



Educating for Eternity

LAND O' LAKES

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Parent/Student Handbook

2024-2025

(All changes to this year's Parent/Student Handbook are bold.)

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

I Timothy 4:12

5105 School Road Land O' Lakes, FL 34638

Phone: (813) 995-9040

Fax: (813) 996-6106

Text: (813) 724-8648

Email: school@fbclol.org

Website: lolcs.org

Contents

- General Section 1**
 - Introductory Information 4*
 - Admissions 7*
 - Financial Policies..... 9*
 - Arrival & Attendance..... 10*
 - Communication..... 11*
 - Health Issues..... 12*
 - Volunteers..... 14*
 - Visitors..... 14*
 - Lunches..... 15*
 - Academic Policies 15*
 - Expected Behavior..... 18*

- Kindergarten & Elementary Section..... 22**
 - Dress Code - Kindergarten & Elementary 23*
 - Discipline Policy 25*

- Junior & Senior High Section 27**
 - Admissions 28*
 - Academics..... 28*
 - Attendance 30*
 - Student Dress and Appearance..... 31*
 - Student Conduct..... 34*

- Parent-Student Athletic Handbook 37**

- Pledges & Creed..... 41**

- Statement of Cooperation..... 43**

- Signature Page – Kindergarten and Elementary 45**

- Signature Page – Junior & Senior High..... 46**

General Section

This section applies to all students. For further information, see *Kindergarten & Elementary Section* and *Junior & Senior High Section*



Dear School Families,

As we stand on the threshold of a new school year, I am reminded of the great responsibility we have to supplement the training your children are getting at home. Although the school cannot replace godly home instruction that every child needs, we desire to help train all of our students to grow in the “nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Our prayer is that each student has an outstanding educational experience here at Land O' Lakes Christian School. Even more importantly, we pray that every student will trust Christ as his own Savior (if he has not already)

and grow spiritually. We make no apologies for sharing that faith in Jesus Christ is our only hope of eternal salvation.

First Baptist Church has other ministries to help you in the spiritual training of your children. We have Sunday school, children's church, and children's choirs on Sunday. Along with the school's schedule, we have AWANA clubs every Wednesday evening for children two years old through 6th grade and youth group for junior and senior high school ages.

As a staff, we want to be accessible to you as well. If there is anything we can do for you as a parent, please do not hesitate to call. If you and your family do not have a church that you attend regularly, we would love to have you visit here at First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes.

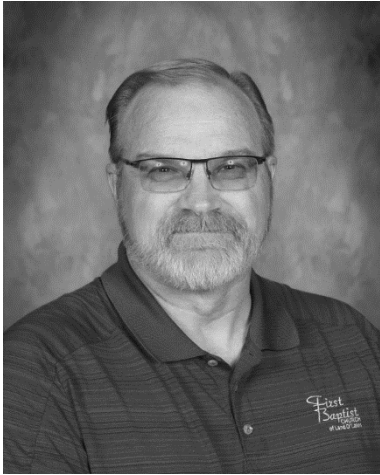
Pray with us that God would give us a wonderful school as He increases the student body to which we may minister.

Working with parents to rear godly children,

Dr. David Peterson

Senior Pastor

First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes



Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the Land O' Lakes Christian School faculty and School Board, I take this opportunity to welcome you. We consider it a privilege to be able to minister to your family at Land O' Lakes Christian School.

You will find the atmosphere at Land O' Lakes Christian School to be Christ-honoring, and the faculty dedicated to Christ and the students. We believe a child's education should be centered on Christ. Because of this, we endeavor to provide an education that is built upon the foundational truths of the Bible--God's Word.

The Mission Statement of Land O' Lakes Christian School is to assist parents in their God-given responsibilities of educating their children through godly character and academic excellence and to partner with the church in its biblical mandate to evangelize the

world, edify the body of Christ, and equip Christians for service.

