

HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC SCHOOL HANDBOOK

2023 – 2024



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<http://www.holyredeemercatholicschool.com/>

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES LISTED IN THIS HANDBOOK MAY BE CHANGED OR EDITED AS NECESSARY, BASED ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CDC, INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE.

General Statement – Public Health and Safety

The COVID-19 pandemic has led Catholic schools to plan for continuing operations in cases of public health and safety emergencies and disastrous events. The schools will, where possible, follow state and local public health directives related to public health and safety emergencies, including severe weather events. As in the case of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools may be closed as a social distancing practice recommended by government officials to interrupt the spread of a contagious disease. In the event of an outbreak or any circumstances determined to be a threat to the health or safety of students, students may be excluded from attending school and school-related activities (in some cases for an extended length of time). Or, a school building may be closed as a part of school, Diocesan or community response to a public health, safety or severe weather event. The school will then transition to its extended learning format to provide continuing education services to students who are impacted, whether that be a select number of students or an entire student body.

Academic Integrity and Grading during Extended Learning

Students will continue their respective academic exercises remotely, should that become necessary. The school's expectations of all students' academic integrity and performance will be upheld and enforced during periods of extended learning. Academic integrity includes honesty in citing sources, sharing work on assignments only with permission, and prohibits cheating of any kind on assignments and assessments. Academic integrity also charges us to demonstrate responsible stewardship of our gifts and a strong work ethic. Students and families who find challenges during extended learning periods must initiate communications about those challenges to the classroom teachers and school principal in a timely manner.

The school grading policies and practices remain intact and continue during any extended learning period.

Tuition

In case of an extended virtual learning period related to any public health and safety, or severe weather, event, the school will provide continuous education services remotely for students. Tuition agreements, policies, and practices will remain in effect.

Attendance

In the event of an extended virtual learning period arising out of any public health and safety, or severe weather event, daily attendance for remote instructional days will be required. The principal will communicate how attendance will be taken. During such extended virtual learning periods, current attendance policies will remain in effect and enforceable.

In the event a student's doctor recommends the student not return to the school building should his or her health be compromised related to a contagious disease event, the school may provide reasonable alternative accommodations for this student. The school shall determine the level and character of any such reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations may depend on various factors, including class size, grade level, staffing, financial concerns, etc.

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**HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
2023-2024**

“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and diligence.” - **Abigail Adams**

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Holy Redeemer Catholic School! In choosing Holy Redeemer Catholic School, you have demonstrated a commitment to the values and philosophy of a Catholic education.

The Parent/Student Handbook reflects the policies of Holy Redeemer Catholic School for the 2023-2024 school year. Please read this document carefully and sign the attached agreement. This agreement states that you intend to abide by the policies of Holy Redeemer Catholic School during the 2023-2024 school year.

The faculty and staff of your school look forward to working with you to promote academic excellence and spiritual development in the context of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Together let us pray that God, who has begun this good work in us, may carry it through to completion.

Blessings,

Andrea Lodato Dickel
Principal

Fr. Jason Gries
Pastor

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Redeemer Catholic School, with Christ as its focus, is committed to providing a safe, challenging learning environment.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The religion program at Holy Redeemer Catholic School is central to the school's curriculum. As stated in our philosophy, our goal is to lead students to a fuller Christian lifestyle. In addition to the instructional program, the school provides assistance in the sacramental preparation of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and the opportunity to attend liturgies, prayer services, and penance services.

It is our belief that without regular weekend worship, the effectiveness of the religious education program is greatly diminished. Therefore, families are urged to worship together on weekends.

Religious education goes beyond the mere addition of religion classes. It attempts to create an atmosphere: a community in which personal beliefs and values are transferred and become the basis for living.

FOREWORD

This handbook has been prepared as a means of helping all to understand the policies at Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The study of this handbook is intended to provide a mutual understanding among parents, teachers, and students resulting in improved cooperation. Keep this handbook as your child progresses through Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The school and principal retain the right to amend the handbook for just cause. Parents will be given prompt notification if changes are made.

School Mascot: Rockets

School Colors: Red and White

PHILOSOPHY

Holy Redeemer Catholic School is a part of the teaching mission of Holy Redeemer Parish. Recognizing the parents as primary educators of their children, the pastor, principal, teachers, staff, and parents work cooperatively to guide the children in the teachings of Jesus, specifically in the areas of message, community service, peace and justice. This is the mission of His Son, Jesus.

Acknowledging that each child is an individual, Holy Redeemer Catholic School concerns itself with the development of the total child: physical, spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional, social, and aesthetic. A highly qualified professional staff shares talents and skills in order to provide a sound program for the students. A variety of methods, materials, and equipment are used to prepare the students to deal successfully with their own immediate and long-range needs.

This development includes learning Catholic doctrine, values, and attitudes which will prepare our children to live Christian and moral lives in a secular world. Holy Redeemer Catholic School directs each student toward the realization of his/her full potential and the development of his/her relationship to God, self, family, and neighbor.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Holy Redeemer Catholic School consists of pre-school through grade eight. Grades six through eight follow a departmentalized schedule. Kindergarten through fifth grades consist of self-contained classrooms. A pre-school program is available for three year olds. Four and five year olds are eligible for a pre-kindergarten program. K-8 teachers are licensed by the State of Indiana.

GOALS

Holy Redeemer Catholic School strives to abide by the following guidelines in the development of each student:

1. The staff realizes that children think and learn in various ways and need a variety of options. This is done with each student or group of students through the assistance of the teacher.
2. The staff gives the students specific instruction on productive behavior. The overall mood of the school is supportive of both academic and personal growth.
3. Personal experiences in Christian living through liturgy, Sacramental life, prayer, and guidance are offered.
4. Good physical and mental habits are fostered and encouraged.

EDUCATION POLICY (PRE-SCHOOL- GRADE 12) – HOLY REDEEMER PARISH

It is the goal of Holy Redeemer Parish to provide the opportunity for Preschool-Grade 12 Catholic education for all “active” families. Each family that meets the requirements of the policy will have the option to send their children to Holy Redeemer Catholic School or one of the Evansville Catholic High Schools per tuition schedule.

Guidelines for Active Families:

1. To worship with the parish community on a regular basis.
2. To contribute to the financial support of our parish through the weekly collection. The goal we are striving for is to be a proportionate-giving parish.
3. To be a part of the life of the parish by participating in parish activities such as the fall festival booth, parish organizations, and other fundraising projects. This includes a willingness of the parish members to share their time and talent.

ADMISSION POLICY

Eligibility for Attendance - Holy Redeemer Catholic School follows the State of Indiana’s guidelines on school admission. At the present time, students must be five by August 1st to enter kindergarten that fall. Parents/Guardians may appeal to the principal of Holy Redeemer Catholic School for early enrollment into kindergarten. Academic screening by the kindergarten teacher, a statement of readiness for kindergarten from the child's pre-school teacher, and an interview with the parents/guardians may be required for the appeal to be considered. Proof of age must be verified by a birth certificate. All students entering Holy Redeemer Catholic School for the first time or entering grade 6 must have a physical examination.

K-8 Enrollment Process - Holy Redeemer Catholic School offers general education classes for grades K-8.

It shall be the policy of Holy Redeemer Catholic School to maintain class sizes suitable to the grade level, type of class work offered, and the type of children being instructed in a given class. Consideration also shall be given to other relevant factors such as physical limitations of a specific classroom.

At the time of registration, all new students in grades 1-8 seeking admission to Holy Redeemer Catholic School are evaluated on the basis of current standardized test scores and report cards.

