

# BAYSHORE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Christian, Classical, Life Preparatory

# **Parent and Student Handbook**

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# SCHOOL OVERVIEW

# 1.1 | History

Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church founded the Bayshore Christian School ministry in 2002. The school began its first year with 20 families, 22 preschool and kindergarten students, and 3 teachers. In 2004 the administration made the decision to shift its methodology approach and became a classical school. In May of 2016, with 242 students enrolled, BCS became fully accredited through the Association of Classical Christian Schools when the first senior class graduated. In November 2018, BCS purchased 46 acres of land in Daphne, AL, with the intent of building an Upper School campus. Enrollment has grown to over 500 students and 60 faculty and staff personnel who are members of 48 different churches along the eastern shore.

# 1.2 | Mission Statement

Bayshore Christian School exists to glorify God by equipping students to fulfill their lifelong calling as we educate them with an academically excellent classical Christian curriculum.

Our mission is to graduate students with a Biblical worldview who will inspire, impact, and serve their communities. Our students will be critical thinkers who are academically and spiritually prepared for college and their life's calling. They will be defenders of the Christian faith and able to exquisitely articulate that defense. They will be lovers of whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and virtuous.

We aim to find our students well prepared in all situations, possessing both information and the knowledge of how to use it. We desire that they be socially graceful and spiritually gracious; equipped with and understanding the tools of learning; desiring to grow in understanding, yet fully realizing the limitations and foolishness of the wisdom of this world.

We desire that they have a heart for the lost and the courage to seek to dissuade those who are stumbling towards destruction; that they distinguish real religion from religion in form only; and that they possess the former, knowing and loving the Lord Jesus Christ. And all these we desire them to possess with humility and gratitude to God.

#### 1.3 | The Bayshore Confession for Students

We go to Bayshore Christian School, a kingdom academy. We exalt the name of Jesus. We recognize his presence here. We believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We believe the Bible to be God's holy word, to be complete truth, a guide to our feet. I am created in the image of God to glorify Him and worship Him forever. God calls me to love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ—to listen and obey; to use words with kindness; to respect God's creation and all authority; to not seek harm against another; to love and encourage others; and to serve my community. I will set my mind on whatever is true, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, and whatever is good. I will seek to be content in whatever circumstances I am, for God is my treasure, and I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. We will display a crown of beauty instead of ashes; the oil of gladness instead of mourning; a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. We will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor.

#### 1.4 | Statement of Faith

Bayshore Christian School is a ministry of and under the authority of Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church (PCA). BCS uses The Westminster Confession of Faith as the summary of what we believe the Bible teaches, and it guides our approach to Christian education. The following Statement of Faith is the foundation of beliefs on which Bayshore Christian School is based and will constitute the substance of what is considered primary doctrine.

- 1. We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- 2. We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- 3. We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by his mercy.
- 4. We believe that eternal life is received by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

- 5. We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- 6. We believe in the absolute sovereignty of God and that He ordains whatsoever comes to pass; we also believe that man is completely responsible before this holy and sovereign God.
- 7. We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His covenant promises.
- 8. We believe that grace alone opens our hearts to respond to the gospel for forgiveness of sins and eternal life; we also believe that grace working in us motivates and enables us to live transformed lives.
- 9. We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself. All true believers will be resurrected at the final judgment and will live eternally on the New or Renewed Earth, the New Jerusalem. All unbelievers will face eternal judgment, separated from God forever because they refused to place their hope in the finished work of Jesus Christ.
- 10. We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Bayshore Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the Session of Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church, in agreement with The Westminster Confession of Faith, is Bayshore Christian School's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application. All persons connected with this School community, be they employees, volunteers, parents/guardians, students, or board members shall agree to abide by and to affirm these beliefs in actions, speech, and behavior while remaining a School community member.

# 1.5 | Position Statements

All persons connected with this School community, be they employees, volunteers, parents, students, or board members shall agree to abide by and to affirm these Position Statements in actions, speech, and behavior while remaining a School community member.

**Reverence of God's Name**: We believe reverence should be shown in all areas of instruction, proper respect, and consideration of God's character to ensure that God's name, character, and truth are honored and respected. References to the name or attributes of God must be consistent with biblical principles and should not be silly or trite.

**Gender and Sexuality**: We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

**Marriage**: We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that marriage between one man and one woman, for life, uniquely reflects Christ's relationship with His rescue mission (Eph. 5:21-33). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, harassment, cohabitation, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, child abuse, or use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

**Self-Identification, Homosexual, Bisexual, Transgender, and Other**: We believe homosexual, bisexual, transgender, adultery, fornication, LGBTQ+, and other action, speech, and behavior outside of God's design to be sin; therefore, declaring acceptance of, condoning the practice of, or stating support for such is not acceptable from BCS students and staff.

**Sanctity of Human Life**: We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps. 139.)

**Essential Truth**: We believe the foundational truths found in the Bayshore Statement of Faith and the principles outlined in the Bayshore Position Statements form the essential tenets of our school. These statements are sincerely-held positions of our School. Within these tenets, we seek to promote "unity in essentials," beyond these tenets, "liberty in non-essentials," and "in all things charity" (Christian love toward others).

# 1.6 | Sincerely-Held Religious Beliefs

All persons connected with this School community, be they employees, volunteers, parents, students, or board members shall agree to abide by and to affirm these Position Statements in actions, speech, and behavior while remaining a School community member.

Bayshore Christian School holds the sincere religious belief that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as either male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary sexes together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's sex at conception is a rejection of the image of God within that person (Ps. 139:13).

Bayshore Christian School recognizes there may be instances where members of the School community experience disparity between their sex and their feelings about their sex. This disparity can motivate them to make declarative affirmations or behave in ways contrary to God's Word and His plan for their lives. Bayshore Christian School encourages members of the School community who are struggling with their sexual identity to seek help from their pastor and other trained professionals who might best assist them in clarifying and defining their sexual identity in accordance with God's Word. The School administrators will also meet with the individual and/or parents/guardians to discuss adherence to this policy.

Bayshore Christian School will at all times interact with members of the School community according to their biological sex. A member of the School community who wishes to express a gender other than his or her sex is understood to be rejecting the truth and the image of God within that person (Ps. 139:13). Biblical Christianity requires the body of Christ to compassionately dwell in the truth and assist those we love in doing the same (Eph. 4:15).

A member of the School community who openly and unrepentantly rejects their sex or declares themselves to be of a LGBTQ+ persuasion, either in or out of school, is rejecting the image of God within that person –behavior that dishonors the Holy Trinity and the Word of God. Such actions, speech, or behavior constitutes a person's failure to adhere to their commitment to abide by the behavioral standards established by Bayshore Christian School, which is cause for terminating their privilege of membership in the School community.

To preserve the function and integrity of Bayshore Christian School and to provide a biblical role model to members of the School community and the community-at-large, it is imperative that all members of the School community agree to and abide by this policy.

# 1.7 | Philosophy of Education

We are a Christian school. The word education is derived from the Latin verb *educare* which means "to lead out." As a Christian School, we seek to be used by God in partnership with Christian parents to lead students out of ignorance and sin into Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom, and Virtue.

