



St. Cyprian's
— *Episcopal School* —

**Parent and Student
Handbook**

2020-2021

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School is to be a community of learners where students are challenged to achieve their highest academic, spiritual, and physical potentials in a Christian setting.

In order to ensure the fulfillment of this mission, the faculty and staff of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School pledges the following:

As teachers we believe it is our job to:

- Act as facilitators who develop effective teaching strategies so that each and every student learns
- Present material in an interesting and relevant manner that will generate true enthusiasm for learning
- Track student learning with appropriate assessments and evaluations and then re-teach content as needed until mastery results

We will support our colleagues by:

- Working as a team and putting the students' interests first
- Communicating in a timely manner
- Encouraging and supporting each other
- Cooperating across areas of study in an effort to create exciting learning opportunities
- Leading by example with enthusiasm and integrity

When our students leave us, they will be:

- Confident, responsible, creative risk takers who respect themselves and others
- Engaged, interested students who possess a desire to learn and to change the world around them
- Independent thinkers and doers who strive to make good choices
- Valued by their teachers and know they are loved by God

Family commitment to a challenging, educational program is critical to any school's success. A school is not merely a collection of administrators, teachers, and students. It is a community based on trust, respect, and cooperation that enables each part to perform to its highest potential. Students respond best to a caring staff that demands academic excellence within the framework of personal strengths and weaknesses. This type of support is one of the primary assets of private education in general and of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School in particular. Our school has a long history of providing an exciting, challenging, positive educational environment through the use of small classes, college preparatory as well as specialty curriculum, and a superior teaching staff.

SCHOOL PRAYER

Our Father, pour out your Spirit upon St. Cyprian's School that it may be a community of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that those who teach and those who learn may grow in knowledge and love of you, the source of all truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WHO WAS SAINT CYPRIAN?

St. Cyprian was a loyal citizen of the Roman Empire who served as an attorney in the Roman Courts of Justice. He converted to Christianity late in life and became a leader in the Christian church. Cyprian was chosen to serve as bishop of the church at Carthage in North Africa where he led and served in the name of Jesus Christ. Although he remained a faithful Roman citizen, St. Cyprian would not deny his faith in Christ in order to please the government. He refused to give to Caesar or any government the worship and devotion that belonged to God alone. Cyprian was executed in the year 258 and his life is celebrated each year on his "Feast Day" which is September 13th. His life and death have inspired generations of people throughout the years. Our school is named for St. Cyprian and his example calls us all to be servant leaders who are good citizens and faithful followers of God.

SCHOOL HISTORY

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School was chartered in 1955, but several years prior to that kindergarten and first grade classes were offered in the St. Cyprian's Parish House. The school was originally organized to offer a religious foundation for learning and to provide personal attention to students in small classes. As a ministry and mission of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church, the school is an integral part of our community. Our educational philosophy is focused upon "educating the whole child" and providing opportunities for each child to grow academically, spiritually, physically, and socially.

In 1969 St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church (then located on Second Street in Lufkin, TX where the Museum of East Texas stands today) was heavily damaged by fire, which resulted in the construction of a new church facility in 1972. Both the church and the school shared the new sanctuary and classrooms, thereby realizing the best use of one physical plant. As the school continued to grow it became apparent that new, separate facilities were needed in order to meet its academic and functional space requirements. A Capital Funds Steering Committee led by Mr. Arthur Temple raised \$1,800,000, and a new freestanding facility for St. Cyprian's Episcopal School was ready for occupancy in February 1984 at its current location.

PHILOSOPHY

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School believes in a strong academic presence using strategies and skills allowing each child to work at their maximum potential. SCES also believes in guiding children in their spiritual growth, facilitating a love of learning, and nurturing a healthy respect for themselves and others. We intend to provide this growth within a Christian context where each person, whether student, teacher, administrator or staff member, is valued as a child of God.

POLICY REGARDING NON-DISCRIMINATION

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School admits qualified students of any race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, and sex to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin or sex in administration of its educational policies, financial aid programs or other school-administered programs.

ACADEMIC POLICY

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School strives to provide each student with an education based on the highest possible academic standard. Therefore, the school's administration and staff give serious consideration when choosing suitable curricular materials. The curriculum is

reviewed annually by staff at each grade level. This review is coordinated and approved by the school administration.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Environmental Science, Spanish, Music, Art, Physical Education, and Technology are all a part of the elementary curriculum. Our campus operates under a semi-departmentalized alignment. Classes in the enrichment block are taught by separate teachers in a different classroom setting.

FACTS Student Information System and Tuition Management

St. Cyprian's School utilizes an online grade reporting program called FACTS. This program has a parent component (ParentsWeb) which allows parents to monitor their child's assignments, attendance, grades, school calendar, and payment plan information.

HOMEWORK

Students will often receive assignments that are done outside the classroom. There will be many hands-on projects over the course of the school year, as research indicates an overwhelmingly higher percentage of information is retained by students who can put their learning into practice. Students should be encouraged to plan and utilize their time wisely as they develop homework habits. As we stress for all our students to grow into responsible citizens, please work with your child to become organized so that no books or homework are left at home.

Generally, homework should not take more than 10 minutes per grade level number to complete, depending on the student. Rarely, there may be times that homework would require a bit more time to complete. If your child is taking longer than this to complete after schoolwork, you are encouraged to talk to his/her teacher to find out where the issue may be.

HONOR ROLL

Students who qualify for the All-A and A-B Honor Roll list will be recognized each nine-weeks during Chapel service. These distinctions will not include our PreK and Kindergarten levels as they use a grading scale different from the upper grades. All A Honor Roll students will have successfully achieved A's in all classes, including Enrichment classes, as well as in their Behavior and Study Habits. A-B Honor Roll honorees will have earned no grades lower than one B in one class, including Enrichments, Conduct, and Work Habits.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be emailed home each nine weeks. There will be a student holiday after the first nine weeks each year for parents to conference with teachers about their child's academic progress. Additional conferences with teachers are welcome, and will need to be scheduled with the individual teacher on his/her conference period. A second scheduled school holiday to allow for teacher conferences will take place in May to discuss progress made during the school year.