Requirements include:

- *Health Records
- *Immunization Records
- *Birth Certificate

- *Baptismal Certificate (Catholic applicants only)
- *Report Cards
- *Standardized Test Results
- *Record of IEP (if applicable)

Students applying for Admission in Grades 1-8 should be prepared to present a copy of the current report card and/or standardized test results and any other accompanying documents, such as IEPs or 504s. These will be reviewed to determine whether the program at Holy Redeemer Catholic School will meet the educational needs of the students. An interview with the student is part of the admission process.

In the spring of each year every class will be evaluated for the coming school year. A decision as to whether a class should be split or an assistant should be assigned will be determined at the direction of the teacher, administrator, the Education Commission, and the Pastor.

In an effort to provide the best possible education for all students, it is the goal of Holy Redeemer Catholic School to support the following guidelines in relation to class size.

Grades K-8 not to exceed 28 students in one classroom.

Because resources (both space and staff) are limited, it is understood that these are goals and not absolute limits. In the event the number of eligible students exceeds the class limits, the following priorities have been established for admission:

1. Registered, participating and contributing member of Holy Redeemer Parish with a child currently enrolled in school.*
2. Registered, participating and contributing member of Holy Redeemer Parish with a Catholic child not currently in school. (The length of time as a parish member will be a factor in 1 and 2).
3. Families who desire to become members of Holy Redeemer Parish at the same time they wish to enroll their child(ren) in school will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
4. School staff member employed by Holy Redeemer with a Catholic child.
5. Catholic non-parish member.
6. Non-Catholic with a child currently enrolled in school with tuition payments up to date.
7. Non-Catholic families.

*A participating parish family is one who:

1. Attends weekend liturgy at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.
2. Volunteers time and talent at various school and parish activities.

3. Contributes to the financial support of the parish. Everyone is encouraged to tithe above the tuition amount, of his or her income, to meet our parish budget.

The Holy Redeemer Finance Committee establishes the following rates yearly:

1. Registration fee
2. Parishioner and non-parishioner rates.

Pre-School Enrollment Process - Applications for parish and non-parish enrollments will be accepted beginning in late January, but non-parish enrollments will not be finalized until after March 1 for any available spots not filled by parish families.

The following priorities have been established for admission to the pre-school:

1. Registered, participating, and contributing member of Holy Redeemer Parish with a child currently enrolled in the pre-school or school. *
2. Registered, participating, and contributing member of Holy Redeemer Parish with a Catholic child not currently in the pre-school or school. (The length of time as a parish member will be a factor in 1 and 2.)
3. Families who desire to become members of Holy Redeemer Parish at the same time they wish to enroll their child(ren) in school will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Priority given to families living within parish boundaries. (*According to K-12 Education Policy of Holy Redeemer Parish*)
4. Registered, participating, and contributing member of All Saints Parish or St. Mary Parish with a child currently enrolled in the pre-school or school. *
5. School staff member employed by Holy Redeemer with a Catholic child.
6. Catholic non-parish member.
7. Non-Catholic with a child currently enrolled in pre-school or school with tuition payments up to date.
8. Non-Catholic families.

*A participating parish family is one who:

1. Attends weekend liturgy at Holy Redeemer Church.
2. Volunteers time and talent at various school and parish activities.
3. Contributes to the financial support of the parish. Everyone is encouraged to tithe above the tuition amount, of his or her income, to meet our parish budget.

Transfer Student Enrollment Process - When the school principal receives an application for enrollment of a possible transfer student from another school to Holy Redeemer Catholic School, an application form including a statement of the school's transfer policy must be provided to the student's parent(s) or guardian(s). The parents should provide access to all academic and health records directly to the principal of Holy Redeemer Catholic School. The transferring student's

application and records from the prior school will then be reviewed by the principal.

No students requesting transfer to Holy Redeemer Catholic School will be approved except upon review by the principal. The principal will not consider any application of a transferring student for enrollment without the complete application package including all records from the transferring student's prior school. The parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of the transferring student must provide all waivers or authorizations required by the prior school for release of the student's records. Under no circumstances will the student's confidentiality rights be violated.

Homeschooled Students- Students transferring from non-accredited/home schools will be required to take tests from the previous grade and/or meet other performance requirements to determine appropriate grade placement.

All new students will be given a trial period in which to prove himself/herself both socially and academically. If during this trial period there are any problems, a student may be asked to withdraw his/her attendance at Holy Redeemer Catholic School.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Holy Redeemer Catholic School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin 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, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship, loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs.

POWERSCHOOL STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Holy Redeemer utilizes PowerSchool as its student management system. All families will be given login information and should become acquainted with PowerSchool at the beginning of the school year. It is imperative that parents use this tool to monitor student grades and other important information. It is also imperative that you keep an email address on file with the school and that you check your email regularly for important school information. This is the most effective way for us to communicate with you and we would appreciate your help in keeping you informed about school happenings, events, and information.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Arrival: K-8

****All drivers should enter the east entrance off Mill Rd. Only students in K-8 can be dropped off at the main school office door (Door 2).**

All K-8 drivers should enter the east entrance off Mill Rd (closest to North Park Shopping Center). Only students in K-8 can be dropped off at the main school office door (Door 2) beginning at 7:00 am. Students who need to be dropped off prior to 7:00 am must utilize the SACC program and be dropped off at Door 4. SACC will open at 6:30 am and will conclude at 7:00 am when all students in grades 3-8 will proceed to the gym to walk or have open gym and those in grades PS-2 will walk in the cafeteria. Students who attend morning SACC will be charged \$2 per student per day. Students will go to their homerooms at 7:20 am. Prayer and announcements will begin promptly at 7:30 am.

Arrival PS/PK

All PS/PK drivers should enter the south entrance off 4th Avenue (entrance furthest from Mill Road). PS/PK students can be dropped at Door #12 between 7:15 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. PS/PK parents may park in the 4th Ave. side lot along the sidewalk. A teacher will be there to meet you or there is a white doorbell at that door to ring for entry. An early childhood teacher will be present to sign you in. For those arriving after 7:45 a.m., please enter through the school Door #2. The school office will answer that buzzer and make sure that the child is brought to our hallway.

Dismissal

All parents/guardians picking up students at the end of the day should enter the east entrance off Mill Rd. If you have a child in PS, PK, K, 1, 2, or 3 all children will be picked up in the back lot (playground parking lot). When coming to the back lot, please form 4 evenly distributed lines. Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten students will exit Door 7 at 2:25 p.m. and will wait for an adult to retrieve them. Students in grades 1-3 and ***students in grades 4-8 with siblings in grades K-3*** will exit Doors 4 and 7 at 2:30 p.m.

Students in grades 4-8 with no siblings in grades Preschool through grade 3 should form two evenly distributed lines in the front parking lot. Students will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m.

If Holy Redeemer Catholic School is in a lockdown situation, under a severe thunderstorm warning, etc. at dismissal time, dismissal may be delayed until an all-clear signal has been given. After the all-clear signal, students will be released as they normally are released at the end of the day. **If a parent requests to take his/her child/children before the all-clear signal, he/she will be**

required to sign a release slip. Students will only be released to a parent/guardian or those individuals listed on the emergency procedure card before the all-clear signal is given. Please make sure to list anyone your child(ren) is/are allowed to ride home with on the emergency card.

ATTENDANCE – ABSENCES – TARDINESS

Consistent attendance at school is necessary for a student’s educational success. A student needs to arrive at school on time and ready for school work.

