

**Calvary Christian School**  
**400 South Bennett Street**  
**Southern Pines, NC 28387**  
**(910) 692-8311**

**Discipline Policy**  
(Rev. August 2007)

(This policy replaces, supersedes, and/or supplements certain policies written in the current Handbook, including those pertaining to absences and tardies, suspensions, etc.)

THE DEMERIT SYSTEM IS A GUIDE TO ALERT STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO TRENDS IN CONDUCT. NEITHER THE SCHOOL BOARD NOR THE PRINCIPAL ARE BOUND BY THE DEMERIT SYSTEM IN EVALUATING STUDENT BEHAVIOR. **ANY** STUDENT, AT **ANY** TIME, MAY BE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED SOLELY AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES. AN ARROGANT ATTITUDE OVER A MINOR OFFENSE MAY RESULT IN ADDITIONAL DEMERITS FOR DISRESPECTFUL CONDUCT.

**Accumulated Demerits and Actions**

15 demerits	Parents' first notice
25 demerits	Parents' second notice
50 demerits	Parent/Teacher/Principal Conference
75 demerits	One-Day Suspension*
100 demerits	Two-Day Suspension*
125 demerits	Three-Day Suspension*
150 demerits	Expulsion from School**

(\*All suspensions are counted as unexcused absences.)

(\*\*Overriding of this conclusion can be obtained only by appeal to the School Board.)

Other disciplinary action may be taken in addition to the assigning of demerits:

- If a student is in violation of the uniform or dress code, he or she must be picked up by the parent to go home and change, or the parent may bring the appropriate clothing. If this is not done (in grades 7 through 12), the student will receive replacement clothing from the school store; and the parents will be invoiced. Demerits will be given each and every time!
- Students who deface property will be required to repair or replace the property, in addition to receiving demerits.
- No student will be allowed in school with tattoos or body-piercings.
- Driving violations will result in loss of that privilege.
- If bicycles are ridden to school, they are to be parked outside the office from the time of arrival until time to leave. They are not to be ridden for recreation during school or day care hours.

- If skateboards are brought to school, they must be brought to the office for the entire school day. They are not to be used on the school campus during school or day care hours.
- Students who are disrespectful must apologize to the staff member involved before being permitted to attend classes.
- Persistent disruption may result in temporary or permanent suspension from class.
- Cheating will result in an automatic "0" (zero).
- Days (or classes) missed as a result of suspension or "skipping" school will result in zeros being given for the day in each class.
- Forbidden articles (including caps or hats) *will be confiscated*.
- Students are not allowed to chew gum. Gum is a maintenance nightmare and is *totally prohibited*, including in P.E., Shop, Home Economics, Extra-curricular Activities, or any class parties or other functions.
- Serious violations may result in suspension in addition to demerits.
- Other disciplinary measures may be taken at the discretion of the Principal.

### **Assignment of Demerits**

<b><u>Offense</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Demerits Per Offense</u></b>
• Food or Drink in Class	5 – 5 – 5 – 5
• Minor parking or driving offense	5 – 5 – 5 – 5
• Running in buildings	5 – 5 – 5 – 5
• Running, excessive noise in halls	5 – 5 – 5 – 5
• Not prepared for class (homework not done, lack of books, pencils, paper, etc.)	5 – 5 – 10 – 10
• Excessive talking/noise in class	5 – 5 – 10 – 10
• Uniform, Dress, Hair offense	5 – 10 – 15 – 20
• Unexcused morning tardy	5 – 10 – 15 – 20
• Unexcused class tardy	5 – 10 – 15 – 20
• Disrupting classes	10 – 10 – 15 – 15
• Inappropriate physical contact (pushing, hitting, holding hands, hugging, etc.)	10 – 15 – 20 – 25

• Leaving class or school without permission; skipping class or school	10 – 15 – 20 – 25
• Visiting cars or in front parking lot without permission	10 – 15 – 20 – 25
• Off-limits area (before, during, or after school)	10 – 15 – 20 – 25
• Chewing Gum	10 – 20 – 30 – 40
• Defacing school property	10 – 20 – 30 – 40
• Horseplay	15 – 20 – 25 – 30
• Bicycles, skateboards in halls	15 – 20 – 25 – 30
• Intentional disobedience	20 – 25 – 30 – 35
• Fighting, arguing, name-calling	20 – 25 – 30 – 35
• Questionable magazines, pictures, books, rock paraphernalia, etc.	25 – 35 – 45 – 55
• Writing/drawing off-color or vulgar notes/pictures/rock lyrics	25 – 35 – 45 – 55
• Possession of cell phones or any other prohibited item	25 – 35 – 45 – 55
• Possession of knives or any other form of weapon	25 – 35 – 45 – 55
• Using God’s name in vain, cursing, vulgar language	25 – 50 – 75
• Cheating	50 – 100
• Reckless driving or speeding	50 – 100
• Cigarettes or tobacco, “fake” drugs	50 – 100
• Stealing	150
• Lethal weapon	150
• Illegal drugs, alcohol	150
• Tattoos or body-piercings	150
• Disrespect shown to <i>ANY</i> staff member	Principal’s discretion