ADMISSION POLICIES (see also RIGHTS RESERVED TO SCHOOL)

Preschool: Students applying for the three (3) year old kindergarten and four (4) year old kindergarten programs must reach those respective birthdays by September 1st of the year of admission. The Student must be toilet trained, communicate effectively for his/her age, and be of sufficient maturity to derive benefit from the Preschool Program. Students will take part in an admission process which will include a skills assessment. If a student is admitted to the Preschool Program and found to be unable to meet any one or more of these admission criteria, the student's parents will be promptly notified. If the student remains unable to meet these admission criteria, then he/she must remain at home until he/she can adequately prove that these criteria are being consistently met in a classroom environment. The Head of School will have the sole authority to determine whether or not the student is eligible to return to the Preschool Program. Parents of any student whose place is being held in a classroom shall remain fully responsible for their financial obligations to the school during that time period. If the parent instead decides (or is required) to remove the student from the classroom on a permanent basis for the reasons outlined in this section, then their financial obligations to the school shall be prorated up to the date of withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the Enrollment Agreement.

5K: Students applying for the five (5) year old kindergarten program must be 5 years of age by September 1st of the year of admission. After submission of the application, admissions tests and an informal visit with one of the kindergarten teachers for the purpose of determining admissions eligibility will be required.

Grades 1-12: Students applying for these grade levels must submit report cards and the results of all standardized testing from their previous school. Attendance and discipline records will be solicited from the applicant's previous school(s). Admission may be denied on the basis of information from previous records that indicate any one or more of the following:

1. Excessive absences
2. Habitual or severe discipline problems
3. Failure to meet standards on state assessment
4. Grades on report card that reflect lack of progress

The Head of School has the sole discretion and authority to waive an applicant's denial on the basis of this information for extenuating circumstances.

Students with learning disabilities:

Professionally identified learning disabilities will not be the basis of declined admission to the school. It is the intent of the school to provide students the opportunity to be successful and supported in the learning environment. If a student with an identified learning disability meets all of the other requirements for admission, he/she will instead be admitted on the following basis: The first nine weeks of school will be an observation period for the student. Only qualified and pertinent persons such as teachers and the Head of School will be allowed to conduct the observations. The purpose for these observations is to ensure that the school is able to meet the needs of the student. At the end of the first nine weeks a parent conference will be held to determine the ability of the school to meet the needs of the child in order to insure a successful school experience.

*Please note that the only support service offered by St. Cyprian's Episcopal School is Dyslexia Therapy.

The Head of School has the sole discretion and authority to place or to not place a student on probationary status. If the Head of School determines that the school is unable to meet the needs of the student, then the student must withdraw from the school immediately and the parents' financial obligations to the school will be prorated up to the date of withdrawal in accordance with the terms of the Enrollment Agreement.

SCHOOL VOUCHER POLICY

Should the State of Texas legislate school vouchers, St. Cyprian's Episcopal School reserves the right to accept or deny school vouchers.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

New students cannot be admitted to the school unless an updated, valid immunization form is submitted to the school office prior to the beginning of the school year. The office will notify parents of returning students if an updated immunization form is needed, and this form must be submitted to the school office within thirty (30) days of such notification. The Texas Board of Health requires all students to be immunized against diphtheria, rubeola (measles), rubella, tetanus, poliomyelitis, HIB (up to age 5) and mumps. New students must also have a current TB test.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

THE SCHOOL'S PUBLISHED GUIDE TO MANAGING COVID-19 ("GUIDE"), INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, IS FULLY INCORPORATED INTO THESE POLICIES. IN THE EVENT THERE IS ANY DISCREPANCY BETWEEN POLICIES CONTAINED IN THE GUIDE AND IN THIS HANDBOOK, THE GUIDE TAKES PRECEDENCE.

Exclusion: The primary criterion for barring a student's attendance is the likelihood that the disease will spread from person-to-person. **The Head of School shall exclude from attendance any student suffering from a "reportable disease" (as defined by the Texas Board of Health and/or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) until the criteria for re-admittance is satisfied.** Included within exclusions is also any illness or condition that prevents the student from participating comfortably in the daily routine and any illness or condition resulting in greater need for care than the school can provide without compromising the health, safety, and supervision of the other students. The Head of School will request removal from the school day for any student suffering from scabies, impetigo, ringworm, common cold, infectious forms of conjunctivitis, lice, undiagnosed skin rash or fever in excess of 100 degrees. **Any student with an infectious disease that requires hospitalization must submit a written doctor's statement prior to returning to school.** This includes diphtheria, bacterial and viral meningitis, poliomyelitis, and pulmonary tuberculosis. **Students must be free of fever in excess of 100 degrees for twenty-four (24) hours without medication prior to returning to school.**

Re-admittance: Students excluded from attending school due to a communicable disease shall be re-admitted if one (1) or more of the following criteria is met:

1. Certificate of the attending physician attesting to non-infection presented;
2. Permit for re-admission issued by the local health authority presented; or
3. Passage of a period of time that corresponds to the duration of the communicability of the disease as established by the Texas Commissioner of Health and/or the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. A list of all communicable diseases, their duration and re-admission qualifications are available in the school office.

The school cannot administer medication without the following:

1. Parent's written permission; and
2. A clearly printed pharmacy label.

All medication must be sent to the school office, where the school nurse or other members of the office staff will dispense it.

ASSEMBLY DAYS

End of School awards ceremonies will be scheduled with dates and times posted on the school website as well as parent notification through school/teacher communication. From time to time during the school year students will assemble for various presentations and guest speakers.