The homeroom bell rings at 7:20 am. Any student not in his/her homeroom by 7:30 am will be considered tardy. Three unexcused tardies will result in a detention. Excessive tardies will be reported to the Diocesan Attendance Officer and/or Child Protective Services, as well as noted on a child’s permanent record card.

The only excused tardies are for doctor’s appointments. Doctor’s notes are required upon returning to school for long-term illnesses and doctor’s appointments.

If a student is absent, the parent must call the school office by 8:30 a.m. Arrangements regarding homework are to be made at the time the parent calls school. Students will be allowed 4 absences in a quarter before disciplinary action may be taken. These may include excused absences if they become excessive.

When a student is ill, he/she should remain at home for his/her welfare and that of the other students. A student must remain symptom-free (fever, vomit, diarrhea) for 24 hours before returning. When a student is absent from school because of illness, he/she **SHALL NOT** attend after school events or extra-curricular activities.

If a student will be leaving school before the end of the school day, a written notice or email should be sent to the teacher and the school secretary. The notice will be kept on file for the school year. Students will be called to the office when an adult arrives to pick them up to leave.

Students will not be sent home for an illness or accident without first notifying the parent, guardian, or someone listed on the emergency card. It is vital that you keep your emergency information up to date.

When a student arrives at or after 10:00 a.m. because of an appointment or other personal reasons, the student is counted as half-day absent. Students leaving at or before 12:00 p.m. and not returning will also be counted as half-day absent. Students arriving at school after the 7:30 a.m. bell are considered tardy. Those students must check in at the school office and will be given a tardy slip to be

handed to their homeroom teacher. Three unexcused tardies will result in a detention.

Absences due to vacation are strongly discouraged. Extended absences are detrimental to a student's academic progress and grades. Written notice must be given to the school at least two weeks in advance of a vacation. Assignments will be given to students on their last day of attendance before a vacation and are due on the date of return to school. Tests missed due to vacations must be made up by the second day of return to school.

If tests or assignments are given while a student attends a medical or dental appointment, the student is responsible for making up the work by the next day. Arrangements must be made by the student with the teacher.

EXCUSED VS. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Student absences will count as unexcused absences unless the student has a doctor's note signed by a licensed physician or for attending a funeral. All other absences, including those called in by parents, will be considered unexcused. Students may not have more than 9 absences, excused or unexcused, in one semester. A letter from the state of Indiana explaining the truancy laws and consequences may be sent to the family after 9 absences. Other consequences, such as violations or detentions, may also result.

BEHAVIOR PHILOSOPHY

WE, THE TEACHERS AND STAFF
OF HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC SCHOOL,
BELIEVE AND EXPECT ALL
STUDENTS TO BEHAVE APPROPRIATELY.
WE BELIEVE THAT EACH STUDENT IS A UNIQUE HUMAN BEING
AND WILL BE ACCEPTED.
WE MAKE A COMMITMENT TO ZERO TOLERANCE FOR BULLYING AND DISPLAYS
OF DISRESPECT TO ANY OF GOD'S CREATIONS.

Behavior Program

In order to guarantee that all of the students experience the excellent learning climate they deserve, Holy Redeemer uses the following Behavior Plan:

WE EXPECT HOLY REDEEMER STUDENTS TO:

1. Act in a Christian manner.
2. Follow directions.
3. Respect others' space, belongings, and feelings.

4. Do his/her own work.
5. Use school equipment properly.
6. Be prompt for class after each class exchange.
7. Show appropriate behavior in church, on the playground, and in the hallways.
8. Conform to the Holy Redeemer Dress Code.
9. Not participate in bullying or any form of disrespect toward others.

STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO FOLLOW THESE EXPECTATIONS MAY RECEIVE:

1. Praise
2. Special classroom rewards
3. Positive reinforcement

All students receive specific behavior guidelines on the first day of school. The teachers will provide parents with specific rules and procedures.

BULLYING STATEMENT

“ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT: The Catholic Diocese of Evansville and the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) believe that each school in the Catholic Diocese of Evansville must be aware that its purpose is rooted in the mission of the Church. Each school, in fulfilling its role within the educational mission of the Church, must share and live out, through Catholic Christian tradition, the message of Jesus Christ and be committed to providing an integrated Catholic educational environment that permeates all aspects of its daily life and operations.

Bullying is prohibited in all schools in the Catholic Diocese of Evansville. It must not be tolerated on or off the school grounds. Bullying and intimidation are actions that are contrary to the teaching of Jesus Christ. This behavior is against the fundamental tenet of “love your neighbor as yourself”, and destroys respect for the dignity of the student, undermines the Christian atmosphere of the school, and deprives the student of a safe and caring learning environment. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior; treating others with civility and respect; and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation or bullying.

Bullying, as defined by the CSO, is any overt acts by a student or a group of students directed against another student with the intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the other student while on or off school grounds where acts are repeated against the same student over time. Bullying includes physical intimidation or assault, extortion, oral or written threats, digital or electronic expressions/threats, teasing, putdowns, name-calling, threatening looks, gestures or actions, cruel rumors, false accusations, and social isolation.

Any person who has a complaint of bullying must bring that complaint to the attention of the school principal. Forms for reporting alleged bullying are appended

to this manual and may be obtained from the school principal's office. All such complaints will be properly investigated. Every effort will be made to maintain the privacy of the charging person and the person or persons complained about. School officials will keep documentation of all bullying investigations and allegations and take appropriate and corrective action including disciplinary action measures if justified to remedy violations. A copy of an Incident Form must be sent to the superintendent as soon as possible."

Our school embraces the following as school rules against bullying:

- We will not bully others.
- We will try to help students who are bullied.
- We will try to include students who are left out.
- If we know that someone is being bullied, we will tell an adult at school and an adult at home.

PLAYGROUND RULES

Be kind and considerate of one another.

"Safety first" on the playground equipment.

No tackling.

Share playground equipment and playground space.

Use only language that is becoming of a Christian.

Move quickly and walk quietly into the building when recess ends.

Follow all other rules established by teachers and enforced by playground supervisors.

GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

Students are not to bring toys or games from home without special permission from the teacher. Any toy from home may be taken by a teacher or staff member and kept until the end of the school day. For repeat offenders, the confiscated item may be kept until the end of the school year unless picked up by a parent.

Electronic items: smart watches, iPads, cameras, laser pointers, computer games, headsets, radios, and any other electronic devices are generally NOT permitted and may be confiscated by teachers and staff. These items will be returned to parents only.

Teachers may choose to have students bring smart devices for school projects. In the event a teacher plans to do this, he/she will inform parents ahead of time and the devices will be allowed during that class period only.

Students who choose to bring cell phones to school must leave them in their lockers and turned off during the school day. Cell phone use will not be permitted during the school day without permission from teachers or administration. Any violation of this policy is subject to confiscation of the phone. Any confiscated

phones will be returned to parents or guardians only. The first time a phone is confiscated, it will be returned to a parent or guardian at the end of the same school day. Any subsequent time the phone is confiscated, it will be returned to a parent or guardian after a time deemed appropriate by the administration.

Students should remember to keep their hands and feet to themselves. Whether this is of a physically harmful nature or a physically touchy nature, it will not be permitted. There will be no "PDA" between students during the school day.

STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE NOT TO FOLLOW THESE EXPECTATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING VIOLATIONS:

1. Violation
2. Detention
3. School Suspension
4. Expulsion

Violation slips:

If a student chooses not to follow school rules, he or she will receive a violation slip. Three violations in a semester will result in a detention.

