



Discipline Policy

Christian nurture is a basic aim of both the Christian home and the Christian school. The necessity of close co-operation between home and school, and mutual support for each other cannot be over-emphasized. Both home and school should be organized so that the children are led to work out their faith in all areas of life.

In the school, teachers and students bear the responsibility of living together in a Christian manner. The relationship between teachers and students should reflect the Biblical command of mutual respect. Teachers should encourage student behaviour which reflects Christian values.

The following criteria are helpful in designing and evaluating school rules:

1. The call to obedience to God in contrast to man's urge to be free from control.
2. The "love your neighbour" command that expresses itself in seeking the best for one another, in respect, sharing, safety.
3. The demands of the developmental stages of the child, such as security, independence.
4. Some commonly accepted standards of behaviour in our school society

In general, teachers look after the discipline concerns of their own classrooms and keep the Principal and parents informed of any consistent misbehaviour. Matters brought to the attention of the Principal and parents will be recorded for future reference.

Discipline related items, found in the TBCS Discipline Policy, that teachers will report to the Principal include:

1. Open defiance or obvious disrespect;
2. Excessive use of foul language and swearing;
3. Cases of fighting, extortion, stealing and harassment;
4. Persistent misbehaviour;
5. Damage to school property.

It is impossible to run a school properly without rules. These rules are designed for the safety and benefit of all students. Students are expected to adhere to these rules and parents are expected to support staff in the administration of these set rules. The support of the entire community is needed to provide a sound Biblical education for our children. At the same time, it is understood that staff will model Christian attitude and behaviour for the students.



Student Code of Conduct

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- We will speak of God in respectful ways.
- We will encourage close relationship with God in others as well as ourselves through Bible reading, prayer, sharing, etc.
- We will respect ourselves because God created us in his image.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE IN AUTHORITY

- We will be respectful to our speech and conduct.
- We will be obedient to those in authority over us.
- We will not condone disrespect displayed by others to those in authority.

OUR RELATIONSHIP TO OTHERS

- We will be respectful of others.
- We will address each other properly and not resort to name calling, swearing or dirty language towards each other.
- We will respect each other's property.
- We will encourage everyone to feel included.
- We will respect each other's person and remember "no touching except for helping."
- We will learn to apologize when we fail and seek God's strength to continue building a community of love and respect.

OUR RELATIONSHIP TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

- We will respect school property. This includes furniture, books, equipment and building.
- We will report any damage done and volunteer to pay for damages if we are responsible.
- We will accept responsibility for the cleanliness of the school and grounds.

Disciplinary Action

When student behaviour complies with the Code of Conduct, praise and encouragement should be freely given. However, when a student's behaviour does not comply with the Code of Conduct, disciplinary action must be taken. The Christian approach to discipline focuses on improving behaviour and developing self-discipline. In this process the students (and parents) are made aware of the need for a change in behaviour, and of the consequence necessary to facilitate the change. The ultimate goal of disciplinary action is positive behaviour and reconciliation on the part of the student.

At TBCS students are encouraged to accept responsibility for their behaviour and to participate in the restoration and reconciliation process. Therefore, we have designed age-appropriate Time-Out Sheets identifying unacceptable behaviour and subsequent consequences.

The Administration and Staff, with the support of the Program Committee, have set a new Discipline Policy at TBCS. Students should know the standard of behaviour expected of them at TBCS and the resulting consequences should the Student Code of Conduct not be followed. Our goal continues to be: To serve God and assist Christian families by providing a quality, Christ-centered education within a loving Christ-like environment.



The following Discipline Policy shall be used to deal with incidents of negative behaviour against another person ("bullying" and/or disrespect against a person whether fellow student or teacher and/or school property). This does not apply to classroom management issues where teachers will continue to monitor and penalize minor infractions (late for class, missing homework assignments etc.) as a corrective teaching tool.

Varying levels of discipline are applied for negative interpersonal behaviour in the sincere hope that with early parental involvement, healing takes place and more serious implications are avoided.

Level One:

A student shall receive a lunch-hour detention for negative interpersonal behaviour exhibited in the classroom, on the buses and on the playground and a parent/guardian shall be notified.

Level Two:

Should a student receive more than three (3) detentions for negative interpersonal behaviour at any time in the school year, an out-of-school detention shall be served the next school day (student is not permitted to come to school). Any subsequent such incidents will be considered at Level 3 (there shall be no "resetting the clock").

Level Three:

This level is reached in the following cases:

1. A student has been issued a second out-of-school detention (at 4 or more detentions for negative interpersonal behaviour). Future participation in all extra-curricular activities will be reviewed by the Administration (e.g. Sport Teams, Elective Programs, and School Trips).
2. Immediately where a more serious incident (serious verbal or physical abuse) has occurred. An immediate out-of-school detention shall be served of a length to be determined between the Administration and the parent/guardian and the Board shall be asked to consider the matter. In addition, future participation in all extra-curricular activities will be reviewed by the Administration (e.g. Sport Teams, Elective Programs, and School Trips).

If Level 3 has been reached, any further incidents of incorrigible negative interpersonal behaviour by any student shall be dealt with by the Board of Directors and could include expulsion.

THE ADMINISTRATION, STAFF, PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS WISH TO WORK CLOSELY WITH PARENTS TO ENSURE THAT THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CONTINUES TO BE KNOWN AS A SAFE, SECURE AND LOVING TEACHING ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL ITS STUDENTS AND STAFF.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23