ATTENDANCE

The cornerstone of any academic community is consistent daily attendance. **Students are therefore expected to be in school on time every day that school is in session.** All school days are clearly noted on the official school calendar, which is published annually and found on the school website.

Excused absences: Excused absences are given for personal illness and for death, illness or emergency within the family.

When a student is absent, parents must notify the school office by 8:30 a.m. on the day of absence. In order for a student's absence to be excused, the parent must give a written explanation to the school office at the time of the student's return to school. **The State of Texas requires students to attend 90% of all class sessions in order to be eligible for promotion. A St. Cyprian's student can have no more than ten (10) unexcused absences during the course of a single school year.** Parents and students are expected to assume full responsibility for all class work that a student misses. In an effort to protect students' instructional time, parents are urged to make all medical appointments for after school hours.

Perfect attendance: In order to receive recognition for perfect attendance, a student must be in attendance every school day, with no more than one tardy, per nine weeks. The only exception is when the school requests diagnostic testing. The days of actual testing will be exempt, but extra days will not be exempt. **Seven (7) tardies per semester will equal one (1) absence for the purpose of perfect attendance.**

Pre-arranged absence: When a student expects to be absent from school the student's parents are required to notify the Head of School in writing two (2) days in advance of the absence. It is the student's responsibility to obtain all assignments prior to the absence and to present them completed on the day they return to school.

Tardies: Students shall be at school at 8 a.m. when the school day begins. Arrival after 8 a.m. will result in a tardy being recorded for that day.

Sickness during the school day: If a student becomes ill during the school day the classroom teacher will send that student to the school office for evaluation by the school nurse or other administrative staff. A parent will be notified if the student needs further medical attention than cannot be provided by the school.

BACKPACKS

Parents are not allowed to open and/or search through backpacks belonging to anyone other than their own children.

ST. CYPRIAN'S SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Fr. Ralph Morgan, Chairman

Maci Dover

Taylor Haney

Chris DeVore, President

Dr. Patricia McKenzie

Jennifer McCall, Treasurer

Jeff Havard

Ex-officio:

Mary Virginia Casper, Secretary

Rev. David Briggs

Dr. Sherry Durham, Head of School

Jackie Franks, Vestry Representative

Val Dobrec

Kael Nerren, Finance Director

Diana Hineman

Michael Simpson

Amber Miller, Development Director

CHAIN-OF-COMMAND

- Parent concerns will be heard. Parents are always urged to discuss issues with their child's teacher first, as that clears up the vast majority of misunderstandings. If satisfactory results are not obtained, parents should proceed directly to the Head of School.
- Concerns pertaining to the overall operation of the school should be addressed to the Head of School.

FINANCIAL POLICIES

The Board of Trustees of the school sets tuition rates and other fees on an annual basis. These amounts are published prior to registration for the next school year. A current tuition and fee schedule is available on the school website.

It is school policy that a student be enrolled for the entire year. If a student is withdrawn during the school year for any reason, the full amount of outstanding tuition and fees remain due and payable to the school. Except as stated in this Handbook, the obligation to pay the fees and tuition for the full academic year is UNCONDITIONAL and no portion of any tuition or other fees paid or outstanding will be refunded or cancelled in any event, including, but not limited to, absence, withdrawal or dismissal from the school, and/or temporary school closure or transition to online or virtual learning due to any circumstance beyond the school's control. An exception may occur if a family is transferred by an employer or moves from the county. Enforcement of this policy allows the school to continue to meet its financial obligations to faculty, staff, and service providers.

Tuition Adjustments

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School shall offer the following tuition adjustments for students:

Multiple Student Enrollment Discount:

- 1) When a family/payor has two (2) students enrolled at the school at the same time, the second student shall be entitled to a 10% discount on the annual tuition amount due. If the tuition amounts for each student are not identical prior to applying the discount, the discount shall apply to the lesser tuition amount.
- 2) When a family/payor has three (3) or more students enrolled at the school at the same time, the first student shall not be entitled to a tuition discount, the second student shall be entitled to the discount cited in (1) above and the remaining student(s) shall be entitled to a 20% discount on the annual tuition amount(s) due. If the tuition amounts for each student are not identical prior to applying the

discount, the 20% discount shall be applied to the least tuition amounts due and the 10% discount shall be applied to the next to least remaining tuition amount due.

Other Discounts:

If a parent/guardian is employed as clergy, active military, public safety, educator or a member of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church then one student per family shall be entitled to a 10% discount on the annual tuition amount due.

Scholarship/Discount Criteria:

Students are only eligible for one discount. If a family/payor applies for and accepts any type of financial need-based scholarship offered by the school, they shall not be entitled to receive any other discount. This restriction shall not apply to students who receive honorary/academic scholarships.

Prepayment Incentive:

If a family/payor elects to make tuition payments in one (1) annual installment on the date specified in the school's enrollment contract, they shall be entitled to a 4% discount on the tuition rate.

If a family/payor elects to make tuition payments in two (2) semi-annual installments on the dates specified in the school's enrollment contract, they shall be entitled to a 2% discount on the tuition rate.

*Failure to meet the terms of this plan will result in the loss of the discount that is offered by this plan and your plan will default to the monthly payment plan.

Electronic Funds Transfer Opt-out Fee:

Notwithstanding any approved tuition discounts that may apply, if any family/payor elects to make monthly tuition payments but fails to agree to do so by automatic electronic funds transfer, then a 3% administrative fee shall be added on to such monthly payment.

General Provisions

The Board of Trustees shall have the right to amend and/or eliminate the foregoing tuition adjustments by affirmative vote on an annual basis no later than the January Board meeting, to be effective as of the next upcoming academic school year.