The faculty of Land O' Lakes Christian School will seek to train our students:

- To be Christlike in all areas of life, develop Christian leadership, discover biblical truths, and learn principles that will guide now and in the future.
- To be submissive to Jesus Christ, His teachings, and the leading of the Holy Spirit and to serve Jesus Christ faithfully in every area of life.
- To prepare to the best of their ability and to develop self-discipline and thus realize academic potential.

We endeavor for our students to develop and grow spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically (Luke 2:52). In order to help accomplish this, Land O' Lakes Christian School offers a balanced program emphasizing the spiritual life of the student, strong academics, fine arts, and athletics.

As Land O' Lakes Christian School continues to grow, so does the need for consistent policies and rules. This handbook has been designed to help you to understand the philosophy, policies, procedures and expectations of our school. To be sure, it will not totally answer every question that may arise, but it will serve as an overall guide to make the upcoming school year a successful one.

As the administrator, it is my prayer that this year will be filled with God's blessings on your family as well as our ministry as we partner together to educate your child for eternity.

In Christ,

Pastor Dave Nichols

Administrator

Land O' Lakes Christian School

Introductory Information

Statement of Faith

The Bible: We believe that the Bible is the Word of God and is supernaturally inspired (II Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inerrant (without error), without contradiction, and preserved by God (Psalm 12:6-7, Matthew 24:25-26). It is our absolute authority and is complete in its revelation (Rev. 22:18-19). The King James Version (KJV) is the best translation in the English language and is the only version used at Land O' Lakes Christian School and First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes.

God: We believe there is one God, Creator of the heaven and earth, Who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ: We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is fully God who took on flesh and dwelt on earth. He was born of a virgin. He was sinlessly perfect and gave Himself as a substitutionary sacrifice by shedding His blood and dying on the cross. He then came back bodily from the dead. He later ascended to heaven, where He sits at the right hand of the Father and will one-day return to reign on earth.

Man: We believe that each member of the human race is fallen, sinful, lost, and stands in need of salvation. A new birth through regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of men.

Salvation: We believe that man is saved by undeserved mercy through faith and that nothing of man enters into his salvation; it is a free gift. Man's efforts, regardless of how good or well-intended, before or after salvation, have nothing to do with it. Salvation is by the finished work of Christ, and nothing can be added to it. We believe that the death and shed blood of Christ on the cross paid for the sins of all mankind. We believe that God has given man a free will to accept or reject this payment. We reject any teaching that states that God has chosen some for heaven and some for hell.

Eternal Security: We believe that every true child of God possesses eternal life and is, therefore, safe and secure for all eternity, being justified by faith, sanctified by God, and sealed by the Holy Spirit; he cannot lose his salvation. However, a Christian can through sin, lose his fellowship, joy, power, testimony, and reward, and can incur the Father's chastisement. Relationship is eternal, being established by the new birth; fellowship, however, is dependent upon obedience.

For further information on the doctrinal beliefs of Land O' Lakes Christian School, please refer to the *Constitution and Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes* (available by request in the church office).

Philosophy of Education

The purpose of Land O' Lakes Christian School is to assist parents in the training of their children to conform to the image of Jesus Christ through a balanced spiritual, academic, and extra-curricular educational program.

A Christian philosophy of education must have a biblical perspective on man's origin, his nature, and his fall. Man was created in the image of God to rule on the earth and to manifest God's image in creative and procreative work (Gen1:26-27). However, man's relationship to God was severed when Adam sinned (Rom. 5:12). God has provided a means of restoring man's relationship to Him through the redemptive work of His Son, Jesus Christ. Anyone who accepts this salvation by faith in Christ is given new life by the washing of regeneration and renewing by God's Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5). Before salvation, man (although still capable of creative and procreative work) is in a fallen state: spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1), in rebellion against God (Rom. 2), and totally depraved (Rom. 3:9-18).

All that is taught in Christian education must be theocentric (God-centered) rather than anthropocentric (man-centered). The Word of God is the source of all truth (John 17:17). Unregenerate man understands God's natural revelation through His common grace, but suppresses the truth (Rom. 1:18). The child of God understands God's Word through the illuminating work of God's Holy Spirit (I Cor. 2:11).

