

Veritas School Discipline Policy

The teachers and the administrator will determine the kind and amount of discipline. Discipline will be administered in light of the student's problem and attitude. All discipline will be based on biblical principles, e.g., restitution, reconciliation, asking forgiveness (public and private), swift punishment, restoration of fellowship, no lingering attitudes, etc. The vast majority of discipline problems are to be dealt with at the classroom level. Love and forgiveness will be an integral part of the discipline of a student.

Office Visits

There are five basic behaviors that will automatically necessitate discipline from an administrator (versus the teacher). Those behaviors are:

1. Disrespect shown to any staff member. The staff member will be the judge of whether or not disrespect has been shown;
2. Dishonesty in any situation while at the school, including lying, cheating, and stealing;
3. Rebellion, e.g., outright disobedience in response to instructions;
4. Fighting, e.g., striking in anger with the intention to harm the other student(s); and
5. Obscene, vulgar or profane language, as well as taking the name of the Lord in vain.

During the visit with the administrator, the administrator will determine the nature of the discipline. The possible punishments include restitution, janitorial work, parental attendance during the school day with their student, or other measures consistent with biblical guidelines which may be appropriate. If, for any of the above or other reasons, a student receives discipline from an administrator, the following accounting will be observed (within either semester of the school year):

1. The first two times a student is sent to the administrator for discipline the student's parents will be contacted and given details of the visit. The parents' assistance and support in averting further problems will be sought.
2. A meeting will follow the third visit with the student's parents and the assistant headmaster.
3. Should the student require a fourth visit, a two-day suspension will be imposed on the student.
4. If a fifth incident occurs, the student will be expelled from the school.

Expulsion

The Veritas School Board realizes that expelling a student from school is a very serious matter and should always be carefully dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Forgiveness and restitution are fundamental to our total discipline policy. However, should a student and his parents not be able to eliminate behavioral problems before a fifth administrative visit, the student will be expelled.

Serious Misconduct

Should a student commit an act with such serious consequences that the administrator deems it necessary, the discipline process may be by-passed and suspension or expulsion imposed immediately. Examples of such serious misconduct could include: acts endangering the lives of other students or staff members, gross violence/vandalism to the school or church facilities, violations of civil law, or any act in clear contradiction of scriptural commands. Students may be subject to school discipline for serious misconduct that occurs after school hours.

Readmittance

Should the expelled student desire to be readmitted to Veritas School at a later date, the school board, or its delegated committee, will make a decision based on the student's attitude and circumstances at the time of the reapplication.

Basic School Rules

The following list of school rules are those essential policies that we require all our students to be aware of and adhere to:

1. Students are expected to cooperate with basic Christian standards of behavior and conversation.
2. There should be no talking back or arguing with teachers or staff. Prompt and cheerful obedience is expected. Requests from the teacher should not have to be repeated.
3. No chewing gum, electrical music devices, guns, or knives are allowed on the school grounds.
4. Cell phones are not to be used on campus. Students must keep cell phones put away in their bins or backpacks. Cell phones may be taken by a teacher until the end of the day if used. Repeated offenses will become a disciplinary issue.
5. Students are expected to be aware of, and avoid, the off-limits areas of the buildings or grounds.
6. Students are expected to treat all of the school's materials and the church's facilities with respect and care; this includes all textbooks distributed to the students (students will be charged for lost or damaged textbooks).
7. Students should be aware that their behavior while wearing Veritas School uniforms reflects upon the school. They should act in such a way as to not bring the school into disrepute in the community.
8. Students are not to run or make noise while on walkways, but to walk and talk quietly. Violators will be sent back to class and lose a recess period. Teachers are to escort their classes to assemblies and other class functions.
9. Teachers are to dismiss their classes to recess one row at a time. Students are not to run back to the building after recess but, rather, are to walk.
10. Students who drive to school need to park in the church parking lot as close to the College Street end of the lot as possible in order to keep spots open for parents. Student drivers must not turn around in neighborhood driveways, and must be careful to follow school traffic flow rules.