We are a classical school. We seek to equip our students to recognize the truth, goodness, and beauty found in God, His creation, and the Bible. Through study of classic literature and primary historical sources, our students will be exposed to many worldviews. Students will learn to think deeply, question respectfully, form a personal belief system, and articulate clearly those beliefs.

We are a life preparatory school. Our goal is to shape graduates who are not only well-rounded and productive members of society, but more importantly, virtuous citizens of the kingdom of Christ for the good of others and the glory of God.

# 1.8 | Core Values

Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom, and Virtue are foundational values of our school.

# Knowledge

We are committed to advancing excellent practical, academic, philosophical Knowledge that is in unison with and supported by the truth of God's word.

An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. Proverbs 18:15 Faith

We seek to be used by God to set the table for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of our students drawing them to Christ and advancing a commitment to the Christian Faith.

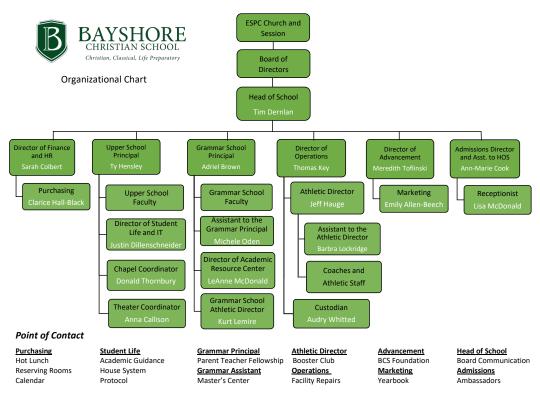
Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1 **Wisdom** 

We seek to foster an environment that allows students and staff to cultivate Wisdom by uniting Knowledge with Faith. *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 9:10* **Virtue** 

We believe the application of Knowledge, Faith, and Wisdom will be evidenced by Virtuous behavior that is rooted in love for our triune God and love for our neighbor.

Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge. 2 Peter 1:5

# 1.9 | BCS Organizational Chart



# 1.10 | Partnership with Parents

BCS is committed to the principle of *in loco parentis*. This Latin phrase translates "in place of the parents." We believe that BCS administration, teachers, and staff partner with parents to teach and disciple BCS students. We operate with delegated authority and acknowledge that parents are directly responsible before God for their child's education. In order for parents to partner effectively with the school, parents should agree with the core values, beliefs, and educational goals of the school.

- We encourage BCS parents to be actively involved in the everyday activities and special events of the school. Parents are welcome in our classrooms anytime and are invited to volunteer, serve, and assist in the wide variety of events, programs, and classes that happen at BCS. Volunteering helps foster a closer, caring community at BCS, while allowing the teachers to focus on academics.
  - Please visit our school website <u>https://www.bayshorechristian.org</u> and fill out the Volunteer form found on the Support BCS page. Our BCS Volunteers assist in a wide-variety of jobs: classroom reader, event helper, grounds beautification, lunch distribution, etc.
  - We also hire parents and grandparents to work as Teachers, Teacher's Aides, Substitute Teachers, Office Staff, Master's Center Instructors, and Bus Drivers. Please contact the school office to begin the application process for one of these paid positions.
- We encourage BCS parents to engage with their children's education. This is accomplished by connecting with the material being taught and the people in the classrooms. Children need to know that their parents are truly interested in what they are learning and experiencing at school.
- We encourage BCS parents to model for their children a consistent, winsome, authentic, and compelling life of virtue. Children are keen observers and are quick to spot hypocrisy, double-standards, and inconsistency.
- We encourage BCS parents to model for their children a life of humility. We all sin and must seek to honor the Lord with the acts of repentance, forgiveness, and restoration. Modeling the daily living-out of a growing faith is a tremendous gift to give children.

# SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

# 2.1 | Communication Methods

Clear communication between parents, students, and the school is vital to the success of our mission. We are in partnership together in pursuit of a common goal. There are many ways for parents and students to stay informed of school information:

- The Head of School will send email communication containing important full-school information.
- Teachers and Administrators will send regular email communication to provide grade-specific updates or pertinent information.
- The school office will send parent text alerts occasionally to communicate time-sensitive information.
- The Community page on the BCS website contains many resources for parents and students and the Whom To See About What page contains details regarding whom to contact for specific questions. <u>https://www.bayshorechristian.org</u>
- The FACTS Family Portal gives student and parent access to grades and assignments as the teacher posts them. <u>https://factsmgt.com</u>
- The Administrative Staff is available to answer questions relating to all aspects of the school via phone or appointment (251) 929-0011.
- Teachers and Administrators are available via email. BCS emails are listed on the school website on the "Faculty and Staff" page. <u>https://www.bayshorechristian.org</u>
  - Please note that students and parents should not text faculty or staff members, but instead should communicate by email or through a scheduled appointment. Administrative staff may also be reached by calling the school office (251) 929-0011.
- Parent Teacher Conferences are required at the end of the first quarter and are recommended in the third quarter.

# 2.2 | Questions and Concerns

Graciousness, respect, and a refusal to gossip should characterize the relationship between our faculty, staff, students, and parents. Questions and concerns inevitably arise even in a well-run school. To complain or gossip about an issue with anyone other than the person involved is unhealthy, unfair, and unbiblical. Every parent must be willing to seek proper resolution to conflict. The overarching Biblical principle that guides conflict resolution at BCS is found in Matthew 18:15-16:

If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

*Faculty, staff, parents, and students are expected to follow these steps for conflict resolution:* 

**Parent to Parent**: If an issue arises between families, the families should seek to make peace with one another directly. **Parents/Students to Teacher:** If an issue arises in the classroom, the parents should speak to the Teacher before discussing the matter with those in authority over the Teacher or with other parents. If the issues remain unresolved, the parent and Teacher should meet together with the Principal.

**Parents/Students to Principal:** If an issue arises regarding school procedures, curriculum, student misconduct, unresolved issues, or accommodation requests, the parents should conference with the Principal. Cases of serious misconduct of BCS students or faculty should be reported directly to the Principal.

**Parents/Students to Head of School:** If an issue remains unresolved after meeting with the Principal, the parents should meet with the Principal and the Head of School.

**Parents to Board of Directors:** If an issue remains unresolved after meeting with the Head of School, parents should address their concerns in writing to the Board Chairman through the Head of School.

After following the steps listed above, parents agree to:

**Mediation:** Parents agree to submit any legal dispute with the school for mediation before a mutually agreed-upon mediator, or if none can be agreed upon, one selected by Peacemaker Ministries. Lawsuits between believers, or threats of lawsuits between believers, are a matter of grave concern for the school, are contrary to biblical and church teaching, and mediation is an effort to resolve disputes in a biblical fashion (1 Cor. 6: 1-7). Mediation will be governed by the Rules of Procedure for Christian Conciliation of the Institute for Christian Conciliation (ICC Rules), unless modified as stipulated by the parties. In particular, subject to the more detailed provisions of the ICC Rules, mediator(s) will attempt to assist us in reaching a voluntary settlement of any disputes through mediation. The confidentiality of the mediation process will be protected and these matters will not be discussed with people who do not have a necessary interest in them. If settlement can be agreed upon, the conciliators may, at their discretion, issue an advisory opinion. Neither the opinion, nor any communications exchanged in the mediation process, will be admissible for any purpose in any subsequent legal proceeding.