The primary responsibility of educating children is given by God to the parent. The Christian school acts as an extension of the home for the purpose of educating the child. Christian education through the home, church, and school

must seek to establish in each student an eternal value system that is derived from the Word of God. Parents and educators must aim to “present every man perfect in Christ Jesus” (Col. 1:28).

At LOLCS, evangelistic efforts are put forth to make sure that all students have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ so that the teaching of spiritual truths may have a firm foundation. This is followed by instruction in right thinking, good conduct, and clean living in the light of the principles of God’s Word.

Character training is an important element in Land O’ Lakes Christian School. Teaching and requiring students to obey is basic to character training. The teacher is the authority in the classroom. Discipline is administered firmly but fairly. The eventual development of an inner self-discipline (deciding to do what is right) is essential to the emotional, physical, social, and spiritual well-being of the student. To obey, to do right, to love God and country, and to always measure one’s attitudes against the principles laid out in the Scriptures are practices that LOLCS strives to instill in each student, thus equipping him for his role in God’s plan for his life and for his proper place in society.

The academic program, through the traditional approach, emphasizes the mastery of the fundamental blocks of material necessary for satisfactory achievement and stresses the acquisition of facts and concepts in the various areas of study, leading to the development and exercise of the powers of reasoning. The traditional system of education strengthens the mind, builds character, encourages competition, and teaches the value of living under a free enterprise system of government.

Methods of teaching proven to be effective are utilized with a constant search for better methods. Realizing the differences in innate abilities, teachers encourage and expect all students to do their best.

The goal of Land O’ Lakes Christian School is to produce graduates who demonstrate academic excellence and portray godly character in their Christian service and vocation. The ultimate objective of Christian education is to glorify God (I Cor. 10:31) through the teaching of God’s truth to the end that God’s Spirit might use it to edify and mature His people.

Mission Statement and Goals for Christian Education

To assist parents in their God-given responsibilities of educating their children through godly character and academic excellence, and to partner with the church in its biblical mandate to evangelize the world, edify the body of Christ, and equip Christians for service.

From this mission statement stems our general goals of Christian education:

- A. For the spiritual and moral growth of the students, the school endeavors to:
 1. Teach the essential doctrines of the Christian faith.
 2. Lead the pupils to a personal saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
 3. Develop a desire to know and do the will of God.
 4. Teach students consistent, daily Christian living and service.
 5. Develop a biblical sense of right and wrong.
 6. Foster self-discipline in the student based on respect for and reverence toward God and all authority.
 7. Help students develop a consistent Christian philosophy of life by integrating all subjects with the Bible.
 8. Equip the students with the tools needed for ministry and Christian service in their local church.

- B. For the personal and social development of the students, the school endeavors to:
 1. Develop a balanced personality based on a proper understanding and acceptance of themselves and others as God made them, to foster wholesome personal relationships through development of social skills based on the biblical concept of love.
 2. Prepare the student for wholesome and Christian use of leisure time.
 3. Demonstrate a biblical view of life, work, and occupational endeavors.
 4. Develop the proper attitudes, understanding, and skills needed to establish God-honoring homes.
 5. Promote fitness, maintenance, and skillful use of the body as the temple of God.
 6. Develop a biblical attitude toward material things.

- C. For the academic development of the students, the school endeavors to:
1. Promote high academic standards.
 2. Help each student gain a comprehensive command of the fundamental processes used in communicating with others, e.g., speaking, listening, writing, and reading.
 3. Encourage good study habits.
 4. Teach the student how to use the scientific method of research as a means of problem-solving.
 5. Develop creative and critical thinking skills utilizing biblical principles of evaluation.
 6. Foster an appreciation of our Christian and American heritage of freedom and human dignity which leads to good citizenship.
 7. Impart knowledge of the world and current events relative to God's plan for men.
- D. Working with the homes from which the students come, the school endeavors to:
1. Cooperate closely with the parents in every phase of student development.
 2. Aid families in making their homes Christ centered.

