

XXI SAINT ANSELM CATHOLIC SCHOOL CODE OF CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

Each of us has a special place in God's plan of creation. We are created to bring Jesus' gospel message of love, peace, and hope to all. Jesus calls us to be His disciples, His followers. A disciple tries to do what is "right" even when doing what is "right" is difficult or unpopular.

The principles of this code depend upon the partnership and support of home and school. The administration and faculty of Saint Anselm School recognize parents as primary role models and educators for their children. As professional educators, our ministry is to build on the foundation begun in the home. Together, as a community of faith, we work to proclaim the gospel message of Jesus Christ while striving to live this message daily.

A student's development of desirable social attitudes and practices as well as a sense of personal responsibility for his/her actions is as much a part of education as excellence in academic areas. Therefore, the administration, faculty, and staff of Saint Anselm School believe that it is our responsibility as educators to correct a student for any violation of regulations or lack of academic cooperation. The full cooperation between parents and teachers and the mutual respect for regulations help to develop in the student a sense of security which is essential to his/her psychological and spiritual growth.

When a parent or student does not understand the action taken in correcting that student, he/she should contact the teacher who gave the correction.

The purpose of discipline in Saint Anselm School is to bring about the self-discipline of each individual and of the Catholic school community as a whole so that their actions promote the Christian development of each member, and thereby enhance the community. Discipline ought to provide for an awareness of spiritual values, thus bringing the student to a realization of one's ultimate end.

Discipline in a Christian, Catholic educational community is part of a teaching/learning process; therefore, it is the responsibility of the school to attempt to provide each student with moral guidelines and leadership.

Actions by an individual that deter Christian development are considered by the administration and faculty of Saint Anselm School to be injurious to the well being of both the individual and the community. An individual demonstrating socially or morally undesirable behavior is in need of specific educational experiences which the school must attempt to provide. In addition, the school must minimize the threat such actions present to the community, and, when feasible, attempt to educate the school community at large. All disciplinary actions must strive for an optimum balance between the welfare of the student and that of the community.

Saint Anselm School strives to reflect Christian ideals that it desires to instill in its students. It demonstrates its acceptance of the dignity of each individual by according him/her just treatment, consideration, and respect. In this way, the school attempts to foster the student's respect for himself/herself and the other members of the school community.

17.

Corporal punishment is strictly forbidden in Saint Anselm School and in all Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Even in the event of parental permission for such action, it is not permitted in any situation. Corporal punishment shall be defined as any punishment which in any way physically abuses a child.

It must be noted that this is state law.

However, within the scope of his/her employment, a teacher may use and apply such amounts of force as is reasonable and necessary:

1. to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others;
2. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object upon the person or within the control of the student;
3. for the purpose of self-defense; and
4. for the protection of persons and property.

Such acts shall not be construed to constitute corporal punishment.

EXPECTATIONS

SELF-CONTROL

Saint Paul tells us that the Holy Spirit lives in us so we use our bodies for God's glory. (1 Cor 6:18-20) Part of God's plan for us is that we value and care for the life that He has given us, and that we value the lives of others as well. To create an orderly environment, the following rules are set forth:

Rules for Safety

Upon arrival at school in the morning, students enter the building and walk to their classrooms.
Students walk when traveling throughout the school building and when using stairs.
When the bell that signals the end of lunch rings, students will walk in silence to their assigned lines.
During a fire drill, students exit and reenter the building in silence and in an orderly manner.
Students must have the permission of a faculty member to reenter the building after school has been dismissed.
When school is dismissed, students go directly to the appropriate location (home, etc.) as assigned by parents/guardians.
Unless their usual method for returning home at dismissal is walking, when students are assigned detention, parents must provide transportation for students at the end of the detention. Detention notice is given in advance so provision for transportation may be made.
Bicycles must be walked while on school property.
Bicycles are to be parked in front of the annex building and locked.
Bicycles are for one rider only.
Students in grades PK3-6 may not ride bicycles to school.
Students must remain in the designated area on the school grounds at all times during the school day.
Students may not be truant.
Students must refrain from throwing snowballs on or near school property.
Students must refrain from using, selling, or bringing any items that pose a danger onto the school premises. These items include, but are not limited to, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, weapons, and pornographic materials.
Students cross the street only where a crossing guard is present, or a teacher is available to help cross.
Students who remain after school for extracurricular activities must have parental permission to do so.
Extracurricular activities (clubs, student council, etc.) are provided as social and learning experiences.
The administration reserves the right to prohibit students who exhibit inappropriate behavior from attending extracurricular activities.

Rules for Maintaining a Learning Atmosphere

Students keep silence at the times and places designated throughout the school day. Times of silence include, but are not limited to, school liturgies, morning and afternoon entrance and dismissal periods, library periods, independent working periods, and assembly programs. Places of silence include, but are not limited to, church, corridors especially during change of class, stairways, classrooms, and the school yard after the bell has rung.
Students arrive at school and to class on time.
Students raise their hands and wait to be acknowledged before speaking in class.
Students refrain from disturbing a student or teacher by unnecessary talking or noise during school hours.

18.

