

Veritas Christi Hybrid Academy

Student Handbook

This document describes some of the philosophies, policies and commitments for students at Veritas Christi Hybrid Academy.

Student policies

Commitments related to time

- Be in the class and settled in your seat before the beginning of the class period.
- Be present at the beginning of school day, which starts at 8am with school prayer.
- Participate in school community events.
- Tardiness and absenteeism affect others, and detracting from the effectiveness of the school in that way will be reflected in your evaluation, whether you were directly responsible or someone else was.

Other commitments

- Be prepared for class. This is an issue of charity. Being prepared shows respect for others, enables the teacher and class to be effective, and helps you get far more out of class.
- Be constructively engaged in class. Your behavior can have a huge impact, not just in what you get out of it, but in the experience and effectiveness of the class for others.
- Work hard. Learning and discovery bring delight. One of the best kinds of delight is achieving something that's difficult, that involved significant effort and perhaps even sacrifice.
- Be open. If something delights you, share it! If you're struggling with something, discuss that with the teacher and your parents. Because we care for you, we want to stay in touch with what will help you progress most effectively. Hiding issues and avoiding communication delays the resolution of solvable problems.
- Be charitable and respectful. Recognize that God works through you to encourage, build up and include others, and to help Him in His work.
- Be inclusive. Reach out in charity to all members of the school. Jesus didn't just hang out with people who were just like Him; He loved all people. Cliques and romantic relationships distract from that inclusive charity and should not be visible during school and school events.
- Be modest. Students should dress modestly at all school events, and wear the school uniform while on the school premises during class time and breaks except for sanctioned dress-down days. Students dressed inappropriately will be removed from class until picked up by a parent or provided with a change of clothes. The school uniform consists of the following:
 - o Long pants or shorts below the knee for boys or girls, skirts below the knee are permissible for girls.
 - o A polo-style or long-sleeved shirt. No leggings or tight-fitting tops.
 - o Slacks (not jeans of any color) and skirts should be tan, navy blue or black; shirts should be solid red, white or navy blue.
 - o All clothing must be modest.
- Be focused. Cell phones, headphones, and other such electronics are not allowed on school property.
- Follow the code of conduct, which is available as a separate document.
- Have an attitude of service. Straighten up classrooms at the end of the day, and offer some hours of service each semester.
- Represent the school, In all that you do, in class you out, you represent the school. Do it for the glory of God!



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Assignments

- It's your responsibility to know what your assignments are, and to complete them on time. Your assignments will be posted online, for you and your parents to see. It's up to your teacher whether assignments will be accepted late at all, and you should expect to get docked by 10% for each additional day that it's late.
- It's your responsibility to plan ahead. In case an assignment needs clarification, you should plan to work on it prior to your teacher's posted office hours, so you can ask them in a non-urgent time frame. If you are unable to complete an assignment because you worked on it late and didn't get help in time from your teacher, you'll still be held accountable.
- Some assignments may be due online, at specified times during the week, outside of class. We'll give you access to a location in which you can post your assignments and see feedback on them. We'll help you learn how to create and post online documents.

Philosophy and Approach

Veritas Christi means *truth of Christ*. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to discover and discern what is good, true and beautiful in the world around us. We then learn how to articulate what is true, and to express that to others, charitably and effectively.

We take as our model Jesus, who said, *I am the way, the truth and the life*. In Latin, this is expressed as *via, veritas, vita*.

Please talk with your parents about the guiding principles of the school, found in the Parent's Handbook, and what's in this document.

Striving for excellence

Our Lord is glorious! His kingdom reflects His glory. He fashions us to be like Himself, so that we might reflect that glory, not for our credit, but for His.

He gives each of us natural gifts. In His infinite wisdom, He gives some more than others. It's not our natural gifts that define who we are; it's what we do with them, in relationship to Him.

He calls each of us to make a habit of striving for greatness, for doing all things excellently, out of love for Him. This affects how we approach all of life, including our school work. The environment at Veritas Christi is designed to foster that growth in academic capability and personal character. Teachers, staff and other students work together at those common goals, as a community of learners.

As a student, you are encouraged to understand your purpose, to set goals, and to work hard toward achieving those goals, as you grow toward adulthood. Your teachers and parents are here to help you with that. As you get older, you'll take an increasing degree of ownership of those goals. You'll find that you're driven more by your love of the Lord and a love of learning than only what others expect of you. You do owe your teachers and parents your best effort and your respect, and you're accountable to them for your results. They'll seek to guide you, and they'll evaluate you along the way.