Church Affiliation

Land O' Lakes Christian School is an integral part of First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes. The school is a ministry of this local body of believers, seeking primarily to partner with families of like faith. The School Board and the pastor reserve the right to set and maintain standards for student conduct, morality, dress, and scholarship.

Professional Affiliation

Land O' Lakes Christian School is a member of the following organizations:

- Sunshine State Association of Christian Schools (SSACS) - Member
- American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS) - Accredited
- Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce - Member

Accreditation

Land O' Lakes Christian School is accredited by the following organizations:

- American Association of Christian Schools (AACCS) – Accredited
- National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPISA) - Accredited
- North American Christian School Accrediting Agency (NACSAA) – Accredited
- Cognia (formerly AdvancED) – Accredited

Land O' Lakes Christian School is accredited by the AACCS which, in conjunction with the National Council for Private School Accreditation (NCPISA), is recognized by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, Land O' Lakes Christian School completed the joint accreditation process through AACCS and NACSAA in the fall of 2019.

The School Board

The LOLCS School Board, along with the Board of Deacons of the church, serves as the governing body of the school. The board meetings are closed to the public; however, parents may bring a concern or business before the School Board by submitting a request in writing to the school administrator at least ten days prior to the scheduled meeting. Should the ministry of LOLCS be dissolved by First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes, all current and previous student records would become property of the State of Florida, Department of Education, through the Pasco County School Board.

The Administrator

The administrator is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the school. It is his responsibility to supervise instructional and non-instructional staff, see to the maintenance of the facilities, provide the proper spiritual and academic environment for the students, work as the liaison between the School Board and the community, develop the curricular program, provide spiritual guidance, and act as the final authority in disciplinary matters. The administrator, in conjunction with the pastor of First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes, reserves the right to deny admission to the school, remove or expel students, and enforce or change any of the policies contained or not contained in this handbook.

Admissions

Non-Discrimination Policy

Land O' Lakes Christian School admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnicity to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or ethnicity in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarships, or athletic and other school-administered programs.

Lifestyle Policy

The desire of Land O' Lakes Christian School is to partner with the home in providing a Christian education for children, helping them to develop godly character and a biblical worldview. According to the Bible, God created male and female. Therefore, the school reserves the right to decline admission or re-enrollment to any student who (or whose family) does not agree to and follow biblical mandates concerning lifestyle choices. We believe that God has commanded sexual activity to be reserved only within the bounds of marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including, but not limited to, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography) or the alteration of one's biological gender is inconsistent with God's plan (Gen. 2:24; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1; 6:9; I Thess. 4:3-8; Heb. 13:4).

Re-Enrollment

Our present students may apply for re-enrollment during the month of January. **LOLCS reserves the right to refuse re-enrollment to any student of families who have demonstrated disharmony regarding the purpose, objectives, standards, policies, rules, and regulations of the school.**

- Places will not be held without a paid registration fee, which will be due with the following month's tuition.
- In addition, places will not be held for current students once the period of open enrollment begins. Those who apply after the open enrollment period begins may be subject to placement on the waiting list if classes are full.
- Family accounts should be current before a student is accepted for the upcoming year.
- **Current LOLCS students in 6th grade will be interviewed by a principal before acceptance into Jr. High.** (*See high school admissions requirements, page 28*)

New Student Requirements

Physical Examinations: Students entering Land O' Lakes Christian School (first-time enrollment) must have an up-to-date physical examination health form (form DH 3040-doctor's original) on file before they can be admitted to class. If a student has ever been in a Florida public or private school at any time throughout his/her school career, a new physical examination is NOT required for entry; however, a copy of the existing physical must be provided to the office. A student transferring from another school within the state of Florida during the current year may be admitted by transferring a physical examination health form (doctor's original form-DH 3040) with the required immunization record to Land O' Lakes Christian School. A student transferring from another state must have a physical examination in the state of Florida. A grace period of 30 school days is given to out-of-state transfer students to meet the physical examination requirements.

