

Veritas Christi Hybrid Academy

Code of Conduct

The purpose of this document is to clarify some of the expectations, responsibilities, and authority that center around our shared life with Veritas Christi Hybrid Academy, and related activities.

Principles

- 1 We're gathered together to share life and build one another up in this wonderful facility that we're blessed with. While we may have some differences in our styles of discipline and family culture, we seek to "dwell in unity with one another in the Lord," (Ps 133:1, Col 3:14) and to keep our activities safe and enjoyable. That takes work, patience, sacrifice, and deference.
- 2 Every student is responsible for their own actions, and parents are accountable for the actions of their students. Organizers of various activities and those with responsibility for the facility have the responsibility to look out for the well-being and safety of kids, and stewardship of property. We recognize that with that responsibility comes a measured level of authority, in order to carry out that responsibility. (Hb 13:17)
- 3 While at school, we're focused on being a community of learners. **Cell phones, cameras, players, and other hand-held electronics are not allowed.** Students may store these, turned off, in lockers, but if they are ever used, or seen elsewhere, they will be **confiscated**. If necessary, communication with parents can be done during breaks, using the phone at the building, 815 637-1731. Long distance calls are not possible from that number. **Guns, blades, weapons of any kind, real or pretend,** other than props with explicit permission, **alcohol, and drugs** are not allowed. No student should give another student **prescription or over-the counter medications.**
- 4 Uniforms are a part of our life at school. Those not **wearing appropriate dress** will need to wait at the front door until picked up by a parent. Hats are not permitted in the building during school hours.

Code of conduct

We strive to reflect Christ's charitable concern for one another. Examples include but are not limited to: be attentive to the needs of others, show kindness, use polite language, be truthful and honest, share with one other, take turns, avoid any perception of ethnic slurs, avoid any negative humor, solve problems peacefully.

We will be vigilant for the health and safety of yourself and others. Examples include but are not limited to: plan ahead for how any activity may require safeguarding the well-being of both those directly involved and those who may happen to come nearby, be proactive in maintaining order, and avoid pushing and shoving.

We resolve conflicts peaceably. We agree to work to resolve conflicts in a positive manner, and consider not just how our words or actions are intended, but how they may be perceived by others. If help is required, we will ask another adult to help. If significant conflicts develop,

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supervising adults should involve parents in the resolution. Any student who has verbally or physically threatened physical harm to someone will be asked to leave the property with their parent until the situation is addressed with the student's parent. Examples include but are not limited to; hitting, pushing, kicking, tripping, or verbal threats of violence.

We will respect those in authority and support them in taking responsibility. Examples include but are not limited to: recognize that teamwork and proactivity by all are the only way we can make our shared responsibility work; defer to the authority invested in those that have responsibility for each situation, which helps keep the burden of responsibility manageable.

Classrooms will be focused on instruction. Talking over the teacher, talking or passing notes to fellow students, throwing objects, chewing gum, eating, engaging in disruptive behavior, cracking jokes to attract attention, leading the discussion off topic, not sitting up, sleeping, leaving a seat without permission, doing other homework, or leaving trash are all grounds for dismissal from the class. Leaving coats, books, or other items in a disorderly way or location are all disrespectful to the teacher and fellow students.

Expectations for planned and spontaneous activities

1. We will ensure that there is an **available adult at all times**. There is no outdoor activity allowed without adult supervision. Given the minimal control on access to the property, we want to ensure the safety of our students outside.
2. We agree that all planned activities should have **prior approval** by the School Board, to assure adequate coverage, safety and suitability. If bringing personal equipment from home, we will check with the School Board to assure its suitability, and plan to share it.
3. Games that are rough and call for **physical contact** are **not allowed**. They can lead to injury, torn clothing and conflict. Throwing of objects at (vs. to) someone is not permitted. This includes snow, frisbees, and balls. Frisbees should only be used outside.
4. We will use **appropriate language**, and have an appreciation for how our words might be taken by others. We will encourage one another in the Lord.

Consequences

For those students who chose not to follow this Code of Conduct, three levels of intervention apply over the course of a year.

Level I (Incident report): If a student violates one of the rules, the supervising adult will determine any immediate action to correct the behavior (dismissal from class to stand by the door, removal from activity, loss of privilege, etc.) and contact the student's parent when possible to address the situation and discipline the student appropriately. It is understandable that students may need reminders by a supervising adult. However, if reminders by the supervising

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adult do not curtail the behavior, then such incidents will be reported to the School Board. After three incidents, the student will be *given a conduct citation* (Level II).

Level II (Conduct citation): If three incidents are reported, the student, in the presence of his or her parent, will be given a conduct citation and asked to leave school property for a period of no less than one week.

Level III (Conduct review): If a student accumulates three conduct citations, his/her parents will be required to meet with the School Board to discuss the situation and necessary actions to correct the situation, up to and including asking the student not to be present for a longer specified period of time.

Immediate escalation: Behaviors that are dangerous, highly abusive, or determined to be extreme by the supervising adult may lead to an immediate citation or review. Examples of such behavior include but are not limited to: disrespect (profanity, harassment, failure to cooperate/listen to supervising adult), physical harm or danger to another person; and/or the destruction of property; weapons on the property.

Agreement and acceptance of responsibility

I, as a student, agree that this is an appropriate code of conduct, and that if I do not abide by it that I will accept the consequences as described above.

Student

Date

Student

Date

Student

Date

Student

Date

We, as parents, agree that this is an appropriate code of conduct, and that if our students do not abide by it that we will accept the consequences as described above.

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Father

Date

Mother

Date