Examples:

Disruptive behavior of a minor nature: classroom, playground, cafeteria, gym, church, hallway, bathroom, assignments, chronic tardiness, dress code violation, etc.

Detention:

Detentions can be given for an accumulation of violations. They can also be given for serious infractions with no prior warning. The parent/guardian is notified with a detention form and a detention is expected to be served. The student will serve detention the Wednesday after the detention was issued unless otherwise noted by the principal. Detention will last from 2:30 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. If the student is 5 or more minutes late the detention will be reissued and served again during the next detention available.

Examples:

- Non-compliance with school rules: school crossing, arrival and dismissal, emergency procedure, recess, classroom.
- Non-compliance with detention procedure: behavior during detention, unsigned detention.
- Unprepared for class on consistent basis.
- Cheating.
- Disrespect toward school personnel, students, playground supervisor and visitors.
- Obscene or vulgar language, signs or gestures spoken or written.
- Going off school grounds during school hours without permission.
- Serious roughness, fighting, throwing rocks, snowballs, or dangerous objects.

- Theft, defacement, spitting, destruction or loss of other's property (restitution is to be made).
- Bullying or actions showing disrespect toward others.

Suspension:

A suspension is an extreme infraction. Parents are notified with a suspension form or letter and this process may involve one to five days in or out of school during investigation and additional days suspension determined by the principal in conference with the teacher, parent or guardian depending on the severity of the infraction. During this time, work must be completed as assigned by all teachers in an effort to keep students from falling behind; however, no credit will be awarded for this work.

Examples:

- Using violence, force, noise, coercion, threats (real or in jest), intimidation, or other comparable conduct and thereby interfering with school purposes.
- Damaging or stealing school property.
- Damaging or stealing the property of another.
- Threatening (real or in jest) or intimidating any student for the purpose of obtaining money or anything else of value.
- Doing harm to a fellow student.
- Threatening or doing physical harm to a school employee.
- Knowingly possessing, using, transmitting, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object that might be considered a weapon.
- Engaging in any unlawful activity that interferes with the school process.
- Insubordinate conduct.
- Violation of school attendance policies.
- Significant or repeated acts of bullying or disrespect toward others.

Expulsion:

Permanent dismissal of a student from the school for a disciplinary reason. Due to the gravity of the consequences of expulsion, it is essential that the principal consult with the Pastor and the Diocesan Office of Education prior to the initiation of the expulsion process. The expulsion of a student from the Catholic school is such a serious penalty that it should be invoked rarely, and then only as a last resort. The principal should use every means available to discover the cause of the problems and should exhaust all appropriate remedies.

Examples:

- Using violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation or other comparable conduct and thereby interfering with school purposes.
- Sexual harassment.
- Damaging or stealing of school property.
- Damaging or stealing another's property.
- Doing harm to a fellow student or school employee.

- Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of obtaining money or a valuable item.
- Knowingly possessing, using, transmitting or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object that can be considered a weapon.
- Engaging in any other inappropriate conduct that interferes with the school process.
- Other extreme behavior that interferes with school purposes.
- Extreme acts of bullying or disrespect toward others that compromise the Christian environment of Holy Redeemer Catholic School.

BEHAVIOR PROGRAM PROCEDURES

- Detention forms will be kept by homeroom teachers. When a detention is earned, the teacher or principal will issue it. Each classroom teacher will record his/her own detentions.
- When a student receives a Detention form, the student is responsible for notifying his/her parents, although teachers may also send an email. Parents are required to sign and return the form the next school day. Unsigned forms may result in subsequent Detention forms.
- Detentions can be issued by all teachers and staff in the school.
- Detention forms must be returned, signed by a parent, on or before the day the detention is to be served.
- Students will serve 45 minutes of detention on the Wednesday following the given detention, from 2:30-3:15 in the afternoon, supervised by a teacher.
- Students who receive 15 detentions in a school year may be expelled. When a student has received 15 detentions, special circumstances must be provided to avoid expulsion.
- A parent-teacher-principal conference will be required when a student receives his/her 5th detention, and then scheduled as needed.
- School suspensions will be considered as the equivalent of 3 detentions per day suspended.
- Students found in possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, weapons, or tobacco products may be suspended from school for the remainder of the school year.
- Although Holy Redeemer Catholic School intends to use sequential discipline (violation, detention, suspension, expulsion), the school reserves the right to use detention, suspension or expulsion as a first action depending on the severity of the student's behavior.

SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT

Holy Redeemer Catholic School believes a safe and healthy environment should be provided in which all children can learn, develop, and participate in instructional programs that promote high levels of academic achievement. As an Indiana

accredited non-public school, state law requires that our school has a Seclusion and Restraint Plan. The purpose of the plan is to insure that all students and staff are safe in school, and that students who may have behavior crises are free from inappropriate use of seclusion or restraint.

Behavioral interventions for children must ensure all children are treated with dignity and respect. This environment should allow all children to be free from physical or mental abuse, aversive behavioral interventions that compromise health and safety, and any physical seclusion or restraint imposed solely for purposes of discipline or convenience.

Seclusion or restraint shall not be used as routine school safety measures; that is, they shall not be implemented except in situations where a child's behavior or action poses imminent danger of physical harm to self or others and not as a routine strategy implemented to address instructional problems or inappropriate behavior (e.g., disrespect, noncompliance, insubordination, out of seat), as a means of coercion or retaliation, or as a convenience. Any use of either seclusion or restraint shall be supervised, short in duration and used only for the purposes of de-escalating the behavior.

Parents can access a full copy of our school's plan by request in the school office.

COMMUNICATION\GRIEVANCES

Communication is vital. Many problems can be avoided if lines of communication are followed. If a parent has a complaint, the parent should discuss the difficulty first with the teacher. If the difficulty is not resolved, the principal should be contacted. If, at this time, the problem is not resolved, the Education Commission and finally the pastor are the proper channels to follow. Handwritten notes from parents should not be written on violation or detention forms upon returning them to school. Emails or phone calls to discuss the grounds of the violation or detention are preferred. This allows parents an opportunity to express concern without giving students the idea that the teachers are not supported. Most problems can be corrected if time is taken to get at the root of the problem.

CRISIS/CONFRONTATION POLICY

The safety and well-being of every student, the school staff and the educational and disciplinary environment of our Catholic Schools are of paramount importance. Catholic school authorities, therefore, must often make judgments which are intended to directly and quickly address potential problems and dangers they perceive based upon information received or obtained and/or behavior observed with respect to a particular student or group of students.

Therefore, the provisions of this section may be invoked by school authorities without prior notice to the student or the student's parents in any instance where

school authorities possess information which leads them to conclude that a reasonable possibility exists that any of the following events either have occurred, are underway, or may occur absent intervention:

- A. A student has engaged in or has threatened to engage in any illegal conduct, whether or not on school property;
- B. A student has engaged in or threatened, attempted or made plans to engage in any intentional conduct that did, may, or would present a risk of physical harm to any person or persons, whether or not on school property;
- C. A student has voluntarily participated in or assisted in any conduct which, although not itself illegal, encourages, invites or entices, by word or example, any other person to engage in conduct that violates the law or that violates the Code of Christian Conduct;
- D. A student has knowingly possessed, used, transmitted or been under the influence of any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind on school property or at any school function;
- E. A student knowingly possesses, handles, conceals or transmits any object that could be used as a weapon or instrument of destruction on school property or at any school function;
- F. A student knows, but fails to disclose to school authorities, that another student either:
 - (i) has threatened or made plans to engage in conduct that would intentionally present a risk of physical harm to any person or persons; or
 - (ii) has possessed, handled, concealed or transmitted any object that could be used as an instrument of destruction on school property or at any school function.

