

Behavioral Management Guidelines -- 2017-18 School Year

Preschool – Grade 2 Behavioral Management Guidelines (scroll down for Grades 3-8)

A very important part of the early childhood education experience at Bishop McHugh School is helping children learn how to get along in the world, enjoy being with other children, and follow the direction of an adult other than their parent. A caring and positive approach will be taken regarding behavior management and discipline. The teachers will focus on the positive behaviors of the children and reinforce those behaviors as often as possible. Our goal is to help the children develop self-control and responsibility for their actions.

1. Encouraging children to use their words when having a disagreement with another child.
2. Redirecting behavior when this seems potentially effective.
3. Separating a child from the group.
4. Counseling children individually about their behaviors.
5. Making parents aware of disciplinary concerns in the form of a written update.

Disruptive behavior distracts from the full benefit of the program and will result in consequences. The following behaviors are considered disruptive:

- Inflicting physical or emotional harm on other children, adults, or self
- Disrespecting people and materials provided in the program
- Consistently disobeying the rules of the classroom
- Verbally threatening other students and/or staff

Disruptive behavior will be addressed in a written update. This will document any inappropriate behaviors that directly impact other children, staff members, or the group as a whole. This report will explain the behavior and how the behavior has affected others. It will also explain how the situation was resolved.

If a child has difficulty managing his/her behavior on a recurring basis, parents will be asked to meet with the child's teacher and principal. If the child's behavior continues to be inappropriate, consistently disruptive, and/or dangerous, it may be necessary for the child to be sent home for a time to be determined, or removed from the program altogether.

Grades 3-8 Behavioral Management Guidelines

Consistent with our school philosophy, the discipline guidelines of Bishop McHugh School are based on our commitment to instilling the Christian values of respect and fairness to all, and our desire to provide an environment to maximize learning for each student. Therefore, behavioral management guidelines have been developed for when behavioral choices infringe upon the pursuit of these goals. Minor infractions include, but are not limited to, socializing at inappropriate times during class, being unprepared for class, and/or failure to fully meet uniform standards, which will result in a verbal warning. Continued occurrence will result in parental notification and will be reflected in the conduct grade. Recurring minor infractions result in issuance of a demerit that must be signed by a parent and returned to the teacher. In addition, three written warnings regarding noncompliance of uniform standards within one marking period will result in the issuance of one demerit.

Detention also may be used as an initial recourse. The teacher may issue a detention for behavioral infractions including, but not limited to, showing disrespect to a teacher, staff member or peer, and/or damaging school property. Parents will be notified both verbally and in writing if their child receives a detention. Receipt of a detention will be reflected in the conduct grade on the report card. It may also prohibit participation in extracurricular activities. Detentions are assigned by the issuing teacher.

If two detentions are received in a school year, the student is required to participate in a conference with parents, teachers, and administration. In this meeting, a written agreement will be made with recommendations developed and agreed upon in order to prevent a repeat situation. All involved parties sign the agreement.

Any student receiving three detentions or exhibiting behavior that creates a safety or health hazard to others will be immediately suspended. The applicable Parish Pastor will be notified of any student receiving a suspension. If a suspension is received, the student may not return to school until he/she participates in a conference with parents and administration to discuss the consequences of further disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Non-Negotiable Behaviors

The following behaviors are completely inconsistent with the goals of a caring community. They constitute breaches of discipline that will, depending upon the degree of offense, result in serious consequences up to and including suspension or expulsion:

- Any form of academic dishonesty
- Fighting
- Physical or verbal intimidation
- Vandalism or theft
- Failure to conform to dress code
- Inappropriate or disrespectful language
- Bullying
- Leaving the classroom without permission
- Failure to return to class in a timely manner
- Receipt of a school bus referral
- Flagrant rudeness or insubordination

The following behaviors will result in immediate expulsion:

- Possession of tobacco, alcohol or drugs
- Possession of weapons

Any student whose behavior consistently fails to meet the standards set by the progressive disciplinary plan may be expelled and referred to a school setting that more effectively meets his/her academic, behavioral, and social needs.

Exceptions to discipline policies may be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the principal.