# ADMISSIONS

# 3.1 | Non-Discrimination Policy

Bayshore Christian School welcomes students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at the school. Bayshore Christian School does not discriminate on any of the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, hiring practices, scholarships, athletics or other school-administered programs.

# 3.2 | Admissions Requirements

All BCS parents should:

- Provide a parent profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior
- Desire a Christian and Classical education for their child
- Affirm the Mission, Statement of Faith, and Position Statements of the school in the Parent and Student Handbook
- Be a regular attendee of a local church
- Provide a positive pastoral reference letter
- Comply with the Parent and Student Handbook
- Complete a Parent Interview with the Head of School
- Actively volunteer and participate in school events
- Pay all tuition and fees according to their signed financial agreement

Potential students must meet the following criteria to be accepted into BCS:

- Provide documentation of report cards and standardized tests evidencing successful completion of the previous grade level and proficiency in reading comprehension, math, and English grammar and composition
- Pass an entrance exam evidencing grade level proficiency in reading comprehension, math, and English composition
- Provide documentation evidencing completion of any prerequisite courses and credits necessary to fulfill graduation requirements on time. Provisional acceptance can be granted with approved plans for earning required credits prior to the start of school.
- Interview with the Principal to assess the student's academic motivation, spiritual maturity, and potential impact on the culture of the school (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Upper School only)
- Exhibit appropriate levels of behavior and maturity, and parents must disclose any previous record of social, behavioral, or mental health issues. If evidence of nondisclosure occurs after acceptance, the student could become subject to dismissal. BCS is not staffed to serve students with significant social, behavioral, or mental health issues.

Potential students will be evaluated through their application, records, entrance exam, and interviews for an admission decision. The Head of School will make all final decisions concerning admissions and acceptance of applicants. Parents will be notified of the final decision in writing.

# 3.3 | Academic Tutoring & Learning Differences

Students with a severe disability or learning difference requiring a separate classroom, program, or staff will not knowingly be admitted to Bayshore Christian School due to lack of adequate staff, funding, and facilities. If it becomes apparent that a student has a severe disability or learning difference as evaluated by Teachers, Principal, and Head of School, parents may be required to withdraw the student in order to obtain proper assistance.

Students with a minor disability or mild learning difference will be required to meet the academic standard of their grade level, and will be given such individual instruction as is provided to all students. Minor accommodations for students with mild disabilities may be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Principal or Head of School. Requests for minor accommodations must be made in writing by the parent or guardian to administration. Requests for academic

accommodations must be submitted in writing to administration by the licensed therapist who is providing academic therapy for the student. Approved accommodations must not cause class disruption, necessitate significant additional time commitments of the Teacher, or compromise BCS academic standards. The Head of School will make all final decisions regarding implementation or removal of accommodations. If it becomes apparent that the student is not able to meet the academic standard of their grade level, parents may be required to withdraw the student in order to obtain proper assistance.

# **Academic Resource Center**

The Academic Resource Center is an optional service parents may sign-up to use if their student needs academic support. Students with an academic weakness, minor disability, or mild learning differences can opt to receive one-on-one tutoring during the school day. The Academic Resource Director will oversee academic accommodations and will provide support for the classroom teachers. The current fee structure for ARC is located on the school website.

# 3.4 | Waiting Pool and Enrollment Priority

BCS is nearing capacity and is full in many grade levels. All new applicants will be placed in a waiting pool until we are ready to fill available seats beginning in the spring. The admissions team will select students who best fit the mission and vision of BCS. Applicants given priority include: siblings of currently enrolled students, children of BCS employees, children of ESPC members, and students from BCS preschool. Particular attention will be given to entrance testing results, pastoral reference, the student and parent interviews, along with evidence of family support and fit with our BCS mission.

# 3.5 | Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees must be paid online through a FACTS autopay account per the financial agreement signed during the enrollment process. Tuition may be paid in full, semiannually, or in 12 monthly installments. Tuition rates are posted on the school website.

#### **Student Enrollment Fees**

Students who are offered admission to BCS must complete the enrollment account by creating a FACTS autopay account, signing and submitting the enrollment packet, and paying the enrollment fee. Enrollment fees are charged upon submission of a new enrollment packet, or upon the continuous enrollment date of January 15<sup>th</sup> for returning families.

#### **Continuous Enrollment**

Once enrolled in BCS, a student is continuously enrolled for successive school years. It is assumed that students will matriculate through until graduation. Parents must email the Director of Admissions by January 15th of a school year to withdraw from the next academic year to avoid financial penalty.

#### Withdrawal

By signing and submitting the enrollment form, parents agree to all financial terms and obligations of the school for the school year. It is assumed that students will matriculate through until graduation.

- Withdrawal from Bayshore Christian School during the current school year will require payment of 50% of the remaining financial balance. Records will not be released until all financial obligations are met and all school property returned.
- Withdrawal from Bayshore Christian School for the next school year must be completed by a custodial parent prior to January 15<sup>th</sup>. Withdrawal after January 15<sup>th</sup> for the next school year will require payment of 50% of the remaining financial balance for the next school year. Records will not be released until all financial obligations are met and all school property returned.

#### **Book and Activity Fee**

The Book and Activity Fee is rolled into the payment plan. This fee is used for class field trips, special days, campus events, dances, spirit shirts, yearbooks, school supplies (for Preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades), a downloadable student pictures, and other school-related activities.

#### **Additional Fees**

Overnight field trips, lunch orders, Master's Center classes, Before/After Care, Athletic fees, Club fees, Dual Enrollment class fees, Academic Resource fees, and other incidental fees are not included in the tuition and activity fees and will be billed separately through the FACTS autopay account. Other incidental costs that are not billed through, charged, or issued by the school may include: student laptops, backpacks, lunchboxes, water bottles, nap mats, student picture packages, uniforms, summer ready materials, parent purchase book lists, student supplies, and other personal purchases.

#### **Financial Aid**

Bayshore offers need-based tuition assistance to qualifying families. All applicants for financial aid must be currently enrolled at BCS, and supply their tax return from the previous year to a third-party organization for consideration. Gross family income, number of family members, number of children enrolled at Bayshore, and other extenuating circumstances are factored into financial aid decisions. All financial aid applications must be completed by March 1 each year. Financial aid applies to tuition only. Email the Director of Finance for an application link.

#### **Delinquent Accounts**

If a family account is 60 days in arrears, the student will not be allowed to return to school until the account is cleared unless a mutual arrangement is made with the Head of School.

#### ATTENDANCE

#### 4.1 | School Day Schedule

Before Care	7:00 - 7:30 a.m.
K-12 Morning Carline	7:30 - 7:55 a.m.
K-12 School Day	7:55 a.m 3:00 p.m.
Preschool School Day	8:00 a.m 12:00 p.m.
K-6 Afternoon Carline	3:00 - 3:20 p.m.
7-12 Afternoon Carline	3:10 - 3:20 p.m.

**Before Care:** BCS will offer Before Care to any student arriving before Morning Carline for a set fee. Students must proceed directly to the gym for adult supervision. A monthly bill will be assessed to the parent's FACTS autopay account.

**Morning Carline:** Students can be dropped off once Morning Carline begins. Students who are dropped off before Morning Carline should report to Before Care, and FACTS autopay accounts will be billed accordingly. Students may be dropped off in the designated unloading area and should not be dropped off anywhere else on or near campus. The school building doors will close and lock when the school day begins. Students who arrive after the start of the school day will need to sign in at the office and receive a tardy slip.