Immunizations: Florida law requires that, prior to entry, attendance, or transfer to any Florida preschool or school (K-12), each student shall have on file an original Florida Certificate of Immunization (form DH 680). Students transferring to Florida schools from other states or who are transferring to different schools between Florida counties shall be allowed up to a maximum of 30 school days to present proof of their immunization status. Except for transfer students, no grace period can be granted.

Minimum Competency: New students transferring in must have standardized test scores reflecting a minimum baseline 40th percentile competency in the areas of mathematics and reading.

Testing/Evaluation: New students in grades K5-12 will be evaluated to determine best placement and/or academic recommendations. The cost for this school-administered evaluation is \$50, payable at the time of testing.

Homeschooled Students

When a student transfers from a home-education program to Land O' Lakes Christian School, the administration will make the final determination of grade placement. Placement in the same grade as that recommended by the home school is not automatic. Parents must make available to the school office a portfolio, which includes (but is not limited to) a log of educational activities which was made contemporaneously with the instruction and which designates by title the reading material used. Samples of any writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative material used or developed by the student must also be submitted. Parents must also provide the school office with a copy of the three most recent annual evaluations. All progress reports, report cards, achievement test results, or other standardized testing should be submitted for enrollment.

International Students Admissions

Land O' Lakes Christian School is an approved I-20 school to accept international/non-immigrant students. All prospective international students should begin through the regular admissions process. A separate \$1,000 international student fee will be applied in addition to regular tuition and costs.

Part-Time Student Policy

All part-time students are required to attend Bible class, weekly chapel services, and any special meetings required of the student body. Tuition is prorated based on the number of classes taken. To receive a high school diploma from LOLCS, students must earn at least 12 credits on campus (of the 24 required for graduation). The only exception to this policy would be transfer students who complete their diploma requirements at LOLCS but are only in attendance their 11th and/or 12th grade year.

Part-time Student Requirements:

- Be approved by the administrator and the pastor.
- Read and abide by policies set forth in the current LOLCS Parent/Student Handbook.
- Meet all academic and behavioral eligibility requirements.
- Part-time student attendance is required for the full school year, not solely during athletic seasons.
- Adhere to the handbook uniform dress code guidelines.
- In addition to their parents, agree to and sign the Statement of Cooperation in the handbook.

Upon approval, students in Grades 7 – 12 may participate in any class or activity* offered at that level as space permits. Students in Grades 1 – 6 may participate in special classes or activities* offered at that level (band, choir/music, physical education, computer classes, art, and library) as space permits.

**LOLCS defines activities to include academic and fine arts competitions, and college visitation trips. Field trip participation is permitted only as it relates to the class being taken by part-time student.*

Photographs

Your student's photograph may be taken while attending school or a special event sponsored by Land O' Lakes Christian School. These photos and names are often published in school publications, yearbooks, websites, social media, television, and advertising brochures, etc. Please notify the school office if you do not wish your student's photo or name to be published.

Withdrawal/Dismissal

Withdrawal: Parents who wish to withdraw their student(s) during the school year should complete a withdrawal form available in the school office or via email. Records will not be released until all accounts are paid in full and all materials returned.

Dismissal and Re-Enrollment: A student may be dismissed from school when he is found to be out of harmony with the rules and policies of the school or is failing in academic areas. Lack of parental support of the ministry or administration is also grounds for dismissal. Students who are dismissed from Land O' Lakes Christian School will not be considered for re-enrollment during the current school year. The student and the parents must meet with the administrator or, in the absence of the administrator, the pastor or the School Board, for approval to be granted before re-enrollment will be considered for the following year. A student who has been dismissed or asked to withdraw from enrollment will not be allowed to attend school-sponsored activities without prior approval from the administrator or, in the absence of the administrator, the pastor or the School Board.

Financial Policies

Tuition Payments

Our school, which is a ministry of First Baptist Church, was not founded to generate profit or to subsidize any other area of this ministry. It was founded with the purpose of being an extension of the Christian home and an educational help and blessing to the members of First Baptist Church and other churches of like faith. Our daily financial operating needs, such as teachers' pay, are therefore dependent upon the prompt payment of tuition from each school family.