Upon receipt of such information, school authorities, in addition to all other remedies available, shall have the authority to confront the student and/or the student's parents or guardians and to impose, as a condition of such student's continued enrollment, any reasonable requirements and/or restrictions upon such student and his or her parents or guardians which, in the opinions of school authorities are necessary to protect the general student body, the school itself, the educational mission of the school and/or members of the general public. The failure or refusal of a student or parent to comply with such requirements, conditions and/ or restrictions shall be grounds for the immediate expulsion of the student.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

The school dress code is designed to promote neatness, modesty, discipline, and to provide an atmosphere conducive to an effective Christian Learning Environment. Students are expected to dress appropriately for each occasion. Parents are expected to ensure their child is dressed according to the dress code, with the exception of special dress days as approved by the administration. The school reserves the right to call or send home any student whose dress is deemed inappropriate for school. The school also reserves the

right to determine if an aspect of a student's dress is distracting to the learning environment, thereby inappropriate for school.

Failure to follow the uniform policy will result in violations and detentions. On certain occasions, the student will not be permitted to attend class until the dress code infraction is corrected.

Since this handbook cannot make provisions for the continual changing of fads in dress, **the school administration reserves the right to decide what is acceptable and appropriate.**

General Dress Code Rules

1. Hair should be kept clean, properly styled and of a natural color. Hair dyed colors such as red, blue, green, or purple will not be permitted.
2. Boys' hair may not touch the collar in the back, should not be over the eyes, and should not be below the ears on the side.
3. Hairstyles bordering on the extreme will not be permitted. Administration reserves the right to determine what is extreme.
4. Girls may only wear simple headbands with no adornments, such as cat ears or tinsel.
5. Solid color means all one color on the entire item. No contrasting color or stripes on body, sleeves, or collar.
6. All parts of the uniform are to be neat, clean, and fit appropriately. **NO OVER-SIZED CLOTHING.**
7. Neither coats nor non-school sweatshirts are to be worn in the classroom.
8. Dress code is to be followed at all times during the school day.
- 9. Label all clothing with the child's name.**
10. A plain white t-shirt may be worn under polos or turtlenecks.
11. Solid red, white, or navy long-sleeved, form-fitting shirts may be worn under short-sleeved polos during cold weather.

Make-Up & Jewelry: No make-up is allowed for girls younger than 7th grade. When a student arrives with make-up, teachers may ask the student to remove it. Girls are allowed to wear fingernail polish but it must not be distracting. Fake nails will not be permitted. Girls' jewelry is limited to appropriate small pierced earrings in lower ear, rings, religious necklaces and watches. Boys' jewelry is limited to rings, religious necklaces and watches. No earrings for boys. Only medical bracelets will be permitted for boys and girls. Skin should be free of ink drawings and tattoos during the school day.

Pants and Shorts: The uniform pants and shorts are navy blue or tan khaki. No jeans, corduroy or sports pants with pockets on the outside may be worn. Pants must have belt loops and a belt must be worn at all times, even if a fleece is worn. No cargo, carpenter, lycra material, leggings, jeggings, or low-cut pants are allowed. Shorts may be worn with or without cuffs. Shorts should be an

appropriate length and a final decision is at the principal's discretion. Very short shorts are not appropriate and will not be acceptable.

Shirts/Blouses: Solid colors of red, white and navy blue are allowed. Shirts/Blouses must have a collar, may be either long or short sleeved and be made of appropriate fabric. No sheer material or tight-fitting tops are acceptable. Only the top button of the buttoned shirt may be unbuttoned. Shirts must be tucked in. NO TRANSFERS OR LETTERING OF ANY KIND IS ACCEPTABLE. Turtlenecks may be worn. Turtlenecks must also be in white, red or navy blue. Plain undershirts may be worn under acceptable uniform shirts. Form-fitting, long-sleeved shirts may be worn under short-sleeved polos for added warmth.

Shoes: For students in grades K-3, shoes must be athletic. No sandals of any type may be worn unless a temporary medical reason exists. No crocs, boots, moccasins, slippers, etc. will be allowed. Light up shoes are strongly discouraged. For students in grades 4-8, tennis shoes are suggested. No sandals, crocs, boots, or slippers will be allowed.

Sweaters: Solid white, red, navy blue cardigans or pullovers may be worn. Monogramming and manufacturer's logo are permitted. Uniform shirts must always be worn under the sweater.

Non-uniform jackets and sweatshirts: Non-uniform jackets and sweatshirts may be worn outside for recess but will not be permitted in the classroom. These items will remain in student lockers during the school day.

Uniform sweatshirts, fleeces and track jackets: The logo embroidered black or red sweatshirts, fleeces or track jackets purchased through the annual school spirit sale will be allowed in the classroom and at church. Solid red or black sweatshirts may be worn. **No other sweatshirt, fleeces, hoodies, or jackets will be permitted in classes or at church, including "spirit wear" sweatshirts.**

Socks: Socks must be worn and visible.

ALTERNATE DRESS: Free or alternate dress will be scheduled on a day following a PTO meeting for students of parents who attend the PTO meeting. Other occasions may also be used infrequently. Dress will still need to be appropriate in style and length for school. Socks and shoes must be worn and must meet the dress code.

Students may NOT wear the following: shirts with inappropriate wording or pictures, sleeveless shirts, tank tops, or short-shorts, pants or jeans with holes in them. Torsos must not be exposed. Leggings must be worn with an appropriate top that covers the rear. Administration reserves the right to request a change of clothes if anything is deemed inappropriate for school.

SPIRIT DRESS: Holy Redeemer Catholic School Spirit Day will take place every Monday unless noted for a special event. Only Holy Redeemer School shirts (any shirt that says Holy Redeemer) or solid red, white, or black shirts may be worn since this is a spirit day to honor our school. **Only uniform shorts, uniform pants or jeans may be worn with spirit shirts.**

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT

This school abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of non-custodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, a school will provide the non-custodial parent with access to the academic records and to other school related information regarding the child. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order. It is also the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the court order if someone is banned from picking up a child from the school.

SEARCHES

LOCKERS: The school principal may search student lockers at any time. The principal may give consent to locker searches by other school officials or law enforcement officers. Students should have no expectation of privacy in lockers' contents.

STUDENTS: School teachers and administrators may search students and their personal belongings if they have reasonable suspicion, based upon the totality of the circumstances, for suspecting the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school rules.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY STUDENTS

Sexual harassment by students is unacceptable conduct which may constitute grounds for expulsion. Sexual harassment may include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or language or conduct of a sexual nature when such activity is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive so as to limit a person's ability to participate in or benefit from school programs or so as to create a hostile or abusive educational environment.

Any person who has a complaint of sexual harassment by a student must bring that complaint to the attention of the school principal. Forms for reporting alleged sexual harassment may be obtained from the principal's office. All such complaints will be promptly investigated. Every effort will be made to maintain the privacy of the charging person and the person or persons complained about. School officials will keep documentation of all allegations and investigations of

student sexual harassment confidential and take appropriate corrective action including disciplinary measures if justified to remedy violations of the policy.

Any person who knowingly makes a false report of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action.