A family/payor may take advantage of one or more of the above discounts to the extent that they qualify. Payment incentives are available to families who elect to pay tuition either in one (1) annual payment or in two (2) semi-annual installments. Monthly statements are not mailed or sent home. Monthly tuition accounts are debited by automatic bank draft the 1st of each month. If you prefer not to pay by automatic bank draft, a 3% handling fee will be assessed to your account. Accounts not paid by the 15th of each month are subject to a late payment charge of \$35.00. Accounts not paid by the last day of each month may result in the suspension of the student until the account is paid. **Academic records, report cards, transcripts and all other information relating to a student will be held until all financial obligations are paid in full.**

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS POLICY

It is the policy of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School to report all delinquent tuition accounts to the School's Board of Trustees at its regularly scheduled meetings. An account is considered to be delinquent on the 10th day of the month in which it is due. On the 15th day of the month in

which it is due a letter shall be sent to the family, notifying them that the account is delinquent and that a late charge will be added to the amount owed if the account is not paid in full by the 30th day of the same month. If the account remains delinquent as of the 15th day of the following month it shall be considered thirty (30) days past due. On the 15th day of that month a second letter shall be sent to the family, notifying them that if the account is not paid in full by the 25th day of that month, the school will report the delinquent account to the Credit Bureau of Lufkin. The Head of School shall have the authority and discretion to waive all or any part of the foregoing policy on a case by case basis if he/she determines that extenuating circumstances merit doing so.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A tuition scholarship program is offered and funded through foundation grants and special gifts to the school. In awarding these funds the school attempts to meet the need of any student who is financially and academically qualified for the program. **No assurance is made that a scholarship will be renewed for successive school years because monies available for scholarships vary from year to year depending upon the individual gifts and foundation grants received.** For further details concerning the Scholarship Program, please contact the Head of School.

MEMORIAL FUND

The Memorial Fund is maintained in order to assist individuals who wish to make financial gifts to the school in memory of a loved one or in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries, births, teacher appreciation, etc. Notes of acknowledgment are sent to the recipient or the family of the recipient and to the donor. Gifts to the Memorial Fund are used for library acquisitions, the Scholarship Fund, the Dyslexia Therapy Program, and other special needs of the school or special areas of interest of the donor. Gifts made to the Memorial Fund may be tax-deductible.

ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund provides financial support to the annual school budget, which enables the school to strengthen existing programs and to initiate new programs. Gifts made to the Annual Fund may be tax-deductible.

ST. CYPRIAN'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL GUILD

The St. Cyprian's Episcopal School Guild is an auxiliary group that aids the school through a variety of projects and activities. It was initially formed to promote friendly relationships among parents and to encourage their involvement in, and support for, projects that aid the school academically, socially, and financially. All parents of St. Cyprian's students automatically receive membership in the guild and are encouraged to participate in activities throughout the school year. All projects that involve parents, teachers and students are coordinated with the Head of School. Funds generated by these activities are expended each year for the improvement of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School.

CHAPEL

Knowledge of the Christian faith and its history is essential to fully understanding our western culture and heritage. **As such, all students and faculty at St. Cyprian's Episcopal School are expected to participate in chapel services as a part of our curriculum.** A student, teacher or the Rector of St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church leads these services. During the service students listen to a Christian homily and participate in songs, prayers, and responsive readings from the Bible. Chapel services are Biblically based, ecumenical in spirit, and often follow the Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer.

CODE OF BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE POLICY

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School believes that discipline in any social community is necessary to maintain order so that specific objectives may be achieved. In a school setting good discipline creates conditions that are favorable for learning and personal growth within a safe, comfortable, and secure environment. Discipline is the very basis for learning. Students at St. Cyprian's Episcopal School must conduct themselves appropriately.

The intent of the Code of Behavior and Discipline Policy is to promote St. Cyprian's as a school that is pleasant, respectful, and affectionately remembered by students, parents, and teachers.

I. Student Responsibilities

- A. Honesty
 - 1. To produce one's own work.
 - 2. To speak only the truth.
- B. Courtesy
 - 1. To befriend one another.
 - 2. To use polite words.
 - 3. To listen carefully and follow directions.
 - 4. To participate in orderly discussions by raising one's hand to be recognized.
 - 5. To open doors for others.
 - 6. To use "Please" and "Thank you" in normal conversation.
- C. Respect
 - 1. To respect ownership of another's possessions and of the school's materials and facilities.
 - 2. To use school property correctly.
 - 3. To demonstrate fair play and good sportsmanship.
 - 4. To respect the feelings and rights of others.
- D. Obedience and Discipline
 - 1. To obey the direction of any member of the faculty or staff.
 - 2. To conduct himself or herself in such a manner as to be a credit to the school.
 - 3. To refrain from fighting or hitting. (No one is ever justified in striking another person, even if provoked.)
 - 4. To report to classes on time.
 - 5. To complete each assignment.
- E. Respect on Social Media
 - 1. To refrain from communicating or posting negative, inappropriate or harmful messages on social media.
 - 2. To refrain from posting any negative or inappropriate photographs, memes or other visual depictions on social media.

II. Parent Responsibilities

- A. Accept primary responsibility for discipline.
- B. Ensure that the school's dress code is followed.
- C. Attend scheduled parent/teacher conferences.
- D. Support the decisions made during parent/teacher/Head of School conferences.
- E. Agree not to make or solicit any comments, statements or the like to the media, on the Internet (including in social media) or to others that may be considered to

be derogatory or harmful to the good name and reputation of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School and its Head of School, teachers, and other employees.

III. Faculty/Staff Responsibilities

- A. Clearly define behavioral expectations.
- B. Strive to handle problems early by using positive reinforcement for good behavior.
- C. Clearly communicate negative consequences of poor behavior.
- D. Treat students fairly and maintain consistency in all situations.
- E. Discuss immediately any behavior problems or suspected behavior problems with parents.

