

Calvary Chapel Christian School



*Cultivating
Faith,
Knowledge,
and Character*

Preschool Handbook for Parents/Students

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Mission Statement and Motto

Calvary Chapel Christian School, founded in 2018, is a ministry of Calvary Chapel of Westmoreland. At Calvary Chapel Christian School, you will discover a strong academic program, a Christ-centered curriculum, and a dedicated teaching staff. We are committed to providing spiritual and academic excellence for our students.

Our Motto

Cultivating Faith, Knowledge, and Character

Our Mission

Calvary Chapel Christian School exists to cultivate:

Faith

- **Partner** with parents to raise children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4)
- **Disciple** students in the truth of God's Word (2 Timothy 16-17)

Knowledge

- **Incorporate** faith while teaching academics in a Christian world-view (Colossians 1:16-18)

Character

- **Train** students to live selfless, sacrificial lives in line with the calling of God (Romans 12:1)
- **Impact** the community and culture with the gospel of Jesus Christ (Matt. 28:18-20)

Philosophy

The basis of our philosophy is the belief in God the Father, Jesus Christ our Savior, the Holy Spirit and God's Word – the Bible. We believe in the authority, authenticity and reliability of the Bible as the complete and final revelation of God concerning all matters of faith, truth and practice. We believe in the conviction that the knowledge of the Bible and of Jesus Christ is essential to the development and growth of the individual in the spiritual, mental, and social areas. All staff and faculty have a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. They will allow the Lord to minister through them by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Purpose

Functioning as an extension of the Christian home and church, Calvary Chapel Christian School supports parents who seek to obey Biblical instruction, which gives them ultimate responsibility for the education of their children (Deuteronomy 6:7-8). We offer a curriculum rooted in a God-centered world view. This view recognizes that God's Word is the standard for all truth. The curriculum, taught by a qualified Christian faculty, allows parents to provide their children with academic instruction consistent with the Christ-centered teaching received at home and at church.

Statement of Faith

WE BELIEVE that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all.

WE BELIEVE that the SCRIPTURES of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, fully inspired without error and the infallible rule of faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE in GOD THE FATHER, an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love; that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer; and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE in JESUS CHRIST, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings, His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into Heaven, perpetual intercession for His people and personal, visible return to earth.

WE BELIEVE in the HOLY SPIRIT, Who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify and empower for ministry all who believe in Christ; we believe the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ and that He is an abiding Helper, Teacher and Guide. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and in the exercise of all the Biblical gifts of the Spirit.

WE BELIEVE that all people are sinners by nature and choice and are therefore under condemnation; that God regenerates by the Holy Spirit, those who repent of their sins and confess Jesus Christ as Lord; that Jesus Christ baptizes the seeking believer with the Holy Spirit and power for service, often subsequent to regeneration.

WE BELIEVE in the universal CHURCH, the living spiritual Body, of which Christ is the Head and all regenerated persons are members.

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ committed two ORDINANCES to the Church: 1) Baptism and, 2) The Lord's Supper. We believe in Baptism by immersion and Communion open to all believers.

WE BELIEVE also in the laying on of hands praying for God's blessing and leading for ordination of Pastors, elders, and deacons, and other church related ministries. We also pray for those in

sickness and trauma by the laying on of hands trusting God the Holy Spirit to be active in this prayer of faith in God's ability and not any human ability.

WE BELIEVE in the personal, visible RETURN OF CHRIST to earth and the establishment of His Kingdom; in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment and eternal blessing of the righteous and endless suffering of the wicked.

WE BELIEVE in what is termed "The Apostle's Creed" as embodying fundamental facts of Christian faith.

FURTHERMORE, we believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe that term "marriage" has only one meaning and that is marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, and attempting to change one's biological sex or otherwise acting upon any disagreement with one's biological sex) is sinful and offensive to God.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, should abide by and agree to this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly. All marriages performed in the church shall be limited to members only ascribing to the biblical model of marriage and competing by signature the Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality.

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with scripture nor the doctrines of the church.

This Statement of Faith by Calvary Chapel Westmoreland, does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of church doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Pastors and Ruling Elders are the church's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Calvary Chapel Christian School
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMATORY POLICY
AS TO STUDENTS

Calvary Chapel Christian School admits students of any race, color, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Learning Goals

Our curriculum has been developed using mainstream Christian providers. As a Christian School, we teach our students from a biblical world view as we prepare them spiritual, academically, and emotionally. Our curriculum will focus on:

1. Scripture and Bible stories that will encourage Godly character.
2. Developing language and phonics abilities.
3. Expanding knowledge of numbers, colors, and shapes.
4. Instilling artistic exploration with various art materials.
5. Music that supports and enhances other learning goals.
6. Developing social and emotional skills.
7. Increasing gross and fine motor skills through play.
8. Creating problem solving abilities.

Volunteers

Any parent that wishes to volunteer at school is welcome to do so. First, the parent must make arrangements with the teacher(s) as to the day(s) and time they will participate in the classroom. All volunteers are required to have PA Criminal History Clearance and PA Child Abuse Clearance. If you have not lived in the state of Pennsylvania for 10 years, you are also required to submit copies of FBI Fingerprinting. Copies of these clearance must be submitted to the school before the volunteer can participate in the classroom.

School Closing

Calvary Chapel Christian School has the highest concern for student safety. Thus we have developed a thorough emergency response plan covering most natural and other emergencies. If you wish to discuss specific concerns or ask questions, please contact the school.

We will notify parents of any school cancellations due to severe weather conditions.