TELEPHONE/MESSAGES

Students are not permitted to use phones (cellular or office) unless an emergency arises. In the event a student receives a call through the office, the message will be delivered to him/her by office staff at an appropriate time. Communication between parents and students should take place before leaving for school. Students will not be allowed to call home for forgotten homework, lunch, gym clothes, etc. Students should know what their day entails and what they should be bringing to school. They should also know how they are getting home at the end of the day. If a change in routine will occur for your child at the end of the day, send a note to inform the teacher. If an unexpected change becomes necessary during the school day, please call the office or email the secretary and the homeroom teacher prior to 2 p.m. when possible and the message will be delivered.

VISITORS

For the safety of all, visitors are to report to the office when entering the school building and sign in. Teachers and students work on a planned schedule and unnecessary classroom interruptions affect the learning time of all, so classroom disruptions will be kept to a minimum to ensure that maximum learning takes place within the school. Messages or materials brought to school for students will be left at the office for delivery by office staff at an appropriate time.

For policies regarding lunch visits, please see the guidelines under **School Lunch Program**.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

ACCREDITATION

Holy Redeemer Catholic School is currently accredited by Cognia, and is a member of the National Catholic Education Association and Indiana Non-Public Education Association.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum of Holy Redeemer Catholic School meets the requirements of the State of Indiana and the Catholic Diocese of Evansville. Textbooks are updated annually according to the adoption cycle of the State of Indiana.

GRADING

Each student receives a report card four times a year. Grades will be posted and updated regularly on PowerSchool. Parents and teachers are encouraged to schedule conferences throughout the year as the need arises. Communication between home and school is vital for the success of the student.

Grading System

Students in grades 1 and 2 are evaluated in Language Arts, Math, and Spelling by their teachers and given scores based on quality of work and work completion. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are evaluated in all subjects and given scores based on quality of work and work completion. Students in Grades 6-8 are graded on a scale of 0-100 percent. The grading scale is:

94-100% - A
92-93% - A-
90-91% - B+
86-89% - B
84-85% - B-
82-83% - C+
77-81% - C
75-76% - C-
73-74% - D+
69-72% - D
Below 69% - F

Honor Roll Policy

Students in Grades 3 through 8 can achieve honor roll recognition. There will be two categories, High Honors and Honor Roll. In order to qualify for High Honors, a student must have a 92% or better in ALL classes and have minimal behavior infractions. In order to qualify for Honors, a student must have an 84% or better in ALL classes and have minimal behavior infractions. Therefore, their grades in Spanish, art, music/band, health, technology, and physical education count toward Honor Roll as well as their grades in math, language arts, science, social studies, and religion. This will not be calculated as an average. The student must have an 84% or higher in EVERY class in order to make Honor Roll.

Cheating

Cheating of any type will not be tolerated. This can include copying someone else's work or allowing someone to copy your work, among other infractions. Students who choose to cheat face a failing grade, detention, suspension, and/or expulsion. A student athlete who is involved in cheating may also be unable to participate in sports.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Any student who chooses to copy someone else's work and turn it in without proper citation will be given an automatic 0 for the assignment and will receive a detention.

HOMWORK

It is the teachers' philosophy that homework increases the effectiveness of the academic program. Students require different amounts of time for completing their homework. It is the student's responsibility, with the guidance of the parents to complete all homework in a timely manner. It is expected that parents will require the completion of all homework.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY GRADE 1-2

Teachers develop an assignment policy appropriate to their grade level and students in order to develop skills in responsibility.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY GRADE 3-8

Homework assignments are an integral part of the educational process at Holy Redeemer Catholic School. It is the student's responsibility, with the guidance of their parents, to complete all homework in a timely manner.

REGULAR ASSIGNMENTS

Students are likely to have daily homework and all homework should be recorded in an assignment notebook on a daily basis. Homework assignments are due at the time they are collected or before the end of the passing period following the class where the assignment is due. All homework will be collected and graded as is, including work that is only partially complete.

Teachers will send a Student Accountability Record home for each missed assignment.

There may be some extenuating circumstances that would provide a student additional time to complete the assigned work.

LONG-TERM ASSIGNMENTS

The loss of credit for long-term assignments may cause an unreasonable decrease in the student's grade if some partial credit is not given for late completion. The following policy will apply for these assignments. Work turned in one day late will lose 10% credit. Work turned in two days late will lose 20% credit. Work turned in three or more days late will receive no credit.

LIBRARY

Students are encouraged to make use of the library on a weekly basis. Books may be borrowed for a period of one week. If overdue after the first week, the student will not be allowed to check out more books. If the book is not returned after four weeks, the student will pay replacement cost. Replacement cost will be determined by the principal.

MOVIES

For grades Kindergarten through 5, only movies rated "G" by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) or rated "A-I" by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) may be shown.

For grades 6-8, movies rated "G" or "PG" by the MPAA or A-I or A-II by the USCCB may be shown.

All other movies must be for educational purposes and approved by the principal. Parental permission will be obtained for any permissible movie not meeting the above requirements.

RETENTION

A student may be retained in the same grade upon the recommendation of the teacher, after consulting with the principal and parents. The school reserves the right to make a final decision.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Instrumental music instruction is offered through Mater Dei High School. The program is offered to students in grades five through eight. This program feeds into the Mater Dei music program.

Speech screening and therapy is available through the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation.

Psychological testing and services are available through the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation. Learning Disability, Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy are available for those who qualify.

Holy Redeemer Catholic School staff and community will promote success for learners that have unique educational needs by coming together in a supportive environment to enhance the unique talents and skills of everyone associated with the school. Children with special needs are also identified and supported within the school's educational environment. Holy Redeemer Catholic School incorporates this program to educate all children in their parish school setting,

enabling them to reach their full potential. Students served through this program include those with learning disabilities, ADD, ADHD, mild mental handicaps, and other difficulties identified by staff and parents that put children at academic risk. All students benefit through their involvement with a diverse school population.

TESTING

Indiana Learning Evaluation Readiness Network (ILEARN) is a required achievement test in Indiana. Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are currently being tested. High school placement tests are administered to the eighth graders at Mater Dei or the public high school which the student will attend. Third graders will also be participating in a Third Grade Reading Test called IREAD-3.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES POLICY

** Holy Redeemer Catholic School's extra-curricular policy follows the athletic policy set forth for all Evansville feeder schools to Mater Dei and Memorial.*

Many opportunities for participation in extra-curricular activities are available to the students. It is important that students learn to regulate and balance their time when participating in extra-curricular activities. Sports, speech, choir, band, bowl teams and other enrichment programs are privileges and not rights. Students must be passing all subjects to participate and have satisfactory conduct. Grades will be reviewed as report cards are issued. Upon release of a report card not meeting minimum standards, the student will be suspended from play for 15 school days from the day report cards go home (student may still practice with the team). On the 15th school day, the grade situation will be reviewed by the school administrator. At that time, the student will be reinstated if the grade problem is corrected. If grades are not up to standard, the student will continue play suspension and the right to practice will also be suspended for three more weeks. After the second fifteen school day play and practice suspension, the grades will be reviewed again. If grades are up to a minimum, the student will be returned to eligibility. If the grades are still inadequate, the student will be removed from the school team and denied practice and play until the student receives a report card that is up to minimum standards.

Students who are academically ineligible at the end of a school year will be able to participate on sports teams but will be closely monitored at the beginning of the next school year.

Exceptions on academic eligibility to participate can be granted at the discretion of the school administrator for appropriate reasons. It is expected that any exception will be documented for future reference.

Students may be disqualified from participation in school activities based on behavioral reasons established by individual schools.

