

Section 6 Behavior Expectations

6.1 General Expectations

Parents are the primary disciplinarians. The school community strives to develop a deep sense of respect and personal responsibility in each individual student. The school will enforce a code of behavior to promote a safe and secure learning environment. NLR Catholic Academy is very proud of the self-discipline demonstrated by our students. The following statements are descriptions of the self-discipline expected at NLR Catholic Academy.

- Students are expected to maintain a Christian learning environment at all times.
- Students are expected to model Christian behavior at all times.
- Students are expected to respect others.
- Students are to adhere to the uniform policy, including overall appearance.
- Students are expected to refrain from chewing gum on the school premises.
- Students are expected to obey authority figures, especially their classroom teachers.
- Students are expected to assume responsibility for their education. Therefore they should complete assignments and have the appropriate school supplies at all times.

6.2 Discipline Procedures

The main purpose of discipline is to learn self-discipline and to guarantee an educational environment. The school is a community and responsible for educating those children who attend. Therefore, it must establish and enforce guidelines and procedures that provide an atmosphere where learning can take place. When corrective measures are needed, the classroom teacher, acting in the absence of the parents, shall strive to use constructive and positive measures. Emphasis is placed on positive values rather than punishment.

Corporal punishment will never be used as a means of student control, but the teacher and/or principal will deal with appropriate punishment. For most students, simple corrective action will result in the appropriate change. Some disciplinary options may include, but not limited to:

- Talk to the student in private.
- Deny privileges to misbehaving students
- Inform parents/guardians of the infraction.
- Detention Hall (Grades 3-8)
- Suspension
- Expulsion

Individual circumstances and student needs will determine which method a teacher/principal will employ with the focus upon improvement of the student's behavior and enhancement of learning.

No student may continually engage in disruptive behavior or negative conduct which would: (1) significantly affect their right of personnel to carry on their function in the school, or (2) affect the rights of other students to learn in an appropriately controlled educational environment. If a student violates this policy, he or she may be subject to sanctions including possible expulsion. The ultimate responsibility for a student's behavior rest with the student and his/her parents. With the advice and knowledge of the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, NLR Catholic academy reserves the rights to exclude from school, through expulsion or denial of reenrollment, any student who, because of his/her violation of the rules and policies of this school, is considered by the administrator and the pastor as deserving of this action. Any involvement, activity, or possession related to drugs, alcohol, firearms, weapons, explosives, or threats shall be considered serious enough to warrant immediate expulsion, if the administrator and pastor so determine. For serious offenses, as determined by the administrator or pastor, the police will also be notified.

6.3 Suspension

Suspension is the temporary expulsion of a student from school for disciplinary reasons. Students may be suspended by the administrator for serious reason for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) days. The administrator will notify, in writing, the student and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) the reason of suspension, the time of suspension, and the requirements for reinstatement.

6.4 Expulsion

Expulsion is the permanent dismissal of a student from school. Expulsion from school will be the decision of the administrator in consultation with the pastor. A written report containing the reason(s) for the expulsion will be sent to the student's parent/guardian and to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

6.5 Disorderly Conduct

All students attending North Little Rock Catholic Academy will be held responsible for their conduct in school, on the grounds, or at any school activity. Disorderly conduct may include but not limited to:

- Fighting
- Defiance of faculty, staff , or authorized personnel
- Cruelty to other students (verbal or physical)
- Willful destruction/defacing of school property
- Theft
- Cheating
- Drugs and/or alcohol
- Consistent lack of cooperation both inside and outside the classroom
- Leaving the school campus
- Profanity, verbal abuse, obscene gestures or pictures
- Any other offense deemed disorderly and not conducive to good order and discipline

The administration reserves the right to impose appropriate consequences, which are warranted for improper behavior or actions by students on or off campus. The administration reserves the right to dismiss a student when the attitude or behavior of the student is judged to be contradictory or harmful to the atmosphere and values of North Little Rock Catholic Academy.

6.6 Due Process

Every student is entitled to due process in every instance of disciplinary action for which the student may be subjected to penalties of suspension or expulsion. Due process is afforded to students in disciplinary cases of such magnitude such as:

- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Statements removed from student's records
- Clearing one's reputation

The due process rights of students and parents are as follows:

- Prior to any suspension, the administrator shall advise the student in question of the particular misconduct they are accused of as well as the basis for such accusations.
- The student shall be given the opportunity to explain their version of the facts to the administrator.
- Written notice of suspension and the reason of suspension will be given to the parents of the students.
- Parents/legal guardians of a suspended student shall have the right to appeal to the pastor of North Little Rock Catholic Academy.

6.7 Alcohol/Drug Policy

The possession, use or distribution of illegal, prescription, or over-the-counter drugs by anyone, or alcoholic beverages by students is not permitted in the school, on the school grounds, or at any school function. A teacher is required by law to report to school authorities any incident of alcohol or drug abuse. Not to report such an incident is against the law (AR Statute 80-1917)

Students who have drugs or alcohol in their possession, on school grounds or at any school function, regardless of the time of day, will immediately be turned over to police.

It will be the responsibility of the police to notify the parents/guardians of the student. This will result in immediate suspension.

A return to school will be contingent upon the student being actively involved in professional counseling and/or therapy if chemical dependency is evident. Any additional offense will result in immediate expulsion.

When a student is involved in the distribution of alcohol or drugs to other students, whether for financial gain or not, he/she will automatically be expelled from school. The distribution of drugs in the State of Arkansas is a felony.

6.8 Property Damage

Malicious and intentional damage to school property should be promptly reported. Students involved will face possible suspension or expulsion and the parent/guardian will be responsible to pay for damage. In the case of accidental damage of school property, the person(s) responsible for the damage should be promptly report the incident and be responsible for repair costs.

6.9 Playground Supervision

All recess periods and outside activities are under the supervision of a teacher or designee. **Recess is a privilege and not a right.** A written note from the parents must be received in the school office if a child is unable to go outside for health reasons. Any student who can not follow the directions of the duty teacher will have their recess privileges removed for a specific amount of time. Students will not enter the school building during recess without the permission of the duty teacher.

6.10 Leaving School Premises

No student may leave the school premises during the school day or dismiss themselves from school-sponsored functions and events without the expressed permission of the administrator. Any student who violates this rule will be subject to disciplinary action.

6.11 Classroom Order

Classroom rules are established to insure a positive learning environment. Each teacher has the right to set up rules to promote good order in each classroom. Students are to acquaint themselves with the rules in each classroom. Classroom rules will be clearly posted in each room.

6.12 Detention Hall

Students assigned to detention hall (D-Hall) for disciplinary purposes will be required to serve D-Hall at the next session. Detention hall sessions are held on Wednesdays from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. for Grades 6th-8th, and from 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. for Grades 3rd - 5th. Students **MUST** attend the session for the full hour. **NO EXCEPTIONS** will be given as to the time and date. Failure to attend D-Hall will result in another D-Hall being assigned, and missed recess until the missed D-Hall is served.

Parents will be provided with written notification as to the date and time that the students must attend Detention.