## **General School Rules**

1. Students are not allowed to leave the school campus during school hours without parental permission and approval from the principal. No students are allowed to leave for lunch without a parent. Whenever leaving early for any reason, the student must sign out in the school office.
2. Students may not leave campus once their parents have brought them to school in the morning unless there is a waiver in their file, signed by the parents, allowing them to walk up to the coffee shop. Further, the students may not go to the coffee shop during any class, for any reason, including to bring back coffee for the teacher or the class.
3. Students are allowed no more than fifteen (15) unexcused absences in any class ***per year.***
  - a) The only excused absences are illnesses verified by a doctor's note, medical or dental appointments verified by a doctor's note, court dates, death in the family, family emergencies, and school or church-sponsored trips or events.
  - b) After the fifth unexcused absence (for the year), the parent(s) may be required to meet with the Principal in order to seek resolution of the problem. If the parents do not meet with the Principal within two (2) days of his request for a meeting, the student may not be allowed to attend classes until they come in.
  - c) After the tenth unexcused absence (for the year), the parent(s) may be required to meet with the School Board at the next scheduled meeting (usually Sunday night after the church service). If the parents miss this meeting, the student will not be allowed to attend classes until they meet with the Board.
  - d) Fifteen unexcused absences may result in expulsion from school.
4. Chronic morning tardies, which generally indicate a lack of structure and self-discipline, are seriously discouraged. Demerits may be given for morning tardies according to the "Assignment of Demerits." Accumulation of such demerits could result in suspension or expulsion from school.
5. Classroom tardies will be excused ***only*** if the student presents the teacher with a note from *another teacher* or the office, ***clearly*** excusing the tardy. There will be ***no tolerance for classroom tardies.*** Demerits will be given! ("I was in the bathroom" will not be considered a valid excuse. If a student has a problem, he needs to go tell the teacher *before* going to the bathroom.)

6. Students may not bring guests to school or be visited by anyone other than a parent or adult sibling during school hours. (This includes lunch.) The only exception to this would be if permission is granted, in advance and for a good reason, by the Principal.
7. Students are to always be respectful, and submissive to the authority of teachers, staff, and administration.
8. Students are to be quiet and respectful of other classes while in the hallways and common areas.
9. Skipping class or school is prohibited.
10. Students may not leave class without permission.
11. Students are not allowed in the day care rooms during the school day without permission.
12. Candy, food, and drinks may be consumed only in the cafeteria during lunch. Food items may not be consumed while in class, in the hallways, or in any carpeted area. **During the school day, vending machines are off limits except during lunch.**
13. Chewing of gum is never, never, never allowed – AT ALL – on campus, not even for special occasions or parties.
14. Comic books, toys, radios, tape or disc players, IPODs, IPHONES, walkmans, electronic games, beepers, pagers, cell phones, laser pointers, and other such devices **are not permitted** on the school campus. They will be confiscated and returned only to the parent. Additional disciplinary action may be taken, depending on the severity of the infraction.
15. Students who have cell phones must leave them *locked* in their cars or check them into the school office during school hours. (Students are never allowed to visit their cars during school unless permission is given by the school office.) . If any student has a cell phone, whether provided by parent or guardian or purchased on his own, the number is to be provided to the school office – even if the student does not bring it to school. Cell phones may be used after 3:30 p.m. to make necessary calls, e.g., to arrange for transportation, coordinate schedule changes with parents, etc. Any violation of this policy will result in the confiscation of cell phone, which will only be returned to the student's parent by an administrator. Additional and progressively more serious administrative consequences may also be assigned to the student (e.g. detention, suspension, etc.) depending on individual circumstances/infractions.
16. The school uniform (dress code for elementary grades) and hair codes for boys and girls must be followed at all times!
17. Students are not allowed to have matches, cigarette lighters, firecrackers, mace, or explosives of any kind on school grounds.