OTHER INFORMATION

INSURANCE

It is to be understood and acknowledged by parent(s) and guardian(s) that neither the school, the administration, the teachers, nor the Catholic Diocese of Evansville shall be the insurer of a student's health and safety while the student is at school or engaged in school-supervised activities, including sports. It is the parent's or guardian's obligation to provide such insurance as they deem necessary to protect themselves and their students against the costs and other adverse effects of such illness or injury.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

No misbehavior can be tolerated on the bus. Students who refuse to obey the regulations forfeit the right to ride the bus. If a child misses the bus, he/she should come to the office where the parents will be notified to make arrangements. A student should never go on another bus unless arrangements have been made ahead of time and a note from parent is provided.

BUS BEHAVIOR RULES:

- Students should be ready and waiting when the bus arrives. They should board and leave the bus as quickly and orderly as possible.
- Heads, arms and objects must be kept inside the bus at all times.
- There shall be no spitting out of the windows, yelling, fighting, tripping, or abusive language on the bus.
- Food, gum, or liquids are not permitted on the bus, other than food or drink for lunch.
- The bus driver is in complete charge of the bus and is to be obeyed at all times.
- Any child may be denied the privilege of riding the bus for inappropriate behavior.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips may be conducted for educational experiences.

Students must be transported by bus. Each student must have a signed parental permission form before the scheduled trip. NO FORM-NO TRIP! Phone calls are NOT acceptable in lieu of a permission form.

Chaperones will be invited as needed and may be asked to provide personal transportation. No siblings will be permitted on field trips.

HEALTH CARE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION

Physical Examinations

Students entering Kindergarten and those students entering sixth grade are required to have a physical examination and those records are to be kept on file in the school office.

Illness or Injury

All parents are required to fill out and return to school the emergency procedure card. It is important to keep this card up to date. Corrections should be sent to the school office.

All students are required to have health records on file. If a student has a special health problem it is the responsibility of the parents to notify the school.

Parents or guardians of students who are seriously injured or become ill at school are notified immediately. In the event the parents cannot be contacted, people named on the emergency card will be called.

If the school deems it necessary for a student to be sent home due to illness or injury, it is imperative that the parents make immediate plans for picking their child up. Any student with a fever will be sent home. A student must remain symptom-free (fever, vomit, diarrhea) for 24 hours before returning to school.

Only in case of emergency, and when neither the parents nor guardians can be contacted, would the student be taken to a doctor or hospital.

No sick student will be allowed to go home alone. The school office must be notified before a student may leave school.

NO MEDICATION will be applied to a cut or scrape, except for cleaning it with water. Band-aids will be applied.

Health Services Provided

- Hearing tests will be administered in grades 4 and 7.
- Vision checks will be held for grades K, 1, 3, and 8.
- Students in remaining grades are checked if a parent or teacher requests.

These checks are only screenings. If parents suspect that a student has a health problem, they should have their child evaluated by a qualified professional.

ORAL MEDICATION

Medication will be administered to students only if the following conditions are met:

1. The parent or guardian shall deliver the medication to school in person. Students should not transport medications. The prescribed medication shall be in the original container bearing the original pharmacy label which includes the directions from the physician, the name of the medication, date, and student's name. The non-prescription medication shall be in the original container with date, student's name, and written instructions from the student's parent or guardian. Schools may not stock or disperse any non-prescription medication other than what a parent or guardian provides for the student.
2. The parent shall sign the Authorization for Administration of Medication by School Personnel card if prescription medication is to be dispensed on a daily basis. Medication (i.e., antibiotics, cough medicine, cough drops, or any other medication) to be taken as needed requires a written note from the parent or guardian.
3. The parent is encouraged to send limited amounts of medication to school. The medication must be administered by the school employees designated by the school administration.
4. Medications are normally to be maintained in a secure location designated by the Principal. However, other arrangements can be made to maintain compliance with a medical management plan that is provided by a student's health care provider.

****THE SCHOOL RETAINS THE DISCRETION TO REJECT A REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF A MEDICATION.****

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (P.T.O.)

The purpose of this organization shall be to unite parents and teachers of the school, to acquaint parents with school operations, to assist with school activities and provide financial support. Parents are encouraged to be active members of the PTO.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Holy Redeemer Catholic School serves lunches each day in the school cafeteria. We operate by the National School Lunch Program and are governed by the rules and regulations of the Indiana Department of Education and the USDA. Under the current guidelines for the National School Lunch Program, school lunches must include a choice of fat free flavored or low-fat unflavored milk, fruits and vegetables, 51% whole grains and proteins. The standards also have weekly requirements for fats, sodium, calories and daily portion size. In addition, weekly

vegetable servings must be offered to include dark green or leafy (broccoli, kale, spinach, romaine), red/orange (carrots, sweet potatoes, tomatoes), beans/legumes (edamame, baked beans, refried beans, hummus), starchy (corn, peas, potatoes) and other (green beans, cauliflower, cucumbers). Students are "offered" a lunch choice of a meat/meat alternate, grain, fruit, vegetable and milk. Of the five food components offered, a student may select all five but they must choose at least three components for their tray. One of the components "**must**" be a ½ cup of fruit or ½ cup of vegetable. Some of the choices may count as two food groups such as pizza, hamburger or chef salad. To give the students more fruit and vegetable choices, we offer a hot vegetable, a selection of fresh veggies/dip and two fruit choices, including fresh fruit. In addition, we also offer free unlimited water to all students. The lunch menu is sent home monthly and posted on our website but is subject to change.

The 2023-2024 school lunch cost for an enrolled student is \$3.20. Adult and any visitor/guest lunches are \$4.40 and cannot be charged to an account. Anyone purchasing a complete lunch may also buy an extra entrée for \$1.85 or an extra fruit/vegetable for \$0.75. Milk is included with the hot lunch daily and is available for purchase to all students in grades Preschool-8 for \$0.60.

Reduced or free lunches are available through the School Nutrition Program for those who qualify. Applications are sent home at the beginning of the school year and are also available in the school office. Families are encouraged to apply anytime during the year. The Federal Program pays for these lunches and does not come from school or cafeteria funds, so please use this program if you think you may qualify.

Students bringing lunches from home are NOT to bring soft drinks. If for some reason your child will be arriving later in the day, please notify the cafeteria by 8:30 a.m. if he/she will be eating a school lunch. Parents should not bring lunches or drinks from carry-out restaurants for their children into the cafeteria.

The cafeteria operates as a self-supporting business and does not receive funds from the school. To help with costs, we rely on sales from meals and government reimbursements for each meal purchase. Therefore, it is important that students have money in their accounts to make their purchases.

The school lunch menu can be found on the school website or by clicking on the link in the PowerSchool newsletter section. Lunch balances can be found by logging into your personal account through Titan. You can also set up payment reminders in this program. Lunch payments can be made in Titan with a \$2.50 processing fee. As always, you can still send cash or check payments to school to be deposited into your family account. Please make weekly/monthly payments and look at your account on a regular basis to make sure you do not have a negative balance. Students with negative accounts will not be allowed to purchase the a la

carte items until the account is replenished with funds to cover one additional week of lunches.

When sending lunch money to school, it should be placed in an envelope with the student's name (families may use one envelope) and grade clearly marked on the envelope and sent to school at the beginning of each week or month. Please DO NOT include lunch money, tuition, and after school care money in one check. All services are separate and require separate checks. There will be a \$25.00 service fee for all checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

When the school year ends in May, lunch accounts with a negative balance will need funds added in order to complete our year-end processing. There will be a \$10 fee assessed to each negative account not paid by June 1.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Pam Stephens at 812-422-3688 or pstephens@evdio.org.