School Hours

Pre-k 3	8:30-12:30
Pre-k 4/5	8:30-12:30/2:30

Payment Policy

All tuition is paid over a 10-month period starting in September and ending in June.

All payments are due the first of the month starting in September. Late payments made after the 10th of the month will be charged a \$25 late fee. If an account becomes delinquent for longer than 2 months, a meeting will be requested with the school and the student may be dismissed.

Withdrawing/Dismissal

Withdrawal requests from school must be made in writing on a school form which may be obtained at the school per your request. The family will not be responsible to pay the remaining tuition balance, however, the current month will not be refunded. For instance, if a student leaves after the 1st of any given month (when payment is due) the account will be charged for the entire month.

A student may be dismissed from school at any time he/she or his/her parents are found out of harmony with the operation of the school or are not in good standing financially (refer to payment policy).

Drop Off/Pick Up

Students may be dropped off starting at 8:15-8:30. In the event of late drop-offs, please contact the school so you may be granted entrance at a later time. Please park in lot located behind the church on Hudson Avenue and escort your child to the entrance in the back of the church. A teacher will be waiting to assist in this process. Dismissal will occur from 12:30-12:45 or 2:30-2:45 depending on which program in which your child is enrolled. Please follow the same procedures as in the morning and park your vehicle in the lot behind the church. A teacher will be waiting with your child at the back entrance of the church to assist in the dismissal process.

In the event of an emergency yielding a late pick-up, please contact the school to make arrangements for your child.

All students will only be released into the custody of their parents or those identified on the emergency contact list completed at the beginning of the year. Parents/other may be asked to show a photo ID before the student is released. Please notify teachers of any planned arrangements you may have for your child regarding drop off and pick up.

Please note: Hudson Avenue is a one-way street. Drive with caution.

State Health Law

All pre-k students must have a copy of a physical exam, up-to-date immunizations, and a birth certificate before attending the first day of school.

Medications

Any medications that a child may require cannot be administered by staff. If your child requires to take medication while in school, the parent must come and assist him/her. Exceptions may be made for special circumstances.

Illness/Pediculosis (Head Lice)

In order to minimize the spread of illness amongst students and teachers, we ask that you please adhere to the following practices:

If your child has any of the following symptoms you believe to be the result of an illness, please do not bring them to school: vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, earache, fever, headache, pain, chills, coughing, etc. Your child should not return to school until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours.

In the event of illness, teachers will contact the parents to arrange student pick up. Facilities are lacking to care for sick children for any length of time. With a fever of 100 degrees or more, a student must be picked up as soon as possible.

As part of the personal hygiene routine, children should be checked periodically at home for head lice. If head lice are found on the child, the parent(s) should treat the child with a pediculicide shampoo as well as follow the necessary procedures to rid the living environment of lice. From time to time, staff may detect the presence of head lice or nits. In this case, the parent will be contacted to take care of the problem. If your child has been in close contact of

spent the night with other children in the last few days, you should inform the other family so that they may also check for head lice.

Toilet Training

All students must be able to manage using the restroom with little to no assistance before being admitted to our preschool program. We understand that accidents may occur and ask that you provide extra clothing in these situations. If accidents continually occur, you may be asked to leave the program and re-enroll after your child is able to use the restroom properly.

Standards of Conduct/Discipline

Courtesy

Christians are to treat everyone with the proper respect and are to show proper deference to those in authority. Such conduct as talking back, sarcasm addressed to those in authority, complaining, gossiping, vulgarity, cursing, or discouraging others is not acceptable at Calvary Chapel of Westmoreland Christian Academy and will be corrected through discipline.

Physical Contact

In addition to courtesy to teachers and staff, student must be respectful to their peers. Placing hands on another person is unaccepted, including but not limited to pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking, and scratching. Violations will be corrected through discipline.

Violations in these standards of conduct will be handled in the following way:

1. Students will be corrected and encouraged to examine the situation and learn why their behavior is not appropriate. Parents will be notified and the staff will do their best to aid the family in corrected behavior issues.
2. Continued, habitual inappropriate behavior will result in a request to meet with the parent(s) to discuss the situation and create a behavior plan to help the child.
3. If problems persist and it is a disruption to the harmony of the classroom and the school, the student may be dismissed.

The goal of Calvary Chapel Christian School is to help our students develop excellent social skills and Godly character. We wish to come alongside of the families in our school as they raise their children up in accordance to the Word of God. Please contact the teachers if any concerns arise.

Parent-School Interaction

It is our desire that Calvary Chapel Christian School serves as an extension of your child's home. Communication between parents and school personnel must be excellent. It should reflect the fact that parents and teachers are working together for the child's good.

We welcome suggestions or questions by parents. Please keep the lines of communication open among teachers. If a parent should have a problem with a teacher, then an appointment should be set up to discuss the problem with that teacher. If unresolved at the meeting, then a letter requesting appearance at a Church Board meeting can be given to the church.

Evaluations

Every year, there are two scheduled progress reports that will be given to parents in December and at the end of the school calendar. Parents may contact the teacher with any questions or if he/she would like to schedule a meeting to discuss their child's progress.

Appropriate Clothing

Comfortable clothing is encouraged for your child. He/she should be able to manage clothing independently. We do use art materials that can stain/ruin clothing, therefore, prepare for accidents. Only closed toed shoes with backs may be worn at school to protect your child's feet and participate in activities (sneakers are the best option).

Personal Belonging

Students may bring a personal backpack to store items such as folders, class materials, and extra clothing. Parents should label personal items. Please do not allow your child to bring items such as toys, electronic devices, etc. unless it is for academic purposes requested by the teacher.