**Afternoon Dismissal:** Students should dismiss promptly to carline, student vehicles, After Care, or to school sponsored activities following the dismissal bell. Students who are not picked up by the end of carline will be sent to After Care. If they are not picked up by 3:30, a 1-day drop in fee will be assessed to the parent's FACTS autopay account.

Afternoon Carline: Vehicles must display the BCS carline tag given to parents at the beginning of the school year. Anyone without a carline tag will be asked to park and proceed to the school office with a Driver's License to verify identity before we release the student to their custody. We take student safety seriously, and will not release a student to anyone without authorization. Parents may request additional copies of the carline tag from the school office. Parents should communicate changes to carline pickup through email to the classroom Teacher 24 hours in advance. In emergency situations only, parents may call the school office during school hours to communicate last minute emergency pick-up changes for their children.

**After Care:** After Care is offered to any student remaining on the school grounds after school for a fee. No student may remain at school unsupervised. A monthly bill will be assessed through the parent's FACTS autopay account. All After Care students must be picked up promptly by 5:30 p.m. each day. Late fees of \$10 per every five minutes will be charged to the FACTS autopay account.

# 4.2 | Emergency School Closings

# **Weather Closings**

From time to time, the school will be closed due to inclement weather. The school will communicate emergency closures through email and parent alert texts. Following emergency weather closure, we will communicate school reopening information through email, parent alert texts, and the local news.

#### **Unexpected Long-Term Closings**

In the event of long-term closings necessitated by natural disasters, widespread illnesses, or other extenuating circumstances, BCS will institute Teacher-Directed Home Learning. Tuition and fees must be paid per the financial agreement signed during the enrollment process. Students will attend online meetings and turn in all assignments as required by their Teachers during any long-term closings. All grading guidelines and student promotion policies will remain in place.

# 4.3 | Attendance Requirements

BCS students are expected to be present and on time for school each school day. Attendance records are kept and noted on the report card each quarter. Students should arrive during Morning Carline times each morning. Students should dismiss promptly to their vehicles, to carline, or to school sponsored activities following the dismissal bell. Students who are not picked up by the end of carline will be sent to After Care and their FACTS autopay account will be billed for a 1-day drop in.

#### Attendance Requirements for Athletic and Co-Curricular Participation

Students who are absent from school are not allowed to participate in same-day athletics or co-curricular activities. A student will be considered absent from school if they arrive after or checkout before 11:30 am.

# 4.4 | Tardiness

To be counted present for class, students must be seated and prepared for class to begin when the bell rings. Students who are tardy to class should proceed to the school office to sign in and receive a tardy slip. Students who are persistently tardy to homeroom or to classes may be issued disciplinary consequences or be required to meet together with their parents and an administrator to discuss how to address this disruptive behavior. There may also be academic penalties (missed quizzes or graded assignments) that result from habitual tardiness.

# 4.5 | Early Check-Outs

Early check-outs are discouraged; however, we understand that sometimes students need to be checked-out for health or family reasons. The number of early check-outs should be kept to a minimum to reduce classroom disruption. Students will only be released to the custodial parent or guardian or emergency contacts on file. Parents can contact the school office to add or remove emergency contacts from their file. Parents of student drivers must contact the school office to give permission for early check-outs. Students who check-out must sign-out in the school office.

# 4.6 | Absences

#### **Excused Absences**

A parent email (or doctor's school excuse note) must be sent to the school receptionist, principal, and teacher to excuse a planned or unplanned student absence.

- Planned Absences: Parents will email the school receptionist, principal, and the teacher prior to the absence to notify them of upcoming dates the student will not be present at school. If the student will be absent from one or more class periods (this includes volunteering during the school day, athletic events, school meetings, field trips, etc.), parents must email the teacher whose class will be missed prior to the absence and should include the school receptionist and principal on the email. This parent email will alert the teacher to record the upcoming absence as excused and will notify the receptionist and principal for confirmation.
- Unplanned Absences: Parents will email the school receptionist, principal, and the teachers when an unexpected absence occurs due to illness or family emergency. This email will alert the school office to update the recorded absences from unexcused to excused.

#### **Unexcused Absences**

If a note or email of explanation is not provided to the school, the absence will be marked as unexcused and students will not receive credit or deadline extensions for missed assignments. Disciplinary suspensions are documented as an unexcused absence and students will not receive credit for missed assignments. The teacher will notify the student if the missed assignments must be completed (for zero credit) in order to understand the upcoming academic material.

#### 4.7 | Excessive Absences or Tardiness

Students who are excessively tardy or absent will be in danger of failing courses, and in extreme cases, grade level retention. Parents of students who have 5 absences or tardies within a single quarter will be required to meet with the Principal to determine an appropriate course of action. Students who exceed 20 absences for any reason during the school year will require approval from the Principal for grade level promotion.

# 4.8 | Make-Up Work for Excused Absences

Parents may request that student classwork and assignments be prepared by the teachers so that the student is able to work from home while recovering from an illness or injury. The request must be emailed directly to the teachers. The teachers will prepare the work after the school day ends and drop it off at the school office for next day pickup. Please allow 24 hours for the work to be prepared after the email request is sent.

Students must complete all assignments missed during absences. Students are responsible for scheduling all make-up work, and should be proactive with their communication with Teachers. If a student needs more time to complete work, arrangements should be made with each Teacher prior to the due dates of the work.

On the first day back to school following an absence, students should be prepared to:

- Turn in homework that was due on the first day of absence
- Take any tests, quizzes, or assessments that were missed on the first day of absence
- Confirm and schedule make-up dates with each Teacher if more than one day of school was missed

If the student is absent the day before a test, the student can choose either to take the test with their class or to schedule a make-up test. Absences prior to the day before the test do not qualify a delay. If a Teacher observes a pattern of absence before tests, the student may be referred to the Principal to discuss how to address this disruptive behavior.

Make-up tests and quizzes will be made up during class time, during lunch, or directly after school. Make-up work takes precedence over athletics and co-curricular after school activities.

In the case of serious illness or death in the family, students and parents should contact the Principal (US students should also contact the Director of Student Life) for assistance in ensuring the student does not fall behind.

#### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### 5.1 | Illness Attendance Policy

Students should not attend school when they have the following conditions:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or greater
- Stomach illness such as vomiting or diarrhea
- Contagious illness
- Excessive cough or runny nose
- Head lice
- Skin Rash

Students who have been ill may return to school when they are symptom-free for 48 hours or released by a medical doctor. Students must be fever free for 48 hours without the aid of fever suppressing medicine prior to returning to school.

Parents may request that student classwork and assignments be prepared by the teachers so that the student is able to work from home while recovering from an illness or injury. The request must be emailed directly to the teachers. The teachers will prepare the work after the school day ends and drop it off at the school office for next day pickup. Please allow 24 hours for the work to be prepared after the email request is sent.

For complete information regarding COVID-19 procedures and requirements (and any other priority health concerns), please refer to the up-to-date information communicated to parents and posted on the COVID-19 page of our school website <u>https://bayshorechristian.org</u>.