18. Questionable reading material, tapes/CDs, pictures, etc. are prohibited.
19. Students are not to push, run in the hall, or shove other students or adults. Horseplay is prohibited.
20. Students are not to use profane or obscene language, symbols, signs, or gestures.
21. Students will not write on or deface school property. Also, ***no graffiti is permitted on book bags or notebooks.***
22. Cheating, lying, and forgery are prohibited.
23. **Cheating will not be tolerated.** Students will receive a grade of zero (0) for cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, or other projects, assignments, etc. Demerits will be given (see "Assignment of Demerits"), and two incidents of cheating could result in expulsion from school.
24. Students are not permitted to use another student's worksheet, notes, or copy any portions of another student's homework without the specific permission of the classroom teacher. This violation is considered **cheating**.
25. Students should take pride in their school and should keep all rooms, halls, and bathrooms clean and free from trash. Book bags, books, school supplies, and personal belongings must be kept in order at all times, including in the locker area.
26. Students should be respectful of others and demonstrate a good attitude at all times.
27. Property searches/inspections by school personnel or trained police officers may occur during the school year, if deemed necessary.
28. The school reserves the right, without prior permission from parents, to question students regarding possible disciplinary infractions, and to search and inspect any of its property including any locker, vehicle, or room, and seize any suspicious or inappropriate items found therein. Also, a student search may be conducted, without prior permission from parents, if reasonable suspicion exists. This also includes the right to confiscate notes or other written material at the discretion of the faculty or staff.
29. If there is reasonable suspicion that a student is using drugs, the Principal can require the parents to have the student tested (at parent's expense) for drug usage.

### **General Classroom Rules**

1. Students are not dismissed by the sound of the bell; they are dismissed by the teacher.
2. Students are expected to do their best in all classes and to do all of their homework assignments.

3. Students are expected not to hinder their teachers from teaching or other students from learning.
4. Students need to pick up all trash in and around their desks at the end of each period. The room needs to be especially neat and orderly at the end of each school day.
5. Students are expected to bring to class all necessary books and supplies.
6. Classroom discipline will be handled by each individual teacher. Serious discipline problems or classroom disruptions will be referred to the Principal. In such serious cases, the teacher and Principal may need to call the parents and, if necessary, meet with them.

### **Serious Offenses**

1. Assault and battery to student/faculty/staff.
2. Threatening a student or member of the faculty/staff.
3. Threatening to damage school or staff members' personal property.
4. Fighting.
5. Possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of drugs or drug look-alike substances, drug paraphernalia.
6. Possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of alcohol or tobacco products.
7. Possession or use of explosives, firearms, knives, or any object intended as a weapon.
8. Indecent behavior, harassment, molesting students/faculty/staff.
9. Riot participation or inciting a riot.
10. Vandalism, arson or attempted arson, theft.
11. Repeated cheating offenses.
12. Falsely reporting an emergency (e.g. setting off a fire alarm, calling 911, etc.)
13. Tattoos and body-piercings.

**Serious offenses are of such serious nature that the consequences may result in multiple days of out-of-school suspension, and/or possible expulsion.** (The school is not a sanctuary from prosecution in the courts for violation of civil and criminal laws occurring during school, on school property, or during a school-sponsored activity.)

### **Suspensions**

Students will be suspended upon the accumulation of sufficient demerits, or at the discretion of the Principal for repeated misbehavior or serious misconduct. ***There will be NO "In-School Suspensions."***

Other penalties for each suspension include:

- a) An unexcused absence.
- b) A possible recommendation for dismissal or expulsion by the School Board.

- c) Depending on the circumstances, other privileges may be removed, to include but not limited to the following: senior trip, Junior/Banquet, participation in commencement exercises, etc.

### **Expulsion**

The School Board of Calvary Christian School reserves the right to expel any student if he or she accumulates 150 demerits or if, in the sole judgment of the school, the child is a continuous discipline problem. Students may be expelled for serious offenses described in this policy.

A student who has been expelled may reapply for *possible* admission to Calvary Christian School the school year following the completion of his/her expulsion. The student must have repented and apologized to all offended parties as well as displayed a good record at another school. Re-admission will be granted only upon recommendation of the administration and approval of the School Board.

Expelled students and students who have withdrawn at the request of administration are prohibited from being on school campus before, during, and after school hours, and are prohibited from attending school-sponsored functions without the expressed permission of the Principal for each event.

Students suspended, pending expulsion or pending withdrawal for disciplinary reasons, will not attend school or any extra-curricular school function until the process is complete.

### **After School Day Care**

After school extended day care is intended for children in K-5 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Any child in those grades who is still at school after 3:45 will be sent to day care, and the parents will be charged.

Older students (grades 7 – 12) are expected to leave campus by 3:45. Nevertheless, *any older student who is still at school after 3:45* will be sent to day care, where he or she must remain until picked up! Parents will be charged for day care, just as in the younger grades!

There is to be ***no loitering by older students, or their friends, or whoever is picking them up after 3:45***, in the front parking lot, on the play mountain, in or around driveways, on the playground, or any other place on the school property. Safety, liability, and testimony issues are at play in these instances.

Parents who pick their children up after 6:00 will be charged a late fee, payable to the teacher in charge through the office, of \$2.00 *per child* for every five minutes. This can accumulate to a sizeable fee. Parents, please be on time!

Parents who are more than two weeks behind on paying for after school care may be asked to withdraw their children *from school* until it is paid in full.