

CODE OF CONDUCT

(FROM PAGES 8-10 OF HANDBOOK)

When a child experiences difficulty in understanding his or her role as a member of the St. Elizabeth Catholic School community, a constructive application of the discipline standards is required for the well being of the child and the other children in the school. In the event of behavioral problems, cooperative efforts between the home and school are essential so that the child will be able to achieve the highest possible standards of Christian behavior.

By completing the *St. Elizabeth Catholic School Registration Form*, parents and guardians **fully agree** to uphold and enforce the standards and policies of St. Elizabeth Catholic School.

Certain behaviors will result in immediate disciplinary action such as: exclusion from certain privileges, parent/guardian conferences, detention, and/or an in- or out-of-suspension from school. Such infractions include, but are not limited to:

1. Disruptive behavior, including: shouting out, excessive talking, and answering a teacher or classmates in a rude or discourteous manner;
2. Failure to comply with the direction of the teacher, members of the staff, or on-duty volunteers;
3. Using foul, vulgar, or improper language;
4. Being anywhere in or around the school building without direct adult supervision;
5. Using a cell phone without following the set procedures (see Cell Phone Usage Policy);
6. Violating the *Uniform Code* for the third time;
7. Gum chewing, (reminder that gum is not allowed in school or on carpool)
7. **Repeated infractions of the *Code of Conduct*.**

A disregard of the above infractions and/or the following behaviors may result in an out-of-school suspension or expulsion. Such infractions include, but are not limited to:

1. Fighting/Physical Assault;
2. Disrespect shown toward a teacher, member of the staff, classmate, or volunteer;
3. Verbal Harassment (name calling, taunting, teasing, ostracizing);
4. Vandalizing school property or the property of others;
5. Cheating or plagiarizing;
6. Stealing or lying;
7. Unsafe behavior during Fire or Emergency Drills;
8. Possession of medication;
9. Sale or distribution of any material(s) not approved by the school administration;
10. Leaving the school grounds unsupervised;
12. **Repeated infractions of the *Code of Conduct*.**

Those behaviors that threaten the safety and well being of the school community and/or threaten the learning environment of others, i.e. through distracting, disrespectful, and or defiant behaviors and or

continued disregard (more than once) of the above infractions may result in expulsion*. Such infractions include, but are not limited to:

1. The use and/or possession of alcohol, drugs, including tobacco on school property;
2. The use and/or possession of a weapon (or items resembling or related to a weapon), such as knives and guns, ammunition (or items resembling or related to ammunition), firecrackers, or other explosives;
3. Arson or use of any type of flammable materials or substances (including the possession of these items, i.e. matches), or the discussion of the possession of these items at school;
4. Physical assault and/or sexual harassment of any kind;
5. Extortion;
6. Repeated taunting, etc.
7. Fighting; throwing of objects; assault;
8. Discussion of illegal activity, i.e. discussion of the possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia; discussion of the possession of explosive devices; discussion of the possession of weapons or ammunition, etc.
9. Discussion of the possession of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weaponry, ammunition, etc.;
10. Threats of any kind, physical, emotional, verbal, written, or implied;
11. **Repeated infractions of the *Child Code of Conduct*.**

*A child who violates the Code of Conduct will be placed on an out-of-school suspension pending an investigation by the principal.

The principal, in consultation with the pastor, is the final recourse in all areas of school life and may waive or strongly enforce any policy for just cause at her discretion.

Infractions of the *Child Code of Conduct* are weighted and the appropriate punishments assigned by the principal. It may appear that one offense is greater than another, but clearly, that may not always be the case. Expulsion of a child from St. Elizabeth Catholic School is serious and may be necessary for a variety of reasons and is done at the discretion of the principal in consultation with the pastor.

Refer to the **JEWELRY and MAKE-UP** section of this *Handbook* for further important information regarding appropriate behavioral and dress expectations at school.

Lack of involvement and cooperation by parents or guardians in dealing with academic or behavioral difficulties can also result in the dismissal of a child or non-renewal of the child's re-registration for the following school year.

Upon a disciplinary infraction, a *Disciplinary Action Report* will be sent to parents and guardians by the principal. *Disciplinary Action Reports* are kept in the child's file. A third *Disciplinary Action Report* (not necessarily for the same infraction) may result in immediate out-of-school suspension and possible expulsion. Children who repeatedly violate the *Code of Conduct* will be required to leave St. Elizabeth School.