IV. Sequence of Disciplinary Action:

- A. **Verbal warning:** Verbal warnings by teachers may be given but are not required. Circumstances may require the teacher to proceed to another disciplinary action. In any event, no more than three (3) verbal warnings will be given during the equivalent of a class period.
- B. **Classroom consequence:** Inappropriate behavior should not be allowed to interrupt classroom time. If verbal warnings do not prove effective, the student may face consequences (ex. placed in time-out, suspension of privileges). If consequences do not prove effective, parents will be contacted to remove the student from school until a teacher/parent conference can be held.
- C. **Teacher/student conference:** At times, in order to promote appropriate behavior, a teacher/student conference may be necessary. Such conferences set consequences for continued inappropriate behavior.
- D. **Head of School/student conference:** If unacceptable behavior persists after the teacher meets with the student, the student may be sent to the office to meet with the Head of School. The Head of School may warn the student of further consequences, assess further consequences or request a meeting with the student's parents.
- E. **Teacher/parent/student conference:** If behavior problems persist parents may be asked to attend a conference with both the teacher and the student.
- F. **Teacher/parent/Head of School conference:** Tools such as behavior contracts and assignment of additional duties for the student may be imposed during teacher/parent/Head of School conferences.
- G. In the case of **serious infractions** of the Student Code of Behavior, such as hitting, direct insubordination to a staff member, inappropriate or hurtful language or failure to respect the feelings and rights of others, a teacher may choose to send a student directly to the Head of School.

V. Head of School's Responsibilities

If a student is sent to the school office for inappropriate behavior, the Head of School will confer with the student, teachers, and parents as needed. Parents will always be contacted in the event that recommendations involve suspension or dismissal from school.

The Head of School may enforce any of the following:

- A. Detention, including, but not limited to, assignment of duties during lunch, free time and/or after school.
- B. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities, including, but not limited to, school parties and field trips.

- C. In-school suspension.
- D. Out-of-school suspension.
- E. Dismissal from school if the student's behavior or presence in school is considered to be detrimental to other students or is deemed necessary for the school's best interest. The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees shall to be notified immediately in such instances.

VI. The following will result in immediate suspension or dismissal from school:

- A. Bringing a firearm or any other lethal weapon onto the school campus.
- B. Bringing illegal drugs or alcohol onto the school campus.

VII. Tuition after Dismissal

If a student is dismissed from St. Cyprian's Episcopal School, reimbursement of tuition will be handled in accordance with the terms of the enrollment contract between the school and the parents.

DRESS POLICY

See Exhibit A in back of handbook.

RIGHTS RESERVED TO SCHOOL

The Head of School (with the assistance of current and rising grade level teachers) shall have the responsibility of placing students in homerooms at the beginning of each academic school year. If (and only if) there are extenuating personal circumstances, such as separating siblings or unusual physical, interpersonal or behavioral issues, parents may make specific requests for their student's homeroom placement. However, the Head of School shall have the sole discretion to accept or reject any such placement request for any reason whatsoever.

The Head of School reserves the right to select and admit applicants who are most likely to benefit from the school's academic and/or therapy programs.

The school reserves the right to suspend or dismiss a student for any of the following reasons:

- A. Unsatisfactory academic performance.
- B. Student's financial account being in arrears thirty (30) days or more.
- C. Possession of an alcoholic beverage, drugs or weapon.
- D. Conduct resulting in personal injury to another person or bullying.
- E. The destruction or theft of school or other property.
- F. Conduct that demonstrates that the student does not have sufficient ability or maturity to benefit from the school's programs.
- G. Excessive absences which interfere with student's progress in school's programs.
- H. Student/Parent conduct which is contrary to the school's Code of Conduct.

Suspension or dismissal is determined by the Head of School, who will take into consideration the nature and extent of the offense.

The school reserves the right to use pictures and information concerning the school and its students for public relations in local news media.

The school reserves the right to administer academic achievement or intelligence tests either on a group basis or on an individual basis. When such tests are administered, parents are notified prior to testing and of the results.

The school reserves the right to amend and revise this Handbook at any time, but all parents will be notified of any such changes in a timely manner.

SCHOOL DISMISSAL TIMES

Students are dismissed at the following times:

- 3K, 4K, 5K 2:30 p.m.
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade 2:45 p.m.
- 4th, 5th Grade 3:00 p.m.
- MS, HS 3:15 p.m.

Please notify the school office if there is an unexpected delay in picking up a student, or if a student is being picked up by anyone other than an authorized person. The school does not allow students to leave with unauthorized persons. Students who are not picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal will be sent to Creative Care.

Whenever it is necessary for a parent to take a child out of class during the school day, a written note to the school office is required. In these cases, parents or guardians are asked to pick up the student from the school office, not the classroom. Teachers may not release a student during the school day to anyone except school office personnel. Any student who leaves the campus during the school day must be signed out by parent or guardian and must report to the school office upon his or her return, using the same protocol as when the child is picked up.

CURRICULUM

Information regarding the current general and specialty curriculums for St. Cyprian's Episcopal School is available in the school office. Suggestions and recommendations are welcomed and will be considered as the faculty and administration review the curriculum in the ongoing process of evaluation and revision. Your suggestions and recommendations should be directed to the Head of School. Curriculum guides are used for the purpose of providing consistency and continuity in what is being taught.

GRADES AND REPORTING PERIODS

Students in the Preschool Program are evaluated during the school year and a comprehensive written evaluation is provided to the parents at the end of each semester. Report cards for students in 5K through 8th grade are emailed to parents at the end of each nine (9) weeks. These reports are intended to give parents an objective evaluation of their child's progress and parents are encouraged to visit with teachers concerning grades or behavior at any point during these grading periods. Parents have access to student grades daily through FACTS. Teachers frequently send home folders, which allow parents to review class work and provide a mechanism for sending home school notes. Parents' involvement in their child's school life will help ensure academic success.

