



**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 almost 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 by 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.

## 1.5 | Clarifying Statements

### Reverence

In all areas of instruction, proper respect and consideration of God's character will be given 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. We believe that God's design for marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. Homosexual, Bisexual, Transgender, and other behavior outside of God's design is not acceptable from BCS students and staff.

### Secondary Doctrine

Secondary or divisive doctrines and issues will not be presented as primary doctrine. When secondary doctrines arise, students will be encouraged to lean on parents for guidance in these areas. We seek to promote "unity in essentials" (primary doctrine), "liberty in non-essentials" (secondary doctrine) and "in all things charity" (Christian love toward others).

## 1.6 | 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.

## 1.7 | 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 to draw them to Christ and advance 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 united academic Knowledge and the gift of Christian Faith.

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 9:10*

### Virtue

We are committed to the application of Knowledge, Faith, and Wisdom through Virtuous behavior that is rooted in the love of God and our neighbor.

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

## 1.8 | 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 <https://www.bayshorechristian.org> 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, Masters 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.  
<https://www.bayshorechristian.org>
- The FACTS Family Portal gives student and parent access to grades and assignments as the teacher posts them.  
<https://factsmgt.com>
- 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. <https://www.bayshorechristian.org>
  - 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.

### 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.

## **ADMISSIONS**

### **3.1 | Non-Discrimination Policy**

Bayshore Christian School welcomes students of any race, color, sex, 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:

- Desire a Christian and Classical education for their child
- Affirm the Mission, Statement of Faith, and Clarifying Statements of the school in the Parent and Student Handbook
- Provide a parent profession of faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior
- 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 | Exceptional Needs Policy**

Students with a severe disability or exceptionality 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 exceptionality 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 exceptionality 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.

### **Exceptional Needs Services**

BCS partners with several private sector service providers to help meet the mild disability and exceptional needs of BCS students. BCS Teachers or Principals may recommend services to parents when special educational needs are suspected. When recommended, parents may choose to obtain academic assistance off-site or contact a BCS approved on-site service provider. Services provided on-site must be scheduled by the parent in coordination with the Teacher's classroom schedule. Financial fees for on-site services are paid directly to the service provider and are the sole responsibility of parents.

### **3.4 | Enrollment Priority**

BCS is nearing capacity and is full in many grade levels. Enrollment priority will be given to highly qualified applicants as follows:

1. Returning students during the reenrollment period
2. Siblings of current students and children of staff members
3. Children enrolled in BCS preschool and members of ESPC
4. General public

### **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 or in 12 monthly installments. See the website for the tuition rates by grade level.

### **New 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 registration and activity fee.

### **Continuous Enrollment**

Once enrolled in BCS, a student is continuously enrolled for successive school years. Parents must email the school by January 15th of a school year to withdraw from the next academic year.

### **Incidental Fees**

Preschool and Kindergarten supply fee, Upper School literature course packs, overnight field trips, lunch orders, Masters Center classes, Before and After Care, athletic fees, club fees, senior fees, and other incidental fees are not included in the tuition and registration fees and will be billed separately through the FACTS autopay account.

### **Sibling Discount**

A tuition discount is offered for siblings enrolled in K-12 grade. Full tuition will be charged for the student attending the highest-grade level, and the discount will be applied to siblings.

## 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 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. The financial aid application is located online in the FACTS Family Portal.

## Withdrawal After Enrollment

By signing and submitting the enrollment form, parents agree to all financial terms and obligations of the school for the school year. Withdrawal from Bayshore Christian School at any time after enrollment will require payment of 50% of the remaining balance. Withdrawal forms must be completed by a custodial parent. Records will not be released until all financial obligations are met and all school property returned.

## 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-12 Afternoon Carline	3:00 - 3:30 p.m.
After Care	3:00 - 5:30 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 and billed for a 1-day drop in.

**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 re-opening 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**

Following any absence, students should bring a note from a doctor or their parents to the front office. Absences due to illness or extenuating circumstances will be excused.

#### **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**

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 will have a grace period equal to the number of days absent to complete and turn in work. 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 according to the grace period guideline. 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 Academic Guidance Counselor or Principal 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 <https://bayshorechristian.org>.

### 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.

## **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 formal report cards, 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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **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.

### **6.2 | 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 earns a subject average less than 65%, the parents, Teacher, and Principal will meet to create a Student Promotion Plan. The plan will clearly identify what needs to be accomplished in order for the student to be promoted.

### **6.3 | Grammar School Grading**

Students, particularly young students, need correction, guidance, and instruction rather than a quantitative designation on their work. This helps them focus on their actual work, to mature as they learn new habits and skills, and to consider how they can improve.

Narrative feedback has been part of historical classical education, as it is more about a student’s formation as a person than about measuring what he or she knows. At BCS, we want to give parents rich, qualitative feedback. This strengthens our partnership, and helps students to place their focus on learning, not on a quantitative mark alone.