All tuition payments are due on the 10th of the month--beginning in August and ending in May. Payments made after the 10th of the month are considered late. All tuition payments are non-refundable. Students attending one or more days of any month will owe the full month's tuition. No student records will be transferred until all accounts are paid in full.

Registration Fee

The registration fee is to be paid when the application form is submitted. This fee is non-refundable for those who choose not to attend Land O' Lakes Christian School.

Student Comprehensive Fee (SCF)

The student comprehensive fee includes student textbooks, classroom supplies, a yearbook for each student, student accident insurance, achievement testing/scoring, annual per student association dues for AACCS/SSACS. The junior high fee includes a \$50 contribution to class funds, and the high school fee includes a \$100 contribution toward class funds. The SCF is to be paid no later than August 10. This fee is non-refundable after the beginning of the school year.

Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) Fee

A Capital Improvement Fund Fee of \$200 will be assessed to each family. Parents who participate in a scheduled campus workday will have this assessment reduced by \$100 (\$100 due September 1; \$100 or work-day participation due February 1).

New Student Testing/Evaluation

New students in grades K5-12 will be evaluated to determine best placement and/or academic recommendations. The cost for this school-administered evaluation is \$50, payable at the time of testing.

Payment Types

Payments are made via the online parent portal, by mail, or in person. The office is unable to accept cash payments over \$25; however, credit card (Visa, MasterCard, and Discover) payments are accepted (applicable convenience charges will apply).

Delinquent Accounts

A late fee of \$20 will be charged if tuition is received after the 10th of the month. Accounts not paid by the end of the month may result in dismissal of the student from school until the account is brought up to date. Accounts, besides tuition, include charges for before-school care and after-school care (ESD—Extended School Day). Accounts must be brought current before requests for re-enrollment are officially accepted. It may be possible for the parents to work out a payment plan with the school in order to avoid student dismissal. Report cards will not be released at the end of the nine-week period if any account is in arrears. LOLCS reserves the right to assign all delinquent accounts to a third-party agency for collection and to file with the appropriate credit-reporting agencies any balances uncollected beyond 90 days.

Returned Check Fee

There will be a fee of \$20 for all returned checks.

Refund Policy

If for any reason your student is not accepted by Land O' Lakes Christian School, all fees will be refunded with the exception of the new-student testing fee.

Referral Credits

If a current Land O' Lakes Christian School family refers another family that is accepted and attends LOLCS, the

referring family and the new family will each be credited \$100 towards tuition after a semester's attendance.

Scholarship Opportunities

Step Up For Students (SUFS) and AAA Scholarship Foundation (AAA): These scholarship funding organizations provide private school tuition scholarship opportunities based on a family's income. Land O' Lakes Christian School's participation in the SUFS and AAA programs enables families to apply for a scholarship using the criteria set in place by each scholarship funding organization and to be awarded a letter of acceptance with renewal options each subsequent year.

LOLCS only accepts the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) funded by corporate tax donations (no government funding) from these two organizations. ***LOLCS limits the amount of tuition revenue each year that we receive from scholarship funds.*** To learn more about the eligibility criteria set forth by SUFS, go to www.stepupforstudents.org or call 1-877-735-7837. To learn more about the AAA Scholarship Foundation, go to www.aaascholarships.org or call 1-888-707-2465.

Tuition Aid Data Services (TADS): Scholarships are awarded based on financial need as determined by a third-party verification process (TADS). Interested participants are responsible for the application fee charged by TADS. The maximum amount of scholarships is not to exceed 25% of the tuition amount and is based on the funds actually available. The family is responsible for all other fees and costs associated with enrollment and school participation. Scholarship participants must reapply through TADS each school year. Interested applicants may apply using the financial aid assessment on myTADS.com.