EVALUATION KEY

Report cards utilize the following evaluation key*:

E – Excellent	A+ 98-100	B- 80-82
S - Satisfactory	A 93-97	C+ 77-79
N - Needs improvement	A- 90-92	C 73-76
U - Unsatisfactory	B+ 87-89	C- 70-72
M - Modified	B 83-86	F 69 & below
T - Dyslexia Therapy		

*Skill-set checklists may be used for younger students

CONFERENCES

Parents are encouraged to have at least one (1) conference with the classroom teacher or teachers during each semester. One day in the fall and one day in the spring are set aside for parent/teacher conferences, which are conducted in private. Conferences are scheduled in fifteen (15) minute intervals and notices are sent home prior to conference days so that parents can choose convenient times for those conferences. Teachers are expected to make frank and fair appraisals of the student's development. Any discussion of other students in the class, however, is usually irrelevant and may involve a violation of professional ethics.

Please notify the school whenever an important change occurs in the routine at home (e.g., a move, staying with grandparents or others while parents are out of town). A change at home affects the behavior and attitude of a student at school and it is important for the school to be informed.

For information about the normal academic work and general conduct of a student the parent may schedule a conference with the teacher. Parents may not interrupt any teaching situation or expect teachers to interrupt their classes for conferences. However, parents are invited to visit classrooms. These visits are to be scheduled with the teachers in advance. **All parents need to check in at the school office whenever they are on campus.**

TEXTBOOKS

All issued textbooks may be taken home for the student's use and study and should be covered in a book cover and returned undamaged. **Students are required to pay for any books (including library books) that are lost or damaged.** When a student loses a textbook, it must be paid for before another one is issued. The school office will give a refund if the lost book is found and returned to the school.

HOMEWORK

Homework assignments are utilized as practice exercises and are not used to introduce new material. They are designed to instill responsibility and to encourage time management and independent study habits. Assignments are geared to meet the needs of each student and to foster academic potential. Parents are encouraged to provide a quiet place and time for homework. When parents expect their children to complete assignments each evening, confidence builds, and grades improve.

Students who are absent from school due to personal illness are given the opportunity to make up all assignments. Schoolwork should be made up within one (1) week after the illness unless special arrangements have been made with the teacher. Parents may request

assignments from the teachers, and these assignments may be picked up from the school office between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

As a school service, a set of school supplies are provided for students at the beginning of the school year. These are delivered to the classroom on the first day of classes. There will be a list posted and mailed out in July that has a few additional items that parents are required to provide. Please note that teachers may require additional items throughout the school year.

CREATIVE CARE is St. Cyprian's Episcopal School's after-school childcare program. This program provides a stimulating, exciting, and positive learning environment for each student so that the after-school hours are spent in activities that are fun and challenging. Creative Care shares the mission of St. Cyprian's Episcopal School by providing opportunities for children to grow to their potential through the exploration of many imaginative and fun-filled activities.

SPECIAL EVENTS

AWARDS: The teachers at St. Cyprian's Episcopal School will make every effort to reward the positive accomplishments of all students throughout the school year. Teachers use positive verbal reinforcement and other rewards. Students who qualify for the Father Caskey Awards, the St. Cyprian's Academic Achievement Award, and the Jim May Dyslexia Award will be recognized at a special ceremony at the end of the school year. Parents whose children will be recognized are notified in advance.

FIELD TRIPS: The Head of School must approve all field trips that keep students past regular school hours and parents are given adequate prior notice of such trips. **All students are required to participate in field trips that are held during school hours.** Travel for field trips is restricted to and from the site only with no side trips, unless the entire class stops for the same purpose. **Individual cars transporting students should not make side trips under any circumstances. All drivers and passengers on school field trips must wear seat belts.** Alcohol and/or tobacco products are never to be used by anyone, including parents or chaperones, while participating in any school activity. In order to drive on a field trip, a parent must go through Safeguarding God's Children and submit to a criminal background check. Forms and arrangements for both may be obtained in the school office.

Whenever students are traveling away from school they are subject to the same rules, regulations, and appropriate politeness and civility observed on the school campus. **TEACHERS ARE IN CHARGE OF ALL FIELD TRIPS.** They will establish or approve all itineraries and agendas for all trips. As in the classroom, teachers will determine what is acceptable or unacceptable behavior. Parents chaperoning are expected to provide leadership and cooperation with teachers in assuring a safe and enjoyable time for all students.

PROGRAMS: During the school year, several programs may be scheduled for hours that are not in the regular school day. Students and parents alike are encouraged to participate and attend these programs. Every effort will be made to schedule these events with adequate prior notice for family calendar planning.

PARTIES: Class parties are held for Thanksgiving, Christmas, St. Valentine's Day, Easter and at the end of the school year. Parties are run by homeroom mothers and are scheduled to take place during the hour prior to dismissal time. End-of-year parties are scheduled for

the last day of school for the entire class and the Head of School must approve plans for activities before being finalized.

Making alcohol available to other parents at school parties, whether on or off campus, is strictly prohibited.

Birthday parties are not held at school. If parents would like to send cupcakes or cookies to school on their child's birthday as a treat, arrangements must be made in advance with the child's teacher and every student in that class must be included. Invitations to birthday parties or any other type of party held outside of regular school hours are not issued at school unless every student in the class is invited. Flowers, balloons or other gifts delivered for a student at the school will be held in the school office and given to the student at the end of the school day.

LUNCH PROGRAM

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School provides a daily hot lunch program for students. Students may bring a lunch and purchase milk or juice in the cafeteria. The monthly menu is available online in ParentsWeb for parents to use in making decisions regarding student lunch participation. Teachers will input lunch orders at the start of each school day. **If you need to cancel or add a lunch please call before 9:00 A.M.** Charges will be posted on your FACTS Prepay Account and payments can be made through ParentsWeb or in the office.

TRANSPORTATION

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School does not provide transportation to and from school. Families are responsible for seeing that students arrive at school on time and are picked up after classes dismiss. The driveway in front of the school is for drop-off and pick-up only. **The fire lane is a no parking zone.**

If parents need to leave their vehicles to come into the school building, they are asked to park in a parking spot. No one may park and leave their vehicle unattended in the fire lane or the drop-off/pick-up lane. The school wants to ensure the safety of every student in the driveway area and parents' cooperation is greatly appreciated. Please be mindful to reduce your speed and avoid the use of cell phone in parking lots.