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

Jesus tells us that we should "accept others as He has accepted us." (Rom 15:7) We will get along better with some people than with others. As students who are disciples of Jesus, we show by our words and actions that we respect all persons. An atmosphere of respect will be present in our school when the following rules are followed:

Students uphold the good name, character, and reputation that is part of each member of Saint Anselm School community.
Students refrain from speaking, writing, or gesturing obscenities.
Students refrain from disrespectful attitude toward authority.
Students settle conflicts using nonviolent means rather than physical force.
Students seek permission to use or handle the possessions of any student or faculty member of Saint Anselm School

Students refrain from using words or actions that abuse the dignity or rights of any member of the school community. These include, but are not limited to, teasing, name calling, threatening, ridiculing, physically challenging, and laughing at another's mistake.

Students respect the property and person of all students, teachers, and the parish. In the event that property is damaged, destroyed, or broken, the parents of the student are responsible to pay for the replacement or repair of the property.

Students are responsible to answer all persons (administrators, teachers, adult volunteers, guests, students) in a tone of voice and with a choice of words that are respectful and dignified.

Students show good manners and proper etiquette throughout the school day and in extracurricular activities.

SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

God has given us the ability to learn and to bring about good in our own small part of the world. We read in Paul's letter to the Romans that "while we live, we are responsible to the Lord" to use these gifts to the best of our ability. Responsibility can be learned and we expect that as students progress through school, they will grow in their acceptance of the following responsibilities they have as Catholic, Christian students.

Academic Responsibility

Students are responsible to complete all written class work in its entirety, neatly, and carefully.

Students are responsible to complete all homework in its entirety, neatly, and carefully. Homework is not confined to just written assignments, but also may take any of the following forms: work not completed in class, reading assignments, study and review assignments, and/or short or long term projects or reports.

Students are responsible to be prepared for class by having all the supplies that are needed to perform the day's work.

Students are responsible to ask for and complete all work that was missed due to absence from school or class.

Parents/guardians may request homework and class work by leaving a message on the absentee line when they call in to report the child absent. **Homework and class work for students who have been absent for three or more consecutive days may be picked up between 2 PM and 3 PM in the main office.**

Students are responsible to participate actively in class by contributing to discussion, asking questions, listening to the teacher, and completing assigned tasks.

Students are responsible to keep a homework assignment book in which all assignments are copied.

Students are responsible to deliver school communications to parents/guardians and to return communications on time.

Students are responsible to keep copybooks and workbooks neat, legible, and up-to-date. These books should reflect the appropriate appearance for students of the grade and age level.

Students are responsible to have all tests, detention slips, interim reports, notes to parents/guardians, assessment, etc. signed by parents/guardians and returned to the appropriate teacher.

Christian Responsibility

Students are responsible to participate in school liturgies by singing, praying, and showing a reverent and respectful attitude.

Students are responsible to keep the building and grounds clean and to complete school and class charges.

Students are responsible to show good example to the school community by their words and actions.

Students are expected to act appropriately at social functions and during class trips.

SPIRIT OF COOPERATION

Each day we come together as a community of faith to live and learn as disciples of Jesus. When each member of the community works together, our faith community can become stronger and more responsive in love and peace. Students recognize that the administration, teachers, substitute teachers, staff, and adult volunteers have the authority to correct them if their behavior warrants correction.

Students are expected to show respect and a proper attitude when a correction is given.

Students are expected to do what is requested of them without complaint.

RESPECT FOR PROPERTY

The Book of Genesis tells us that when God created the world, He looked at all He made and saw that it was good. He told man and woman to care for the earth and all that is part of it. Respect for God's creation is a responsibility that we all share. Throughout the school year, it is expected that respect for property will be shown in the following manner.

School Property

Students must refrain from writing on or damaging school property.

Students use proper receptacles to dispose of trash.

Students refrain from taking or using property that does not belong to them.

Students must use school facilities and equipment properly and carefully.

Students use a book bag to carry books.

Students keep all textbooks and workbooks in clean covers and free from all unnecessary writing at all time.

Individual Property

Students refrain from copying any academic work from other students.

Students refrain from taking or using the property of other members of the school community without asking permission to do so.

Students are responsible to replace the property of others when taken without permission.

RESPECT FOR RULES

In the gospel, we read that "anyone who obeys the law and teaches others to do the same will be great in the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:19) Laws, or rules, are necessary whenever a group comes together. Rules are a way of letting each person of the group know what is expected of him/her so the group can work well together. The following rules are those that will allow this cooperation to exist at our school.

School Rules

Students eat only at the times (lunch/break) and places (classroom/lunchroom) stated for that purpose.

In the lunchroom, students are expected to obey the rules established for proper procedure and conduct and to respect adult volunteers. Students will speak and be dismissed quietly. Students are to remain seated, refrain from throwing food, trash, or other items, and clean their places at the table.

In the school yard during recess, students are expected to stay in their designated areas of play, treat others with respect in the course of fair play, respect adult volunteers, and refrain from horseplay or rough activities.

Students are not permitted to chew gum at any time on school property.

Students must adhere to the dress code as stated in the school handbook.

In the school yard after lunch, students remain in the area of the yard assigned to each grade. When the bell rings, students are to walk in silence to their assigned lines.

At assembly programs, students enter and exit the assembly in silence and refrain from speaking to or disturbing others while the assembly is in progress. Students are expected to applaud appropriately and be a courteous audience.

Class Rules

Students must adhere to all classroom rules that have been established by the teacher of that class.