Arrival & Attendance

Attendance

Absences are excused for the following reasons: student illness, death in the family, and medical or dental appointments. In order for any planned absence to be considered for an approved excusal, an email or note to the school must be received at least three days prior to the absence (maximum of five days per semester). All other absences are considered unexcused and the student may be given a zero as a daily grade. Students with more than ten unexcused absences during the year may be retained in their present grade. **Students in K5-8th grade must be present 160 days in the school year to be promoted to the next grade. Any exception to this must be approved by the school board. When a student is absent for any reason, the parent/guardian must fill out the school absence form online at www.cognitofirms.com/LOLCS1/AbsenceReport, send an email to school@fbclol.org, or send in a written excuse signed by a parent/guardian stating the cause of the absence. No excuse will be accepted beyond thirty days of the absence. No absence will be excused at any time without an email, this form, or a written parental statement.**

Twelfth grade students with an A average in any class during the 4th quarter who incur one or more unexcused absences may lose final-exam exemption privileges.

Tardiness

Students are expected to be on time. **Class begins promptly at 8:00 a.m.** Parents must accompany a tardy student to the office to sign in. Only medical appointments, illness, and emergencies will be excused. Three unexcused tardy arrivals per quarter will be equal to one unexcused absence. Four unexcused tardy arrivals per quarter may result in before-school detention (1st grade and above). Students arriving after 10:30 a.m. will be considered absent for a half-day.

A student is considered late if he is not in class and seated at the appointed time. It is important to establish the good habit of promptness at an early age. It is very difficult for the other students and the teacher when class must be disturbed from a student arriving late to class. Parents should not accompany late students to class; office staff will take students (preschool/elementary) to class after morning announcements and/or Bible lesson.

Transportation

Land O' Lakes Christian School does not provide transportation to and from school. The school buses are mainly used for field trips and sporting events. Parents may sign up for carpools on orientation night or contact the school office. High school students may drive themselves if they follow the student driving policies (see page 35).

Leaving School Early

Student should not be leaving early unless there is an emergency, illness, appointment, or a previously approved exception. Parents should strive to make appointments on a non-school day or after school. If a student needs to leave

early because of an appointment, the school office and/or the teacher needs to be contacted as soon as possible before the actual appointment.

The latest time to check students out early is 2:15 p.m. When checking out, parents must report to the office to sign their student out. Parents will then be directed to the appropriate location to wait for their student. At no time should a parent go directly to the classroom for the student without first checking the student out at the office.

If a student driver must leave school early, the student must have a written note signed by a parent (or parent may call or email) stating the reason for early dismissal. The student should report to the school office at the appointed time to be officially checked out of school.

K4 through twelfth grade students leaving school before noon will be counted absent for the day; those leaving prior to 1:15 p.m. or arriving after 10:30 a.m. will be considered absent for a half-day.

Dismissal

Upon dismissal, students must be either with a parent, in the supervised Extended School Day program, or awaiting pick up in the appropriate designated carline waiting area. Student drivers must handle their after-school needs in a timely manner and leave campus without delay. There is to be no loitering on campus after school. Any students remaining when carline is over at 3:05 pm will be signed into the Extended School Day (ESD) program. **Parents should expect to be charged if their student stays past 3:05. After-care ends promptly at 5:30.**

Communication

Parent Portal

All student and family information is available through our online parent portal. Parents and students may access announcements, calendars, homework assignments, grades, behavioral notices, and account balances 24/7 through our online portal. Each parent and student is issued a username and password upon enrollment at LOLCS. Announcements are also posted within this portal and on the school's Instagram and Facebook pages.

E-Mails

E-mail is one of the primary ways the office communicates with parents. Office publications (i.e., newsletters, office updates, calendars) are typically sent out electronically each Friday. Please notify the office if you would like to request a paper/hard copy.

Weather-Related School Closure

If the Pasco County School Board cancels school countywide due to impending weather, LOLCS will be closed as well. Listen for news outlets to announce those closures. Local television and radio stations carry county-by-county school closures, as well as several websites (www.tbo.com and www.baynews9.com). In addition, we will attempt to update the online parent portal, and the LOLCS Instagram and Facebook pages containing the latest closure information.

