school: student will be sent to the media center or hallway to work on assignments/tests. They will miss the benefit of classroom instruction.
 - Out-of-school: student will not attend school and will receive “0” on all assignments/tests.
 - Suspended students may not participate in sports, clubs, etc. during that time.
- Expulsion

Corporal punishment will never be used as a method of handling inappropriate behavior.

Guidelines for Suspension/Expulsion

Suspension or expulsion can be used either after one major offense or due to a series of minor offenses regularly needing the intervention of an adult. No student will be permitted to continually disrupt the learning environment at Cathedral School. The superintendent, pastor, and parents will be notified. A written notice will be sent/given to the parent informing them of either decision and a copy will be placed in the student’s file.

Since it is impossible to foresee all violations that can arise, the administration reserves the right to use these two types of disciplinary actions for any behavior that brings discredit upon the school or seriously impairs the rights of others as outlined in the spirit of the Cathedral School code of conduct. The principal also reserves the right to review the academic and disciplinary record of a student at the end of each year to consider if he/she will be invited to return the following year. If a student is asked not to return, the tuition deposit paid for the following year, will be refunded.

Examples of serious violations for which the principal may suspend/expel a student include but are not limited to:

- Use/possession of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, weapons, pornographic materials on school grounds or at a school activity off school grounds.
- Combative behavior such as fighting or threatening to inflict harm on a student or staff member.
- Use of vulgar or obscene language or gestures.
- Academic misconduct (cheating/plagiarism on any assignment, abuse of acceptable use policies)
- Stealing, vandalizing, or destroying property.
- Endangering the safety of others.
- Harassment of any kind; making racial or ethnic slurs.
- Defying a person in authority.

The faculty and staff of Cathedral School will work hard to help any student meet our expectations for appropriate behavior. We expect full cooperation/support of both the student and parents. We remind you that as a private school, continued enrollment is a privilege, not a right.