# 5.2 | Student Health Records

All students attending Bayshore Christian School must have on record with the school office either a current immunization record or an exemption statement according to Alabama Code before entering school in the fall. Standard immunization forms may be obtained from your family doctor or the Alabama Department of Health.

# 5.3 | Medication Policy

All medication must be administered by school staff during school. Medication permission forms filled out and signed by a physician and/or parent must be on file in the school office. For students who are required to carry an EPI pen or inhaler on their person, BCS requires additional medication to be stored in the school office for emergency situations. All allergies and serious medical conditions should be reported to the office.

#### 5.4 | Allergies and Serious Medical Conditions

Parents must notify BCS office staff and Teachers of any known allergies upon enrollment or diagnosis. All allergies will be noted in FACTS. Severe and life-threatening allergies and medical conditions will be flagged in the school office and in Teacher's records. BCS is a peanut-free school. Students should not bring or consume any foods containing peanuts at school. Although every effort will be made to avoid serving foods that would put any student at risk, parents must educate their children about their allergies and provide safe foods for school consumption. Teachers will notify Room Moms of allergies within the class so that allergens are avoided during class parties.

All medication must be administered by school staff during school. Medication permission forms filled out and signed by a physician and/or parent must be on file in the school office. For students who are required to carry an EPI pen or inhaler on their person, BCS requires additional medication to be stored in the school office for emergency situations.

#### 5.5 | Physical Privacy Policy

All employees, volunteers, parents, students, and visitors to the BCS campus and BCS events off campus must use restrooms and changing areas that align with their biological sex at birth.

# ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

#### 6.1 | Student Success

Student development within the categories of our Core Values—Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom, and Virtue—provides the evidence of student success at BCS. Typical academic grading measures only academic achievement, but the excellent student is not defined solely by numerical grades. BCS students are assessed in two primary ways. The quantitative measure of academic achievement shows a student's growth in the area of Knowledge. The qualitative measure of the other aspects of character development, captured within the core values of Faith, Wisdom and Virtue, illustrates a student's ability to apply biblical principles to all aspects of student life as we seek to shape students who are well-rounded and productive members of school culture and virtuous citizens of the kingdom of Christ.

Measures of Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom and Virtue are communicated to parents of students via progress reports, report cards, student promotion plans, written communication, informal conversations, phone calls, and scheduled parent-teacher conferences.

#### Knowledge

Knowledge is the acquisition of academic understanding. Knowledge will be measured through a wide variety of assessments including: class participation, discussion, coursework, homework, memory work, projects, and oral and written tests and quizzes. The ability to retain learned information and integrate that information with new topics of study is crucial to academic success.

The student will be expected to:

• Meet class academic assignment expectations

#### Faith

Faith in Jesus Christ is our only hope for salvation. Only God can know the hearts of our students regarding true repentance and salvation. Some indications of growing faith may include: reverence; love for God and others; participation in worship, prayer, and Bible study; scripture memory; and service to others.

The student will be expected to:

- Demonstrate reverence in word and deed
- Display the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control
- Participate in discussion, worship, and prayer
- Connect biblical principles to life and learning
- *Note*: Teachers are not evaluating a student's salvation, but merely the outward evidence of a growing faith.

#### Wisdom

Wisdom is the right application of knowledge. BCS students should grow in wisdom as they gain knowledge and learn to apply their knowledge in age-appropriate ways.

*The student will be expected to:* 

- Exhibit a teachable spirit
- Display a passion for and love of learning
- Respect and obey teachers
- Show respect and consideration for peers
- Participate responsibly in a group
- Honor conduct guidelines

# Virtue

Virtues are qualities of character that are built carefully over time as a result of habitual practices. Some of the virtues that we will seek to cultivate and evaluate include: teachability, humility, gratitude, obedience, responsibility, bravery, and perseverance.

The student will be expected to:

- Demonstrate self-control
- Work independently with diligence
- Produce neat work
- Take responsibility for work and actions
- Express ideas clearly and succinctly
- Manage time and materials well
- Persevere through difficult tasks
- Practice humility
- Celebrate accomplishment of others
- Follow directions accurately and completely
- Listen attentively
- Ask purposeful questions
- Arrive on time and attend regularly

# 6.2 | Student End of Year Awards

These End of Year awards are given to students who exemplify the Core Values of our school.

James Maxwell Award	Awarded to one student in each 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade who is excelling in their study of math and science.	
Johannes Kenler Award	Awarded to one student in each 1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade class who is excelling in their study	
Johannes Kepler Award		
G.K. Chesterton Award	of math and science. Awarded to one student in each 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade who is excelling in their study of	
G.K. Chesterton Award	the humanities.	
C.C. Louis Amend		
C.S. Lewis Award	Awarded to one student in each 1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade class who is excelling in their study of the humanities and reading.	
PE/Art/Music/Latin	Awarded in each course to a 1 <sup>st</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> student who has excelled in their study of	
Spanish/French	that subject. Latin Awards are earned by 3 <sup>rd</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> graders. Spanish and French	
Spanishrrenen	Awards are given to 9 <sup>th</sup> -12th graders.	
National Latin Exam Awards	Awarded to 6 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> grade students based upon their performance on the	
National Latin Exam Awarus		
National Marit Cabalanahin	National Latin Exam	
National Merit Scholarship	Awarded to 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify in the National Merit Program	
Virtue Awards	K-12 <sup>th</sup> grade students are recognized for the virtue they have exhibited	
Virtue Awards	throughout the year. These awards are given in homeroom class one week prior	
	to Awards Day.	
House Leadership Awards	Awarded to one male and one female student leader in 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade who have	
House Leadership / Wards	demonstrated excellence in leadership of their house	
Jim Elliot Award	Awarded to the 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade student whom the L&R School faculty selects as	
	having exemplified throughout the school year the type of self-sacrificing	
	commitment to excellence in the service of Christ that was characteristic of the	
	life of Jim Elliot	
William Tyndale Award	Awarded to the 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> grade student whom the L&R School faculty selects as	
William Tyndaie Award	having exemplified throughout the school year the type of self-sacrificing	
	commitment to excellence in the service of Christ that was characteristic of the	
	life of William Tyndale	
Augustine Award	Awarded to the 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade student whom the L&R School faculty selects as	
Augustine Award	having exemplified throughout the school year the type of self-sacrificing	
	commitment to excellence in the service of Christ that was characteristic of the	
	life of Augustine	
Discipulus Optimus &	This Latin phrase means "Excellent Student." This recognition will be awarded to	
Discipula Optima Award	students in 1st-6th Grade who demonstrated consistent, high achievement in	
	the BCS Core Values, specifically in the areas of academic growth, classroom	
	leadership, service to others, personal integrity, and spiritual fruit.	
Presidential Volunteer Service Award	Awarded to 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade students who meet the required hours of community	
Presidential volunteer service Award	service for their age division	
Athlete of the Year Award	Awarded to one male and one female athlete in 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grades who have	
	demonstrated Christian character and leadership on the field and in the	
	classroom	
AR Top Reader Award	Awarded to one student in 1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> and one student in 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> who accumulated	
	the most AR points while maintaining minimum reading comprehension	
	averages.	
Math Challenge Award	Awarded to the 1 <sup>st</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade students who reached the highest levels of the	
	Math Challenge.	

