

Grace Lutheran School

Student Handbook



“Seeking academic excellence in a Christ-centered setting”

Updated July 2017

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School Philosophy and Statement of Purpose

God tells us in Mark 10:14, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” This God-ordained work involves the application of God’s inspired and inerrant Word.

Children need to be trained in the way they should go, namely, in the Lord’s way. Therefore, children need the correction, guidance, discipline, security, and comfort which only God’s Word can give.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6

The purpose of Grace Lutheran School is to assist parents in providing this Christian education to their children.

At Grace, it is our goal that the children entrusted to our care grow in the knowledge and love of their Savior from sin, and develop their abilities for this life. In order to serve the Lord with their abilities and talents, the students at Grace are taught that they have good reason to learn of God’s orderly creation (mathematical, biological, and physical sciences) and of God’s continual working in the affairs of the world around us (social sciences). What better reason for learning to communicate well (language arts) than to share God’s Word of peace and promise with others?

Grace Lutheran School is not merely a private school. We consider Christian education to be the most complete education available, dealing with all aspects of the individual – soul, mind, and body. We encourage parents to reinforce what is taught by bringing their children to our Sunday School and Worship Services regularly.

Classroom Rules

- Show Christian love and respect to your teachers and classmates.
- You may do anything that does not cause a problem for you or someone else. If you create a problem, you will be asked to solve it. If you cannot solve it, Mr. Ohlmann will do something about it.
- If you feel something is unfair, find a time to speak quietly about it with Mr. Ohlmann.

*“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.”
Romans 12:10*

Classroom Expectations

What Mr. Ohlmann expects of you:

1. *I expect you to treat everyone with Christian love and respect.*
2. *I expect you to work hard and put in your best effort.*
3. *I expect you to do all that you do to the glory of God.*

What you can expect of Mr. Ohlmann:

1. *You can expect me to treat everyone with Christian love and respect.*
2. *You can expect me to work hard to make sure you have a good education here at Grace.*
3. *You can expect me to help you when you need help and to encourage you to be persistent when I feel that you are capable of completing something on your own.*

Home Work

All homework is due at 8:00am the day it is due.

1. If an assignment is not turned in by 8:00am the day it was due:
 - a. The assignment's final grade will be dropped 1 full letter grade.
 - b. The student will receive a note home to be signed by the parents.
 2. If an assignment is not turned in by the second day:
 - a. The assignment will be dropped to 50%.
 - i. This is not a passing grade.
 - b. The student will receive a second note home to be signed by the parents.
 3. If the assignment is not turned in by the 3rd day:
 - a. The assignment will receive 0%
 - b. The student will receive a third note home to be signed by the parents.
- If a student receives 3 notes home due to missing assignments, the student will serve a 1 hour detention.
 - This is per quarter. 3 notes home=1 detention.
 - Notes home will be kept track of over the quarter.
 - Each quarter the note total will be reset to 0.
 - In the case of an excused absence, a student has 1 day per absence to complete their homework. For example, if Monday is missed, the student's homework that is due on Tuesday will be due on Wednesday. This is in addition to the homework assigned on Tuesday.

- All assignments will be posted each day on an assignment board. Students are responsible for copying down their own assignments.
- Weekly assignment sheets can be emailed to parents upon request.
- Grade updates will be made available throughout the year upon request.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Daily attendance and punctuality is imperative in developing a strong foundation for future successes in life.
- Fifteen (15) absences or four (4) unexcused absences during the school year are considered excessive. This will be reflected in the students' grades. Loss of credit and unenrollment may result. If a student incurs ten (10) excused or two (2) unexcused absences, the family must meet with the faculty to work out an attendance contract.

Excused Absences

The following are the only reasons for excused absences:

- Illness of the student, bereavement, dental, or medical appointments.
- Other family emergencies

Prearranged absences approved by the teacher and Church Council can be made with arrangements made for doing work before or during the absence.

Unexcused Absences

There may be times that families choose to take their children out of school and incur an unexcused absence. The following are examples of unexcused absences:

- Vacations, personal family business, hunting, visiting relatives, babysitting
- Any other reason not listed as an excused absence.

When a student is absent for any reason, the school must receive a call from a parent or guardian the morning of the absence. A written reason for the absence must be received before the child can be readmitted to class.

According to Minnesota statute, children between the ages of six (6) and sixteen (16) must attend school. School attendance is ultimately the responsibility of the student and his/her family.

“Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.” Romans 13:1

Child Safety

Mission Statement

Children, “fearfully and wonderfully made” by our Father in heaven, are our sacred trust from our loving God. Grace Lutheran School seeks to provide a Christian, nurturing, and safe learning environment for our students. We do not tolerate bullying or abuse in any form. Using the Bible as our source for truth and direction, along with Christ’s example for loving and caring for others, this policy outlines our strategy for providing a safe learning environment and our steps for identifying and addressing instances of bullying or abuse.

*Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”
Matthew 19:14*

Student’s Bill of Rights

Each student at Grace Lutheran School has a right to:

- Learn in a safe and friendly place.
- Be treated with respect.
- Receive the help of caring adults.

Where and When Bullying Happens

Bullying can occur during or after school hours. While most reported bullying happens in the school building, a significant percentage also happens during recess. Bullying can also occur on the internet.

Disciplinary Actions for Bullying at School

If bullying occurs at Grace, the principal will use the following actions to administer the proper consequence. These actions are created out of Christian love to ensure the safety of our students.

- Verbal Bullying
 - If a pattern of verbal or social bullying is established, the following actions will happen in succession until the bullying ceases.
 1. **Note Home:** A note will be sent home outlining what happened. The principal will also contact the parents directly.
 2. **Meeting with Parents and Principal:** If the same student continues his or her pattern of verbal or social bullying, the principal will set up a meeting with that child’s parents to discuss the situation and identify further disciplinary actions.
 3. **Suspension:** If the same student continues his or her pattern of verbal or social bullying after actions 1 and 2 have been taken, that child will be suspended. The length of the suspension will be at the discretion of the Church Council.
- Physical bullying
 - **Suspension:** If a child physically bullies another child, a suspension will be immediately given. The length of the suspension will be at the discretion of the Church Council.

Responding to Bullying/Abuse

If a student at Grace witnesses bullying or abuse towards another student, they can use the following tools to help.

- **Don't give an audience.** Walk away. Find an adult and tell them what is going on.
- **Set a good example.** Don't laugh or join in. Show others that you know bullying is wrong by the way you act.
- **Be their friend.** Children can help someone who's been bullied by simply being nice to them at another time. Being friendly can go a long way toward letting them know that they're not alone.
- **Tell a trusted adult.** No child ever needs to feel that will "be in trouble" if they report what they believe is bullying. The staff at Grace will protect them.

If a parent suspects that their child is being abused at school, they should immediately contact the principal, pastor, or a member of the Church Council.

*Jesus said "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
John 13:34-35*

Addressing Bullying from a Christian Perspective

Through Christ's work of redemption, God has forgiven us for our many sins against Him. In the same way, God wants us to demonstrate forgiveness to those who have hurt us. Our Savior gives us the perfect example of forgiveness, and one which we are to live out in our Christian lives.

If bullying happens in our school, we will work to resolve the situation in a spirit of forgiveness and using the example of Christ:

- With the child who bullied, we will work to lead them to repentance including an understanding of how their actions have hurt someone else, and to know that Christ has forgiven them.
- With the child who was bullied, we will encourage them to forgive the one who bullied them just as Christ has forgiven us.

*And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.
Ephesians 4:32*

Contact Information

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Grace Lutheran Church and School is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). For more information about the CLC visit clclutheran.org.