

# St. Ann Catholic Virtuous Behavior Plan

## **Philosophy of St. Ann's Behavior Plan**

At St. Ann Catholic School, we believe that our students grow and develop by learning how to make good decisions and following Christ's example in all they do. We are committed to nurturing this growth by creating Christian classroom climates based on fair and firm expectations and consequences. Discipline is a valuable and important factor when helping students become well-formed disciples. Creating and maintaining a positive environment where all students and staff strive to model Christ-like behavior involves looking for the good that St. Ann students demonstrate. The first priority at St. Ann will be to constantly and consistently acknowledge and praise positive, appropriate behavior. The ultimate goal is to form individuals who are able to make informed decisions regarding their own behavior. This happens not only by having praise for the good choices but also by having consequences for the less desirable ones.

## **Goal of St. Ann's Behavior Plan**

The ultimate goal of this initiative is to create and maintain a truly Catholic, positive, and safe environment that is conducive to learning and growth for the entire school community.

St. Ann Catholic School's environment will be characterized by the following:

1. A welcoming, positive, Catholic atmosphere created by both the adults and students.
2. Constant reinforcement for positive behavior.
3. High level of behavioral expectations with explicit limits for unacceptable behavior.
4. Appropriate consequences used consistently.

## **St. Ann's School Positive Behavior Approach**

When any staff member observes a student displaying behavior that is beyond expectations, they will reward/compliment the student. At the homeroom teacher's discretion, these rewards/compliments may be accumulated and exchanged for individual rewards. The students can also earn class level rewards that will be awarded as class goals are met (i.e. movie/snack party, extra recess, etc.). Positive behaviors may be tracked on the student's card.

## **Grades 4-8 Specifics**

In fourth through eighth grades, students will participate in the positive behavior approach by exhibiting virtuous behaviors. These again, at the teacher's discretion, may be turned in for rewards that will be outlined in each classroom. However, when a school rule has been broken, the student's behavior will have a consequence. When a

minor offense occurs, the student will receive an infraction. These offenses are listed below.

### **Minor Discipline Offenses**

1. Failure to follow teacher directions
2. More than two reminders during a class period
3. Inappropriate comments, behaviors, or noises
4. Inappropriate Mass, hallway, cafeteria, recess, or bathroom behavior
5. Minor disruption
6. Inappropriate use of equipment, materials, or food
7. Minor rough play
8. Throwing objects
9. Late for class
10. Dress code violation
11. Eating or drinking in class without the teacher's permission (candy, gum)
12. Other

### **Accumulation of infractions that lead to a detention by grade level:**

4 <sup>th</sup>	7 infractions
5 <sup>th</sup>	6 infractions
6 <sup>th</sup>	5 infractions
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	4 infractions

Each child will have an infraction card. When an offense occurs, the teacher will mark the card. This allows the students to monitor their own behavior and keep track of infractions. Any time a child receives an infraction or detention, the parents will be notified via email or phone call. Each quarter, the students will begin with a clean slate.

### **Detention Procedures**

Detentions can result from an accumulation of minor infractions or a more serious infraction.

Detention will be held from 7-7:45 am on Thursday mornings. If a detention is missed, it will result in another detention. If the student arrives late, they will serve the detention on the next designated detention day.

The following may result in a detention:

1. Accumulation of minor infractions
2. Disrespect, defiance, irreverence, threats (written, verbal, gestured)
3. Extremely inappropriate behavior, touching, sexual comments/behavior (written, verbal, gestures)
4. Inappropriate use of cell phones, Chromebooks, laptops, or other electronic devices

5. Severe or repeated Mass, hallway, bathroom, lunchroom, computer, or recess behavior
6. Serious disruption in the classroom
7. Destroying equipment, materials, property
8. Rough play that is dangerous in nature
9. Safety Violation
10. Deceit, forgery, cheating, and stealing
11. Other - Administration reserves the right to enforce disciplinary measures for any misbehavior even if not specifically listed.

### **Serious Misbehaviors**

Administration will determine consequences for any significant, severe, patterned, or repeated misbehavior. These consequences could include but are not limited to behavior contracts, discipline hearings, in-school or out-of-school suspensions, and expulsions. Extreme and/or serious offenses will be immediately referred to administration. Below is a list of some, but not all offenses that may be considered severe.

1. Serious threat (written, spoken, or gestured)
2. Sexual harassment (written, spoken, or gestured)
3. Fighting
4. Severe safety violations
5. Possession or use of weapons
6. Possession, use, distribution of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vape
7. Slandorous or harassing comments about students, teachers, and/or administrators on internet sites/social media.
8. Unlawful behavior
9. Accumulation of detentions

### **Suspension**

A suspension is a form of discipline requiring the removal of a student from the classroom environment. Suspensions may be assigned by the administration, if the intervention of the grade level teaching team has not been effective, or as the result of a more severe offense that disrupts the learning atmosphere, compromises the safety of the school community or harms or injures another person.

During an in-school suspension, the student remains in isolation and completes required work for that day. The student will receive credit for completed work during an in-school suspension. For supervisory and safety purposes, a substitute will be provided for a student serving an in-school suspension. The student's parents are required to pay the daily rate for the substitute (currently \$120).

During an out-of-school suspension, a student is counted as absent and may not participate in any school activity (extracurricular activities, sports, dances, study trips, etc.). All work must be completed and will be graded for partial credit.

Whether the suspension is in or out of school, the student will be required to complete an equal number of service hours as the hours they miss from class.

Written notification of any suspension will be sent to parents. A conference will be held in conjunction with this procedure prior to readmitting the student to class. A student may be kept out of class at the office for the remainder of the school day in which an infraction occurred or while it is being investigated.

### **Expulsion**

Expulsion of a student will occur when a student chooses to disregard the values and expectations of St. Ann Catholic School and, in effect, chooses not to be a member of the school community. Final determination of expulsion rests with the Superintendent of Schools after communication with the principal and the pastor about the situation.

Expulsion of a student from St. Ann Catholic School shall meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Other avenues of remediation for the unacceptable behavior have been exhausted.
2. The moral and/or physical well-being of the student and/or school community is at risk.
3. The student in question exhibits prolonged/severe and open disregard for policy, personnel, fellow students and/or property.

The following general procedures are followed when necessity dictates the expulsion of a student:

- The principal shall inform the Archdiocesan School Office and the pastor of the situation and surrounding circumstances prior to the act of expulsion.
- The student and his/her family shall be informed of the expulsion by a conference including the parent/guardian(s), principal and, if necessary, teacher and/or counselor, and written communication.

