

Cornerstone Classical Christian Academy Discipline Policy

We have a high standard for student behavior. The time that is dedicated to instruction is valuable and will not be squandered on disobedience. Two Scripture verses serve as the basis for our school rules, our discipline policy and procedure. The first, Matthew 22:36–40 states *“A lawyer came to Jesus and asked ‘Teacher what is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ And Jesus answered “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’” This is the great and foremost commandment. And a second is like it, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments depend the whole law and the Prophets.* The second, Philippians 2:3, 4 reminds us of the life that Jesus Himself lived on earth. *“Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit but with humility of mind, let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”*

Our standard is first time obedience with a joyful spirit. Hopefully, this is the standard enforced by parents at home. Please acquaint yourself with the following Discipline Policy.

1. Each teacher will thoroughly discuss the school rules with the children in his/her class the first week of school. We will discuss the Scripture passages that are mentioned above and attempt to explain to each student that behavior that exhibits obedience, self-control, respect and thoughtfulness of others is a practical way that we acknowledge the Lordship of Christ over our lives. From the discussion, each class will sign and post a classroom covenant on the classroom wall for the remainder of the school year. This serves as a visual reminder of the covenant agreement that we have made with one another.
2. Students are required to obey those in authority as well as to exhibit Godly behavior with their peers. Unkind speech or actions on the part of a student toward another child will not be tolerated. Your child should come to school with the understanding that the best way they can help others and themselves is to be supportive and encouraging toward their classmates.
3. Verbal correction on the part of a teacher to a student is not burdensome but necessary. You may be assured that our students everyday receive numerous verbal corrections on everything from sitting straight in their seat to displaying a joyful attitude about their work. Our teachers give these corrections knowing that they are working with young people who will from time to time forget, need a verbal “attitude adjustment” or encouragement to serve the Lord to the best of their ability. This is done in a loving way seeking to impress upon our students the need to honor

Jesus Christ in all things. Our students are instructed in the Biblical matters of resolving conflict or addressing grievances. As students comply with the correction, the teacher and student continue to move through the day without further repercussions. To better inform our K5 – 2nd grade parents of their child's daily behavior, "faces" on the daily homework log provide a general picture of your child's day. Wise and informed parents will discuss this aspect of the homework log with their student daily.

4. There are times when it becomes evident to the teacher that a student is willfully disobeying a rule or request. This may occur when a student defiantly refuses to obey a verbal correction or persists in an unacceptable pattern of behavior. For behavioral concerns, the parents usually receive a phone call from the teacher. It is our expectation that you as the parent will make the necessary correction. Without your support and reinforcement, we can all be confident that your child will need further correction.
5. After communication has been sent home and a child continues to persist in inappropriate behavior, the child will be sent to the Headmaster. After discussing the continued infraction with the child, the Headmaster will consult with the parents. At this point, you are safe in assuming that your child needs further consequences as they are persisting to behave in an inappropriate manner. It is our assumption that appropriate action will be taken within the privacy of the home. The evidence of effective discipline at home will be a change in the child's behavior at school.
6. Should a student's conduct necessitate two office visits in one quarter, they will be suspended from school for one day. The absence will be unexcused resulting in zeros on all academic work for that day.
7. Following suspension, should another office visit occur, it may result in the parents meeting with the school board's discipline committee. You may assume at this point that your child is in danger of expulsion.

8. Expulsion is a serious consequence for disobedience and will only be used in extreme cases. The school Board will make the final decision regarding expulsion. Causes for prolonged suspension or expulsion include, but are not limited to, the following: physical and malicious injury of another student or teacher; display or use of a weapon of any sort; vulgar or obscene language or action; academic impropriety; illegal activity; blatant disrespect to a teacher or staff member; or any widely disruptive or persistent unrepentant sin. In the case of suspension or expulsion, no money will be refunded and parents will be required to meet their financial obligations.

We truly seek the maturity of your student. Our prayer is that as a result of their involvement with us that they will not only be academically challenged and trained but that they will grow in godliness of habit and character. True change takes place in our lives and in the lives of our children when we acknowledge our sin, repent of our sin and trust the Holy Spirit to grow us more in conformity to Jesus Christ. The Word of God and people are the means that God uses to convict us of our sin and our need for change. As we partner together in the growth and nurture of our children, we can be confident that the Holy Spirit will bring about the change that is necessary in all of our lives. Your signature on the Family Commitment form indicates that you understand and will support this discipline policy.