# 6.3 | Student Promotion Policy

BCS students will be evaluated on multiple criteria including work, academic grade, core values, teacher/administrator observations, and/or diagnostic testing. BCS students will be promoted to the next grade level when they have demonstrated sufficient academic and social proficiency. When a Grammar School Student earns a Not Sufficient/Weak grade designation or an Upper School student demonstrates significant academic weakness, the Teacher, and Principal will write a Student Promotion Plan. The plan will clearly identify what needs to be accomplished in order for the student to be promoted.

# 6.4 | Grammar School Grading

At BCS we strive to develop in our students a deep love of learning through the example our teachers provide, the methods we use to instruct, and the goals we set before the students. Assessment is a necessary part of education, and the type of assessment used is a powerful tool that shapes, stirs, and creates motivation in a student. Modern methods of student assessment are based upon points, percentages, and numerical grades. Traditional methods of student assessment are based upon written and verbal narrative feedback. In the Grammar School at BCS, we are returning to the traditional assessment methods. We seek to strengthen our partnership with parents and our commitment to educating the whole child by providing narrative feedback that corrects, guides, instructs, and praises the student's work. This is not an attempt to lower an academic standard or make all students feel emotionally proud of whatever level of work they can produce; rather, this is a method of grading that seeks to focus student by revealing the next step for improvement and encourages the student who struggles by giving specific goals to work toward. Narrative assessment reminds students that they have not achieved perfection, nor have they failed—there are areas in which every student needs to improve. This grading framework provides a learning environment that orients the class goals towards learning and away from test prep.

At BCS we are committed to providing well-rounded narrative feedback that provides a balanced evaluation of student growth and achievement in the areas of Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom, and Virtue. We seek to provide an excellent academic and spiritual education for students and to train them to love the learning process. We believe narrative grading is the best assessment tool to use within the Classical Christian education we provide.

#### **Progress Grading**

The narrative feedback provided regarding academic and behavior progress will be both written and verbal. Evaluation of student progress is reported to parents through written comments on work papers, FACTS gradebook comments, meetings, emails, phone calls, progress reports, report cards, and when needed, through student promotion plans. Teachers will communicate progress directly to the students by giving them verbal feedback in class, written comments on their work papers, and through individual meetings if extra help is needed. Excellent work and significant improvement will be recognized through verbal praise, written comments, report card summations, and through achievement awards given at the end of the school year. Poor student work that consistently fails to meet the academic or behavioral standard will be addressed through a written Student Promotion Plan to outline the steps needed to achieve the required standard.

- On student work papers, a combination of tools will be used to communicate an evaluation of the student's work. Students will receive check marks (√ + or √ or √ -) with occasional narrative comments. Those marks are quick summations of progress and designate: exceeds expectations / meets expectations / below expectations.
- Within the online FACTS gradebooks, teachers will post CP, C, and CM to designate check-plus, check, and checkminus in addition to narrative summaries of achievement and progress. Parents and students can view the online gradebooks by logging-in to their FACTS Family Portal.
- The check-marks are not meant to be the most important part of the grading communication. They are used to quickly and easily convey whether or not the student's work on the assignment exceeds expectations, meets expectations, or is below expectations. Teachers will provide much verbal feedback in the classroom to the students regarding how they are doing and what needs to be improved. Teachers will contact parents if an

academic weakness needs additional support. Notes and comments will be written on workpapers when needed and explanatory notes will be typed into FACTS next to assignments when specific skills need praise or reinforcement.

- Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades will receive numerical grades on work papers in mathematics. The numerical grades will be posted within the online FACTS gradebook for ease of tracking. Those numbers will provide information about the students' progress but will not be the only way achievement in mathematics is communicated to students and parents.
- Much of the work students and teachers complete during a school day is not captured on a worksheet. Teachers
  will post summative check marks and narrative comments in the FACTS gradebook to communicate achievement in
  class discussions, plays, projects, presentations, recitations, oral summaries, etc.

# **Report Cards**

Report Cards provide a summation of the student's progress at the end of each quarter. Student progress is evaluated within the skills of our Core Values: Knowledge, Faith, Wisdom and Virtue. The specific skills we measure are listed in section 6.1 of this handbook. We do not use numerical percentages to communicate achievement. Student accomplishment is summed up using the following terms:

# Knowledge (Academic subjects):

- **E / Exceptional**: The student's work is remarkable for the grade level. This is not the equivalent of an A and should be a relatively infrequent designation.
- **M / Meritorious**: The student's work is well done and meets the expectations for the grade level.
- NS / Not Sufficient: The student's work does not meet the expectations for the grade level. Students who receive a report card grade of NS (Not Sufficient) in Language Arts or Mathematics, will be required to have a written Student Promotion Plan.

# Faith, Wisdom & Virtue:

- **S / Strong**: The student's skills are remarkable for the grade level.
- **G / Growing**: The student's skills meet the expectations for the grade level.
- W / Weak: The student's skills do not meet the expectations for the grade level.

# Standardized Testing

BCS students take a standardized test each spring.

# 6.5 | Upper School Grading

Numeric grades will be given to both Logic and Rhetoric school students based upon the following grading scale. In addition, Rhetoric students' grade point average (GPA) will be calculated as follows:

Grade Average	Corresponding Letter Grade	Grade Points Earned	Weighted Grade Points Earned
90% - 100%	A-, A, A+	4.0	5.0
85% - 89%	B+	3.5	4.5
80% - 84%	В	3.0	4.0
75% - 79%	C+	2.5	3.5
70% - 74%	С	2.0	3.0
65% - 69%	D	1.0	2.0
64% and below	F	0.0	0.0

#### Weighted GPA

Upper School classes designated as honors, dual enrollment, and advanced placement will earn a weighted GPA.

# **FACTS Family Portal**

BCS utilizes the FACTS Family Portal software to enable Upper School students and parent access to grades and assignments as the Teacher posts them.

# **Report Cards**

Parents will be emailed each quarter when report cards are available for viewing and printing in the FACTS Family Portal.

# **Core Values**

Student success in the areas of Faith, Wisdom, and Virtue will be evaluated in light of our school's Core Values. Upper School teachers will communicate students' weakness and success to parents via conversations, written communication, and parent teacher conferences. This communication allows us to partner with parents to communicate non-academic strengths and areas for improvement. While the narrative will appear on the report card, there will be no impact on academic grading and GPA. Narrative feedback will not appear on final transcripts that are sent to colleges.

# **Standardized Testing**

BCS students in grades 7-11 take the PSAT in the fall, and a standardized test in the spring. Students in grades 11-12 are encouraged to take the ACT, SAT, or CLT.

#### 6.6 | Homework

BCS acknowledges that time outside of the school day is valuable to students and families and that homework assignments should be assigned purposefully and sparingly. Completing classwork, assigned homework, and studying are an integral part of a student's responsibility toward their own learning. While each Bayshore teacher works diligently each day to present information and facilitate learning, the student must take ownership of his/her own understanding.

