

August 10, 2017

Escambia Christian Middle School Discipline Policy

This Discipline Policy solely pertains to our Middle School. Parents and Guardians, please contact your child's teacher or me with questions or recommendations for improvement.

Discipline is the overall condition of order and control created by love, training, restraint and example. A disciplined environment is needed both in the home and in the school setting in order to develop desirable characteristics of obedience, respect, kindness, understanding and love. The word discipline comes from the root word meaning learner or "disciple." Discipline should always be a learning experience for a child. There must be a balance of love and control to create an environment in which the child understands what is expected, and knows the limits and consequences if he or she chooses to disobey.

Discipline is:

1. A sign of love and concern by those in authority.
2. A path to provide an environment that is conducive to learning.
3. A method of providing for each student's safety and protection.
4. A means of developing a child's sense of responsibility.

Correction:

ECS Middle School teachers and staff shall use these measures to correct a student's behavior:

1. Verbal Correction – instructing the child as to what is expected and offering suggestions.
2. Demerits – the following minor infractions result in one (1) demerit: class disturbance, tardiness, lack of completed homework, and lack of preparation for class (includes not bringing book, paper, pen or pencil). *The homeroom teachers keep records of demerits earned each marking period.
3. Parent contact – You will be notified (phone call, written communication, or parent/teacher conference at the school) when your child receives his/her 5th demerit. We hope that parents will help their children to behave in a way that will result in no additional demerits.
4. Suspensions – If a student accumulates ten (10) demerits he/she will receive a one-day suspension from school. A second suspension for 10 demerits in the same grading period will result in referral to the Principal and Formal Probation.

Instruction:

Teachers shall instruct students concerning the rules and regulations they are expected to obey, review these rules regularly so that each student fully understands what is required, and post classroom rules for students to read. Students shall be counseled privately when their behavior is inappropriate and parents may be notified if deemed necessary by the teacher.

Definitions:

1. Class Disturbance: Any action by a student that causes the disruption of instruction, study or class work (class assignments, tests, quizzes, etc.).
2. Tardy: Not being seated in their assigned seat with the required materials for that class, and ready to start class work when the tardy bell starts ringing.
3. Lack of preparation: Unprepared for class activity (includes lack of paper, pencils, book, notebook, homework, signed papers, etc.).
4. Dress code violation: Failure to comply with ECS Dress Code.
5. Breach of Moral conduct: Profanity, vulgarity, sexual harassment and dishonesty.
6. Sexual harassment: Touching inappropriately (physical); Sexually explicit language, discussions of sexual activity (verbal).

School Expectations:

1. Because of our concern for the worth and dignity of persons, each student of the school is expected to be sensitive to special needs existing in our school and in society. Discrimination against others on the basis of race, national origin, sex or handicap is not acceptable.
2. Any kind of demeaning gesture, threat of violence, or physical attack directed toward another person will not be tolerated.
3. Consideration for others and standards of good taste are important; therefore, all activities should be limited by this principle.
4. Because a clean building provides a better atmosphere for work, students should accept responsibility for keeping the building and surrounding grounds as neat as possible. Proper care must also be taken of all school equipment and furniture. Vandalism of property is unacceptable. Chewing of gum is not permitted on school grounds.
5. Radios, recording devices, electronic games, cell phones, and cameras may not be brought to school unless needed for a specific assignment with permission granted from the teacher.
6. Students should conduct themselves in an orderly manner while moving between classrooms. Students are expected to walk rather than run.
7. Social relationships should manifest good taste. Inappropriate public displays of affection (holding hands, arms around each other, kissing, etc.) will not be permitted. This is known as the "*HANDS OFF POLICY.*" Sexual promiscuity is not acceptable.
8. Escambia Christian School recognizes the danger to one's physical and psychological well being in the use of certain products. Therefore, students are to refrain from using tobacco in any form, alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs.

Warning:

The briefing on this E.C.S. Middle School Discipline Policy (given by each student's Homeroom teacher) and providing each student with a copy of this discipline policy letter constitute the students' warning for **ALL** violations.

Classroom Behavior:

Each student's attitude and language should show respect and consideration for his/her teachers and classmates. Conduct should be pleasing and courteous. Each student should be prompt and prepared by having all the materials needed for each day. Classroom teachers will inform students about specific classroom expectations concerning behavior. These expectations are subject to approval by the principal.

Contraband:

Since school is a place where learning takes place in a safe and conducive environment, various items should not be brought to school. Some of these are: Sexually oriented material, radios, headphones, earphones, cassettes, CD's, players, beepers, telephones, baseball cards, comics, weapons (real or toy), flammables, drugs, tobacco, alcoholic beverages, products bearing the warning label "Keep Out Of Reach Of Children," magazines, skateboards, skates, roller blades, etc. Parents should always be aware of what their child is bringing to school.

NOTE: All contraband will be confiscated, held by the school, and released to the parent at the end of the grading period. The School cannot be responsible for the loss/damage of any materials brought to school by the student.

Major offenses:

The following is a list of suggested disciplinary actions. The administration may deem it necessary to waive the following and render stricter or lighter disciplinary measures according to the severity and nature of the infraction.

<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>TIME/CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>	
Immorality	1 st	Expulsion
Possession/Use of Drugs/Lethal Weapons	1 st	Expulsion
Possession/Use of Alcohol, Tobacco/Non-Lethal Weapons	1 st	6-week suspension
	2 nd	Expulsion
Vandalism/Malicious Mischief**	1 st	5-day suspension
	2 nd	Expulsion
Sexual Harassment (physical)	1 st	5-day suspension
	2 nd	Expulsion
Sexual Harassment (verbal)	1 st	3-day suspension
	2 nd	5-day suspension
	3 rd	Expulsion
Use of Profane or Obscene Language/ Possession/use of Obscene Materials	1 st	Counseling
	2 nd	3-day suspension
	3 rd	Expulsion

Excessive horseplay without property damage	1 st	Counseling
	2 nd	1-day suspension
	3 rd	5-day suspension
Excessive horseplay resulting in property damage	1 st	**\$100.00 fine and counseling
	2 nd	1-day suspension
	3 rd	5-day suspension
Destruction of school property	1 st	**\$100.00 fine and 3-day Suspension
	2 nd	5-day suspension
	3 rd	Expulsion
Cheating/Plagiarism	1 st	“0” on assignment. Parent Notified by teacher
	2 nd	3-day suspension
	3 rd	Failure for Grading Period
Disrespect of Pledges to the Flag/Bible	1 st	Parent Conference
	2 nd	3-day suspension
	3 rd	Expulsion

Suspension is an unexcused absence. Schoolwork missed while suspended may not be made up.

**PLUS payment for damages.

Cheating:

During examinations, cheating shall include referring to written information not specifically condoned by the instructor. It shall further include receiving written or oral information from a fellow student. Cheating shall include stealing, buying, selling, or transmitting a copy of any examination, project or homework. A student who knowingly assists shall be considered equally as guilty as the student who accepts such assistance. In instances of cheating, the instructor shall confront the student immediately.

Demerits and End of Year Activities

Any child accumulating more than Twenty-Six (26) demerits prior to any end of year activities will be ineligible to participate in those activities. (By their previous behavior, they will have demonstrated themselves to be poor ambassadors for Escambia Christian School). So that every child is given an opportunity to get used to this policy , record keeping for End of Year Activities eligibility will begin two (2) weeks after the beginning of school. During the first two weeks of School, demerits will be awarded for misconduct. These demerits will not affect End of Year Activities eligibility.

Stephanie Davis-Keeton, MSM
Principal/Administrator