TOYS

Toys of any sort brought to school without the approval of the classroom teacher are discouraged. Teachers will notify parents of days that are designated for Show-and-Tell and/or sharing and will give guidelines in the types of items that are appropriate for these days. We know that younger students as well as older ones like to bring things from home to show their friends, but when this is not done under proper supervision problems can occur. The school appreciates parents' cooperation in this matter. The school is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items.

TELEPHONE USAGE

The office will contact parents in instances of illness or emergencies. Forgotten homework and arranging after-school activities are not considered to be emergencies. Students are not summoned from classes to receive phone calls; however, messages are taken by the school office and transferred to students at an appropriate time. **Students may not use the telephones to make telephone calls without permission from the school office staff.** A member of the staff or faculty will make a call on behalf of a student when it is deemed necessary by the school.

Students in the middle school and high school may have a cell phone in their possession at school. The phone may not be visible during prohibited use hours. The phone may not be used after 8:00 a.m. or before 3:15 p.m. without explicit permission from the Head of School or designee. Cell phones must be turned off or in silent mode. Students whose phone rings or are found using their phone will have their phone retrieved by the teacher, who will give it to the Head of School. A parent may pick up the phone from the office at the end of the day.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Emergency contact information is submitted to the school through Online Enrollment. Parents must make sure that this information is kept current throughout the school year. Updates can be made in the office.

In the event of inclement weather parents should listen to the news media for announcements regarding school closings. Do not assume that we are closed unless you hear a specific notification to that effect. If it is necessary to dismiss school early due to an emergency we will attempt to call every student's family. Parents should not take other students with them without first checking with the school office.

In case of a natural disaster or a hazardous materials incident, students will be transported to the First United Methodist Church at 805 E. Denman. Parents will be notified by phone as soon as possible. Parents may then pick up their children at that location.

In the event of a power failure the school telephones should continue to work, but may not ring to indicate incoming calls. Telephones are answered only if someone picks up the phone. Please keep trying! Someone should eventually answer the phone in this event.

ACCREDITATION

St. Cyprian's Episcopal School is accredited by the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools, Cognia, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Texas Education Agency and any other similarly accredited school agency in the nation fully recognizes our accreditation.

TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY

Our staff and students use technology to learn. Technology is essential to facilitate the creative problem solving, information fluency, communication, and collaboration that we see in today's global economy.

While we want our students to be active contributors in our connected world, we also want them to be safe, legal, and responsible. With the ability to use technology comes responsibility. It is important that you read and discuss the SCES Responsible Use Guidelines, ask questions if you need help in understanding them, and sign the agreement form. It will be your responsibility to follow the rules for appropriate use. Irresponsible system use will result in the loss of the privilege of using this educational and administrative tool. Please review the leveled guidelines following this document, which breaks down in greater detail responsible use expectations for elementary and upper grade students in the areas of Internet Safety & Security, Digital Citizenship, and Research & Information Literacy.

Please note that the Internet is a network of many types of communication and information networks. It is possible that you may run across some material you might find objectionable. While SCES will use filtering technology to restrict access to such material, it is not possible to absolutely prevent such access. It will be your responsibility to follow the rules for

appropriate use. These responsibilities can extend beyond the school grounds when working on SCES's platforms and systems from home. The school is not responsible for students who bring their own internet connectivity via air-cards or data-plan on a mobile device.

RESPONSIBLE USE AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Any use described below is deemed "responsible" and consistent with the SCES Responsible Use Guidelines for Technology. The final decision regarding whether any given use of the network, internet or device is acceptable lies with the Head of School or designee.

- Use is mainly for educational purposes, but some limited personal use is permitted. Remember that people who receive email from you with a school email address might mistakenly infer that your message represents the school's point of view.
- Use furthers the educational and administrative purposes, goals, and objectives of SCES.
- Use is limited to your own individual account - you and only you should use that account. You should not share your password with others.
- Use furthers research related to education and instruction
- Use does not violate the student code of conduct or employee standards of conduct.
- Use of appropriate online names as well as use of polite and appropriate language/content on all online posts.
- Use of websites, content, and media is properly cited with respect to copyright.

UNACCEPTABLE AND IRRESPONSIBLE USE

Any of the following uses is deemed "unacceptable and irresponsible" and a violation of the SCES Responsible Use Guidelines for Technology. This list does not include all possible violations. The final decision regarding whether any given use of the network, Internet or device is unacceptable lies with the Head of School or designee.

Disciplinary action may be taken for unacceptable and irresponsible use of the network or Internet.

- Unauthorized use of copyrighted material, including violating school's software licensing agreements
- Posting of videos or photos without permission of the individual or group.
- Sending or posting messages and/or content that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, illegal, or intended to bully
- Use of technology resources such as chat rooms, social sites, and games in a manner that causes disruption to the educational program
- Use of school technology resources to encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety
- Use of any means to disable or bypass the school's Internet filtering system or other security systems
- Attempting to destroy, disable or gain access to school technology equipment, school data, the data of other users, or other networks connected to the school's system, including uploading or creating computer viruses
- Encrypting communications or files to avoid security review
- Posting personal information about yourself or others (such as addresses and phone numbers) other than as needed to conduct school operations
- Forgery of email messages or transmission of unsolicited junk email
- Use related to commercial activities or for commercial gain

- Use that violates the student code of conduct, employee standards of conduct, or is unlawful
- Wasting school resources through the improper use of the computer system

CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE

One or more of the following consequences may be imposed:

- Suspension of access to the system Revocation of the network or online account(s)
- Removal of device access
- Other action, including disciplinary action, in accordance with Board policy and/or the Student Code of Conduct (as applicable) and the SCES Responsible Use Guidelines for Technology

INTERNET SAFETY & SECURITY

Go Places Safely: The internet can be a great place to discover and visit far-away places to learn new things. Staying safe online is similar to staying safe in the world. Students will choose safe, age-appropriate sites with the guidance of their teachers.