Homework might include:

- Extra practice of a new concept or skill
- Reading and other preparation for the next class period
- Projects, papers, and presentations that require time outside of class instructional time to complete
- Incomplete classwork

The frequency of and time required for homework will vary among students and among grade levels. Students who work efficiently at school will bring home less homework. Students are encouraged to plan ahead and manage their time wisely for long-term projects or papers. If homework is assigned, it will be clearly communicated by the teacher. Students should not rely primarily on the FACTS Family Portal for homework assignments. Students are responsible for noting any changes made to homework, quiz, and test due dates during the school day that may not be immediately reflected on the FACTS Family Portal. Students are responsible for finishing incomplete classwork as directed by the teacher and turning it in the next day. No homework or special projects will be assigned over extended holidays.

# 6.7 | Late Assignments

Assignments are due upon entry into the classroom or at the time designated by the Teacher. Any assignment turned in late will receive a 10 percent deduction per day. Late work will not be accepted after 3 days, and a zero will be recorded in the gradebook. Deadlines that are missed due to an excused absence can be extended at the teacher's discretion if the procedures in sections 4.6, 4.7 and 4.8 of this handbook are followed.

#### 6.8 | Transcripts

# **Final Report Cards and Transcripts**

Final report cards and transcripts will be issued only when all tuition and fees have been paid, all books and school property have been returned, and all service hour requirements are met. The final transcript will be issued and forwarded as directed.

# **Transcript and Recommendation Letter Requests**

Students should submit a transcript request form to the Director of Student Life at least 2 weeks prior to the postmark deadline for applications, internships, and scholarships. Requests for recommendation letters from Teachers or administrators should be made at the earliest possible date allowing a minimum of two weeks prior to the postmark deadline.

# 6.9 | Graduation Requirements

All students must maintain continuous, full-time enrollment and will, in most cases, earn more than the minimum number of credits required. Credits reflect courses completed in grades 9 through 12. Some high school level courses completed during 8<sup>th</sup> grade may be included on the transcript with approval from the Principal. A student must meet the following minimum requirements to receive a BCS Diploma:

Subject	Credits	Specific Course Requirements
History	4.0	
Literature	4.0	
Mathematics	4.0	
Science	4.0	
Foreign Language	2.0	Two consecutive years of the same language
Fine Arts	1.5	
Bible and Theology	4.0	
Rhetoric	2.0	To include Junior / Senior Thesis
Electives	2.0	
Total	27.5	
Service Hours	*See Below	

#### 6.10 | Service Hours

Each BCS Rhetoric student is required to complete service hours each year. These service hours should involve unpaid volunteer work that benefits others in need, furthers the mission of the school or the church, or honors God's creation. To receive credit for service hours, these hours must be documented on service hour forms and submitted to the Director of Student Life. At least half of these service hours should be completed outside of the school. Students who transfer to BCS during high school must complete the required hours for each year they are enrolled at BCS. Students must complete the required hours for the year before receiving their final report card. Seniors must have all hours completed and service hour forms submitted by the end of third quarter. A minimum of 80 cumulative service hours must be completed as a graduation requirement.

Required Service Hours			
Freshman	20 Hours		
Sophomore	20 Hours		
Junior	20 Hours		
Senior	20 Hours		
Total	80 Hours		

#### 6.11 | Course Requests

Upper School students may make requests for foreign language or elective courses. Once elected, students cannot withdraw from or swap elective classes unless approved by the Director of Student Life.

Students in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade may propose a plan to the Director of Student Life to take a college course in place of a BCS elective. Approval will be on a case-by-case basis.

# 6.12 | Dual Enrollment

BCS offers students an opportunity to dual enroll in specifically approved courses in Upper School. The students who participate in dual enrollment will earn concurrent high school and college credits. These course offerings may change from year to year according to faculty credentials. For details, consult the Director of Student Life.

#### 6.13 | GPA Requirements for Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities

All students participating in BCS athletics or co-curricular activities must maintain a 70 in each subject and a minimum 2.5 overall unweighted GPA. Students who fall below this minimum requirement are subject to probation, a corrective action plan, or removal from the team or activity. This decision will be made by the Principal with input from the Director of Student Life, Teachers, and the Athletic Director or faculty club sponsor, and can be appealed to the Head of School. BCS Athletes must meet all other AHSAA eligibility requirements outlined in the BCS Athletic Handbook.

# **CONDUCT GUIDELINES**

# 7.1 | Discipleship and Discipline

School community members (employees, volunteers, board members, parents, and students) are expected to become familiar with and abide by the standards, rules, and policies for behavior and language outlined in this handbook. School Community members are expected to honor all model appropriate actions, speech, behavior, and conduct both on and off school campus. The use of common sense, good ethical standards, discretion, and biblical mandates will guide all who are called into community with the School in proper conduct. Failure to maintain reasonable standards is subject to discipline up to and including termination from the School community. It is expected that all members of our School community will conduct themselves in a manner consistent with biblical standards, values, and character.

Faculty and Staff will provide consistent expectations and give students opportunities to practice meeting those expectations. When a discipline issue occurs, the Faculty or Staff member will talk privately and compassionately with the student. The Faculty or Staff member will guide the student through the steps of repentance, forgiveness, and restoration. Discipline issues will be documented in FACTS Family Portal with a demerit, and students may be given consequences. Demerits are used as a method of tracking repetitive behaviors. Faculty and Staff will communicate regularly with parents about all behavior concerns.

Students will be sent to the Administrative Office for repetitive behaviors or more serious offenses. An Administrator will talk with the student and guide them through the steps of repentance, forgiveness, and restoration. The visit with the Administrator provides a time for one-on-one discipleship and should be viewed as a valuable time of shaping and training the hearts of students. When a student is sent to the Office, parents will be contacted and apprised of the details of the visit. Possible consequences may include, but are not limited to, lunch detention, restitution, building and grounds clean-up duties, written assignments, parental attendance in the classroom during school day, service hours, or suspension. Disciplinary suspensions are documented as an unexcused absence and students will not receive credit for missed assignments. The teacher will notify the student if the missed assignments must be completed (for zero credit) in order to understand the upcoming academic material. The ultimate goal of discipline and discipleship at BCS is heart transformation.

Egregious misconduct, whether in school, out of school, or online, is subject to school discipline. BCS students who engage in repetitive misconduct; sexual immorality; violence; threats; bullying; illegal drug use or possession; use of alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, and juuls; criminal acts; vandalism; harmful electronic communication; or any act in clear contradiction to scriptural commands may be required to meet together with their parents, the Principal, and the Head of School to determine the appropriate course of disciplinary action and may result in expulsion from the school.

#### 7.2 | Respect for God

• Students are expected to participate in worship, prayer, and class discussion with proper reverence. Jokes, songs, or behaviors that treat the Lord's name or character with triviality are not permitted.

#### 7.3 | Respect for Authority

- Students will obey faculty and staff promptly and respectfully without arguing or reminders.
- Students will observe all classroom rules.

#### 7.4 | Respect for Each Other

- Students will employ good manners while interacting with others.
- Students will honor God's command to love one another, be kind to one another, encourage one another, and forgive one another. Teasing, criticizing, name-calling, gossip, physical aggression and fighting are not permitted.
- Students should communicate with others in a God-honoring manner during times of conflict by abstaining from gossip and following the principles of Matthew 18.

- Students must abstain from conversation using vulgar language, obscene gestures, and inappropriate topics.
- Students will abstain from public displays of affection and maintain professional physical distance. Students should be professional in their interactions at school. Students are discouraged from forming exclusive dating relationships which disrupt unity at school.