The USDA and this Institution are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Morning Snack Policy for Grades K-2

In order to increase our youngest students' learning potential, we have decided to push lunch and recess back to 11:45 a.m. for the elementary students. Since this makes for a long morning, students in grades K-2 may bring a snack to have in the morning. Snack time will not be a break in the day, rather they will continue working while eating. Therefore, we have created guidelines to keep snack time from causing messes or needing the teacher's undivided attention. The guidelines for morning snack are below and we ask that you adhere to them for the benefit of all students and teachers involved. Snacks that do not meet the guidelines below may be returned uneaten.

Acceptable snacks include:

Dry Cereal

Crackers

Dried Fruit

- Raisins
- Craisins

Bite-sized fruit

- Peeled Orange
- Peeled Banana
- Apple Slices
- Grapes

Bite-sized Vegetables

- Carrots
- Celery
- Tomatoes
- Peppers
- Sugar-snap Peas

Pretzels

Cheese Cubes

Granola Bars

*Must fit in a Ziploc Bag or Tupperware

*NO peeling, opening, or use of utensils

*NO Lunchables, dips, or drinks

*Must be ready to eat

*NO peanut butter or nuts

SCHOOL PEST CONTROL POLICY

All applications of pesticides will be made in strict compliance with diocesan policy, label instructions, and applicable Federal and State law. While pesticides protect children from pests, under certain circumstances they may pose a hazard to children. When possible, pesticide applications will be made during non-instructional time or during vacation periods and pesticides are prohibited when children are in or near the area to be treated. If you wish to receive advance notice of pesticide application, please inform the principal. A written notice will be given to you no later than two days before the application. No notice will be given if the application is made when students are not present. In the case of an emergency application, (necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health) notice will be given as soon as possible after such application.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

The air quality in our schools is an important issue in the State of Indiana. Therefore, each school is required to have a point person who is available to address allergy causing problems in the facility. The Air Quality Coordinator at Holy Redeemer School is Larry Steinkuhl. For any questions concerning allergens on campus Mr. Steinkuhl may be reached via email at: lsteinkuhl@evdio.org or by phone at 812-422-3688.

WEATHER RELATED INFORMATION

In the event that the school needs to be closed or classes delayed for any reason, parents will be notified via the School Messenger system. We will continue to follow the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation in these instances and often you will also be able to find that information on your local news stations.

If classes are to be dismissed earlier than the scheduled time, a School Messenger call will go out as soon as the decision is made. Please allow time to let the message play out before attempting to return a call to the school. Often times, that can be avoided by listening to the outgoing message first. This will keep our lines open as necessary.

Students MUST be informed by parents on what they are to do if school is dismissed early. Students need to know if they are to go somewhere other than

home, etc. During inclement weather, please listen to the radio and keep your cell phone nearby so you will be informed in the event of early dismissal. And please make sure your School Messenger phone numbers are up to date with the school office.

WELLNESS POLICY

In the interest of promoting healthier habits in students, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture recently verified that all schools, including private schools, which participate in the National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act, must develop a School Wellness Plan. Each school in the Diocese of Evansville will engage students, parents, teachers, food service staff, and health professionals in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing school nutrition and physical education policies. To achieve these goals, schools will form wellness committees, set campus nutrition guidelines, and determine nutrition education and physical activity opportunities.

BIRTHDAY TREATS

Edible birthday treats will not be allowed to be sent in from home. No deliveries of food will be accepted on a child's behalf.

RIGHT TO AMEND HANDBOOK

Holy Redeemer administration reserves the right to amend the Holy Redeemer Student/Parent Handbook, if the need should so arise. Parents will be notified of amendments as soon as is feasible.

Any situation not covered in this handbook is left to the discretion of the administration.

BISHOP JOSEPH SIEGEL'S VISION STATEMENT ON SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN

*Youth are to be recognized and valued by all as true gifts from God.

*Education and training to recognize the signs of violation of children and young people shall be provided to all paid staff members, volunteers engaged in ministry to and for children, and parents.

*Education shall be provided for children about the potential for abuse, especially sexual abuse, and ways to respond should they be victims of it.

*Paid staff members and volunteers who have regular contact with children in the course of their work shall be evaluated so as to determine their suitability for association with children and young people.

*Paid staff members and volunteers shall accept responsibility to report immediately any suspected acts of abuse of children and young people in their charge to appropriate civil and church authorities without concern for retribution from the accused or employers/institution in whose name they minister.

*The expectation is that all who are willing to engage in ministry to children and young people as representative of the Catholic Diocese of Evansville are also willing to agree to background checks and educational programs designed to stem this heinous crime against children and young people.

*The Catholic Diocese of Evansville will expend resources, both in personnel and finances, necessary to fulfill this vision and to maintain such programs appropriate to accomplish this vision.

*Primary components of a framework to accomplish this task include the items listed below. At the outset, we recognize that we are on a difficult and ambitious journey, hence this is a living document.

- + Diocesan Policies
- + Best Practices for Adults working with Children and Youth
- + Directives for Supervisors engaged in ministry to Children and Young People
- + Curriculum and Resources for Education on Personal Safety for Children, Young People, Families and Ministers
- + Criminal background checks on all paid staff and volunteers who have regular contact with children or youth, for which the parish/institution pays the fee

Let no one be misled. What we are about is both remedial and preventative. Our efforts, yours and mine, are not optional! May the Mother of God, our Patroness grant us the courage to do everything possible to protect Her children.

*Fraternally and faithfully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Joseph Siegel, Bishop of Evansville*

CHILD ABUSE LAWS

Holy Redeemer Catholic School abides by the Child Abuse Laws of the State of Indiana. The law mandates that all cases of suspected abuse and/or neglect be reported to Child Protective Services.

CODE OF CHRISTIAN CONDUCT COVERING STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE Holy Redeemer Catholic School

The students' interest in receiving a quality, morally based education can only be served if students, parents, and school officials work together. Normally, differences between these individuals can be resolved. In some rare instances, however, the school may find it necessary, in its discretion, to require parents/guardians to withdraw their child.

It shall be an express condition of enrollment that the student behave in a manner, both on and off campus, that is consistent with the Christian principles of the school as determined by

the school in its discretion. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles, or procedures set forth in any student/parent handbook of the school.

It shall be an express condition of enrollment that the parents/guardians of a student shall also conform themselves to standards of conduct that are consistent with the Christian principles of the school, as determined by the school in its discretion. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles, or procedures set forth in any student/parent handbook of the school.

These Christian principles further include, but are not limited to, the following:

Parents/guardians are expected to work courteously and cooperatively with the school to assist the student in meeting the academic, moral, and behavioral expectations of the school.

Students and parents/guardians may respectfully express their concerns about the school operation and its personnel. However, they may not do so in a manner that is discourteous, scandalous, rumor driven, disruptive, threatening, hostile, or divisive.

These expectations for students and parents/guardians include, but are not limited to, all school-sponsored programs and events (e.g., extended care, athletics, fields trips, etc.).

The school reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, which actions fall short of meeting the Christian principles of the school. Failure to follow these principles will normally result in a verbal or written warning to the student and/or parent/guardian and normally will first result in disciplinary action short of a requirement to withdraw from the school (e.g., suspension of student or suspension of parent/guardian's privilege to come on the campus grounds and/or participate in parish/school activities, volunteer work, etc.).

The school reserves the right to determine, in its discretion, when conduct is of such a severe nature as to warrant immediate action without a warning and/or without an intermediate step short of withdrawal.