## Progress Grading

Evaluation of student progress is reported to parents with a combination of non-numeric designations and narrative feedback. Parents are encouraged to review returned work with their children and then to discuss Teacher feedback and ways to improve. Daily and weekly grades will not be posted in RenWeb for Grammar School Students. Teachers will communicate student progress through conversation over phone and in-person, via email, and by sending home narrative feedback on completed work.

- A **check mark** on the work signifies that the work meets or exceeds the expectations for progress in their skills and knowledge.
- A **check-minus** signifies that the work does not meet the expectations for some reason. The comments and corrections should indicate the reason.

## Report Cards

Although report cards will be issued, conversations during parent-Teacher conferences and/or phone calls are the most valuable means of reporting academic achievement, classroom interactions, and need for improvement. Parents will be emailed each quarter when report cards are available for viewing and printing in the FACTS Family Portal.

### 3rd-6th Grade Academic Report Card Categories:

In lieu of numeric grades, BCS uses the following assessments on 3rd - 6th Grade quarterly report cards:

- **E/Exceptional:** This work is truly remarkable for the grade level. This is not the equivalent of an A and should be a relatively infrequent designation.
- **M/Meritorious:** This work deserves praise for being well done and meeting the expectations for the grade level. This ought to be the majority of grades, and in many classes will be given to every student.
- **NS/Not Sufficient:** This student's work does not meet the expectations for the grade level and does not align with the trajectory needed to satisfy the requirements for promotion to the next grade level. Students in grades 3-6 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.

### K-2nd Grade Academic Report Card Categories:

In lieu of numeric grades, BCS uses the following assessments on K-2nd Grade quarterly report cards:

- **Consistently:** This work meets expectations for the grade level.
- **Developing:** This work is progressing but not yet achieving the grade-level standard. This designation is given to content areas that are new to the students and show that the teacher is continuing to instruct students; therefore, the student is on an appropriate academic trajectory. This designation is also given to students who are showing weakness in the particular content area. Teachers will communicate with parents to notify them of content areas or behavior areas of concern that will need to be addressed outside the classroom.

### Core Values Report Card Categories:

In lieu of numeric grades, BCS uses the following assessments on K-6th Grade quarterly report cards:

- **S/Strong:** This area is a noted strength of the student.
- **G/Growing:** The student shows a desire to practice skills in this area and is making progress in consistency.
- **W/Weak:** The student's lack of consistency in this area is a hindrance to his or her own progress or to classmates' progress.

## Standardized Testing

BCS students in grades 3-6 take the CTP (published by Education Records Bureau) each spring.

## 6.4 | 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%	B	3.0	4.0
75% - 79%	C+	2.5	3.5
70% - 74%	C	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 7-8 take the CTP (published by Education Records Bureau) each spring. Students in grades 9-11 take the PSAT in the fall. Students in grades 11-12 will take the ACT and/or SAT and will be advised by the BCS Academic Counselor.

## 6.5 | Homework

BCS acknowledges that time outside of the school day is valuable to you and your families and that homework assignments should be assigned purposefully. Completing homework assignments 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.

Teachers may assign homework for the following reasons:

- 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 assignments due to mismanagement of class time

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 look ahead and manage their time

wisely for long-term projects or papers. If homework is assigned, it will be posted on the FACTS Family Portal. Students should not rely primarily on the 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. No homework or special projects will be assigned over extended holidays.

### 6.6 | Late Assignments

Homework 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.

### 6.7 | 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 Academic Guidance Counselor 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.

### 6.8 | 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	
English	4.0	
Mathematics	4.0	
Science	4.0	
Foreign Language	2.0	2 consecutive levels
Fine Arts	1.5	
Bible and Theology	4.0	
Rhetoric	2.0	To include Senior Thesis
Electives	2.0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.5</b>	
Service Hours	*See Below	

### 6.9 | 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 by the end of third quarter and submitted to the Academic Guidance Counselor. 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. A minimum of 80 cumulative service hours must be completed as a graduation requirement.

<b>Required Service Hours</b>	
Freshman	20 Hours
Sophomore	20 Hours
Junior	20 Hours
Senior	20 Hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>80 Hours</b>

### **6.10 | 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 Academic Guidance Counselor.

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

### **6.11 | 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 Academic Guidance Counselor.

### **6.12 | 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 Academic Guidance Counselor, 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**

BCS Students should cooperate with and embrace basic Christian standards of behavior and conversation both on and off campus. Students will be called to adhere to the standards set forth in the Parent and Student Handbook.

Students are expected to maintain virtuous and orderly conduct. 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. 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. Consequences for serious misconduct may include but are not limited to detention, written assignments, service hours, suspension, or immediate and permanent dismissal 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.

### **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.

- o 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**

- Guns and knives 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 while wearing BCS attire.

### **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.

### **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, and combed.
  - 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.
- Shirts must be tucked in throughout the school day. Undershirts must be solid white with no visible print.
- Boys are required to wear a black belt.
- Body decorations, tattoos, and body piercings cannot be visible. Girls are permitted to wear modest earrings that do not cause distraction.
- Dress Uniform is required for Chapel and other special occasions.
- Only BCS uniform outerwear is allowed.
- 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, in the resource documents section of FACTS Family Portal, or at Zoghby's Uniform Store.