# 7.5 | Respect for School Property

- Students will walk quietly in the hallways to show consideration to the classes in progress.
- Students must treat all of the school's materials, books, and indoor/outdoor facilities with respect and care.
- Students must use restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities only in conformity with one's biological gender.

# 7.6 | Honesty and Integrity

- Students must demonstrate honesty and integrity in all situations. Lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism and other dishonest behaviors are not permitted.
  - Lying is deliberately stating an untruth, a partial truth, or vaguely omitting pertinent details in an effort to deceive. Students will make truthful statements and give open and honest responses to questions. Any student suspected of lying will be referred to the Administrative Office and subject to disciplinary action.
  - Stealing is taking something that belongs to someone else without their freely given permission. Any student suspected of stealing will be referred to the Administrative Office and subject to disciplinary action.
  - Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized advantage. All methods of cheating are prohibited and include, but are not limited to, use of unauthorized notes or resources, copying work from another student, use of unauthorized technology tools, working together when not permitted, doing coursework for another student, verbally sharing answers, or allowing another student to copy your work. Students should hold their peers accountable for academic integrity, and report any suspicion of cheating to their Teachers. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be referred to the Administrative Office and subject to disciplinary action. Assignments completed through cheating will receive a grade of zero.
  - Plagiarism occurs when someone steals expressions from another author's composition and passes them off as their own work without proper citation. Any student suspected of plagiarizing will be referred to the Administrative Office and subject to disciplinary action. Plagiarized assignments will receive a grade of zero.

#### 7.7 | Academic Responsibility

- Students will work diligently with focus and attention.
- Students will complete assignments on time.
- Students will come to class prepared with all books, materials, and assignments.
- Students will respect the classroom as a professional environment and use correct posture and behavior.
- Students will not eat during class time.
- Students should take responsibility for their own learning by engaging actively in class, asking meaningful questions, seeking outside help when needed, and developing strong study habits.

#### 7.8 | Items to Leave at Home

- Firearms are not allowed on school property.
- BCS is a peanut-free campus. Students are not permitted to bring foods containing peanuts to school.
- Students are not allowed to chew gum during school hours.
- Teachers may require any item that becomes distracting or is a source of conflict to be left at home.

# 7.9 | Technology Policy

Any device that connects to the BCS network will be monitored. All electronic use and communication should honor God, practice appropriate personal internet safety, and respect and protect the rights of others. Inappropriate use of technology can result in limited or banned computer use, a failing grade, loss of credit, suspension, or dismissal from the school. Students should only utilize personal or school computers with Teacher permission and supervision. No instant or private messaging, social media, or games should be accessed or used during the school day. Any attempts to bypass content filters, use log-in credentials of others, infringement of copyrights, cheating, or plagiarism are considered serious misconduct and will result in an office visit. Students are not permitted to photograph or record audio and video of school classes, events and activities without administrative permission. Students are not permitted to use headphones of any type in the BCS classrooms during school hours.

# 7.10 | Cell Phone, Smart Watch, Headphones

Cell phones and smart watches are to be powered-off and stored in lockers during school hours. If a student needs to call parents during the school day, they should use the phone in the school office. If a faculty member sees or hears a cell phone or smart watch during the school day, the item will be confiscated to be picked up by the parents in the school office, and the student will be referred to the Administrative Office and subject to school disciplinary action. Cell phone and smart watch use is allowed after school hours only. Headphones of any type are not permitted to be used during school hours.

# 7.11 | Social Media Use

BCS students should honor God and others at all times inside of school and out. This extends to use of social media. Students are not permitted to create or manage any social media accounts for BCS clubs, houses, or sports teams. Students should not post anything on social media that is damaging to BCS or disrespectful to classmates, faculty, or staff. Social media activity that violates these guidelines are subject to school disciplinary action. Students should not participate in crass or unprofessional behavior on social media.

#### 7.12 | Forgotten Item Drop Off

It is the student's responsibility to arrive at school prepared for all aspects of their day. In accordance with our efforts to train BCS students to manage their time and materials responsibly, we encourage parents to avoid delivering forgotten items such as homework, gym shoes, lunches, books, etc., after the school day begins. If a parent chooses to deliver a forgotten item, it will be placed in a designated area. The office will not call into the classroom to notify the student since this is disruptive for the entire class. Students may check in with the office during a break to pick up the item.

#### 7.13 | Student Parking

Student drivers should park only in the designated student parking lot. Driving on campus is a privilege; Parking outside of the designated student parking lot or failure to practice safe and courteous driving while entering, leaving, or driving on the school campus could result in loss of privileges and disciplinary action. All student drivers must register their vehicle with the front office.

# 7.14 | Dress Code

The purpose of our uniform and dress code policy is to promote unity, modesty, and order. Uniforms lessen classroom distractions and reduce peer pressure.

Students should adhere to the following dress code guidelines:

- Proper hygiene is required.
- Hair must be neat, clean, well-groomed, and must not hang across eyes.
  - Boys' hair should be neatly trimmed and styled. Boys are not permitted to wear hair accessories of any kind. No unnatural hair colors, or other hair decorations are allowed at school.
  - Girls' hair accessories should be Bayshore colors (white, green, navy, or yellow). No unnatural hair color is allowed at school.
- Boys' facial hair must be clean shaven.

- Fingernails must be clean and neatly trimmed.
- Jewelry that is excessive or distracting is not permitted.
- Skirts and shorts should be hemmed to no more than 2 inches above the knee—no matter the body type or how the skirt or shorts are worn.
- Shirts must be tucked in throughout the school day. Undershirts must be solid white with no visible print.
- Boys are required to wear a belt.
- Body decorations, tattoos, and body piercings cannot be visible. Girls are permitted to wear modest earrings that do not cause distraction.
- Students will wear BCS uniforms as outlined in the Uniform Guideline document posted on the school website.
- Only BCS uniform outerwear is allowed to be worn with the school uniforms.
- On Spirit Dress Days, students may wear the current BCS spirit shirt or in-season sports shirt with permission from the Principal with modest jeans free of holes or shorts no less than 2 inches above the knee. Students may wear any of the navy BCS uniform outerwear or outerwear sold by the Athletic or Marketing departments of BCS (this includes the BCS hoodies and sweatshirts).
- Other out of uniform days (e.g. Homecoming Spirit Week or presentation attire) should adhere to the spirit and the intent of the spirit dress guideline. Costumes for presentations in Upper School should be limited to the class period of the presentation. Students should return to uniform dress following the presentation.
- 4th-8th grade students must wear a P.E. uniform and athletic shoes for P.E. class.
- Semi-formal and formal event attire should be modest and event-appropriate. Boys should wear collared shirts, dress pants, ties, belts and dress shoes. Girls should wear dresses that modestly cover the chest, torso, and back, that are not excessively tight, and that are not shorter than two inches above the knee with dress shoes. Students will be sent home if event attire is not appropriate.

#### **Uniform Infractions**

If a student is not in proper uniform, parents may be asked to bring proper items to school, or students may be sent home. In some cases, uniform items may be replaced by the school and billed to the parent. Repeated uniform infractions may be considered intentional disobedience and subject to disciplinary action.

#### **Uniform Requirements**

Uniforms must be purchased at Zoghby's Uniform Store using the uniform guidelines available on the BCS website.