Staying Safe Online: SCES has filters in place to help steer students clear of inappropriate content; however, students may encounter some inappropriate information. Students will contact their teacher if they encounter a website that could be inappropriate.

Communicating Safely Online: There are many great ways to collaborate online. Either via discussion boards, posts, comments, chat, email, etc. With that collaboration, comes caution. Students will not do any of the following:

- Post private information (such as full name, address, phone number, etc.) without the permission of a trusted adult;
- Share passwords or usernames;
- Post negative or harassing comments.

Digital Citizenship: The internet is a powerful community of connected people. That connection requires levels of responsibilities to one another. Part of being a good digital citizen is using technology in a responsible, appropriate way. Below are some specific areas to address with students.

Email Etiquette: Students may have access to a school email account after receiving basic training on email etiquette. Please know that all email can be viewed by teachers, administrators or parents. Email should be written with thought of the audience and purpose. Abuse or misuse of school email may require disciplinary action.

Commenting Responsibility: Students will be able to make comments on age-appropriate websites or collaborative online workspaces. These comments, like anything else on the internet have a certain amount of digital permanence. Students will display respect and thoughtfulness online by not posting comments that are negative, inappropriate, or personal about others or themselves.

Digital Footprints: Information you post on the internet can affect your future. The internet can be powerful a collaborative tool, but any information you post on it is accessible by anyone. If you have a question about posting something, you should always consult with your teacher or parent before posting.

Digital Ethics: Students will use the internet and digital tools to produce content for the classroom. Students will not present the work of others as their own work (known as plagiarism) There may be times when other students have left their own work on a computer or that students will collaborate on a digital project. Students will not delete or damage other

students' work intentionally. Students will ask for permission prior to posting videos or photos of other students and staff. When working on projects or any other work with online resources, students will follow copyright and creative commons laws.

PRIVILEGE

The use of devices, information systems and Internet access available at St. Cyprian's Episcopal School are intended for educational purposes only. The use of these systems is considered a privilege, not a right. Any inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of this privilege. The staff may deny access at any time as deemed appropriate and without notice. The Head of School may ask the staff to deny, revoke or suspend specific user access for violation of policy or as a result of other disciplinary action against the user, with or without cause. Any dispute regarding the enforcement of these guidelines shall be resolved by the Head of School (or designee), whose decision will be final and binding.

EXHIBIT A: OFFICIAL DRESS CODE *Effective 7/1/20*

PROPER UNIFORM (Worn on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday)

- Knit “polo” type collared shirts or button down “dress” type collared shirts in white, navy or red with the St. Cyprian’s shield logo*(required).
- Boys: Pants, or shorts in khaki or navy blue.
- Girls: Pants, shorts, skirt, jumpers, skort or capris in khaki, navy blue or school plaid.
- Shorts or pants with belt loops must be belted with a navy, black, or brown belt. (Belts are not required for 3K-5K.)

DRESS UNIFORM (Worn on Wednesdays):

- **Red** knit “polo” type collared shirt or **red** button down “dress” type collared shirt with St. Cyprian’s shield logo (required).
- Ties in school plaid may be worn with white button down “dress” type collared shirt with St. Cyprian’s shield logo (required).
- Navy shorts, pants, jumper, skirt, or skort.
- Shorts or pants with belt loops must be belted with a navy, black, or brown belt. (Belts are not required for 3K-5K.)

SPIRIT DAY (Worn on Fridays):

- St. Cyprian’s Polo, St. Cyprian’s T-shirt or appropriate college team shirt.
- Blue jean, khaki or navy pants or shorts.
- Friday is a proper uniform day if a student is not dressed for St. Cyprian’s Spirit Day.

PE (4th through 9th grade only)

- Navy athletic shorts, plain red T-shirt and tennis shoes
 - 4TH & 5TH GRADE PE (Bring to school on PE days to dress out)
 - MIDDLE SCHOOL PE (Bring to school daily to dress out for PE)

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ***No uniform items will display a logo of any sort other than the St. Cyprian’s shield logo, which may be obtained from *Real Graphics, AAA Trophy & T-Shirt, Land’s End or applied at any embroidery establishment of your choice.* (Land’s End preferred school number is 9000-3829-0. Land’s End returns a cash back credit of all purchases made back to the school at the end of the year.)**
- **Shirts without the St. Cyprian’s shield logo are considered out of compliance.** Shirts must be tucked in at all times. Turtlenecks in white, red, or navy may be worn under uniform shirts on cold weather days.
- All shorts and skirts must be no shorter than four inches above mid knee or no longer than mid-knee. All official measurements will be done discreetly in the office.
- Legging or tights must be in colors of red, navy or white. Leggings/tights are not to be worn as pants.
- Footwear: Rubber soled shoes only allowed and must have enclosed heels and toes. Tennis shoes are also permissible. Socks must be worn with all shoes. No sandals are allowed. No boots and no heels higher than ½ inch.
- Heavy coats may be worn into the building but must be put in lockers or hung on hooks during class time. Navy, red or white sweaters and sweatshirts may be worn in the classroom. Sweatshirts/sweaters must be plain or carry the St. Cyprian’s logo. Sweatshirts/sweaters with any logo other than the St. Cyprian’s logo are not permissible.
- During the school year there will be Free Dress Days offered for students to be allowed a choice of clothing acceptable to the school environment. Please comply with general safety and modesty standards by not wearing open-toed shoes, spaghetti straps and caps.
- Student attire that distracts, disrupts, or interferes with the learning environment is prohibited.

The final determination of a student being out of dress code rests with the Head of School. When a student is out of dress code a parent will be notified to bring appropriate attire.