Parent-Teacher Communication

Parents should not go directly to the classroom to talk with teachers before, during, or after school as this detains teachers from other responsibilities. Consideration should be shown, and a conference should be pre-arranged. Parents may contact the teacher via phone or email if they wish to set up a meeting. Please allow 24 hours for a response. Teachers will inform parents at the beginning of the school year how they prefer to be contacted. If the issue is time-sensitive, the office may be contacted to facilitate getting a more immediate response from the teacher.

Student Pick-Up Lists & Emergency Contacts

Once school begins, parents are required to list the names and phone numbers of the people authorized to pick up their student from school as well as noting any emergency contact information. Parents can add contacts to their student profiles by emailing the name and contact information of the person or people to the office. This information is kept on file in the school office. If someone other than those listed on file are to pick up the student, parents may text, email, or call the office or send in a note to the teacher. This call, note, or email is not blanket permission to pick up a student. A new request note must be made for subsequent requests, or the name must be added to the authorized pick-up list via the office.

If parents are divorced or separated and one parent is not allowed to see or pick up the student, the school must have on file at the office a certified copy of the court order of Final Judgment. **LOLCS will not be involved with any custody issues.** All student files are kept confidential.

School Office

The school office opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Items forgotten by students (lunches, homework, books, etc.) as well as other items or messages may be left in the office to be delivered to the student. Please help us maintain a professional environment by not congregating in the school office.

Telephone Use

Cell phones: Students are not allowed to communicate on their cell phones (or other devices) during the school day unless given special permission by a staff or faculty member. (See *Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices* for details.)

Office phone: Students feeling ill are not to call or text on their cell phones; they should come to the office to notify the staff. The staff member will direct them to call from the office phone or make the call for them. Students may use the telephone in the school office with office permission for illness or emergencies. Emergencies do not include forgotten items (i.e., PE clothes, books, homework, signed papers, lunches, etc.).

Health Issues

Illness

For the welfare of a sick student and others in the school, all students who are sick must be kept at home. If the office calls to notify the parents that their student has become ill, they are responsible to see that their student is picked up within forty-five minutes.

Students should stay at home if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever: Any student with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher should not attend school, field trips, or other school-related events. Please be aware that artificially lowering a fever via medication does not change the fact that the student is still contagious to others and should not attend school. Medical professionals recommend waiting 24 hours after the first normal temperature reading in order to determine the illness has passed (again, without fever reducing medication).
- Diarrhea/Stomach Flu/Rotavirus: Any student with these conditions should stay at home. A student is deemed over the illness once 24 hours have passed since the last episode. This 24-hour period includes eating normal meals without having any ill effects.
- Runny nose/coughs/sneezes/colds: A runny nose is a concern when the discharge is thick or discolored. If the discharge is thin and clear, it could be allergies, which are not contagious. A cough or a sneeze is more difficult to determine—usually other symptoms will appear when the cough or sneeze is of concern (fever and thick discharge of the nose and lethargy). Of course, it is always a good thing to teach your student to cover his mouth with a tissue when he coughs or sneezes.
- Any illness requiring antibiotics (strep throat, pink eye, etc.): According to medical professionals, a student who is given antibiotics must wait at least 24 hours from the first dose of the prescription medication prior to returning to school. Many doctors are now recommending up to 48 hours before allowing a student to return to school. This allows the antibiotic sufficient time to ensure the student is not contagious and will allow the immune system time to contain the infection.

Medication

A student may have an illness that does not prevent his attending school but which requires medication for relief or cure. If possible, such medication should be given by the parent at home. The medicine may be taken at school only if failure to take it could jeopardize the student's health. The following guidelines must be adhered to:

- **Permission:** The parent or guardian must provide written permission on the form supplied by the school for the school office to assist in the administration of each prescribed medication. An explanation of the necessity for the prescribed medication to be provided during the school day must be included. School personnel should be informed of any side-effects or complications which may result from the medication.
- **Over-the-Counter Medications:** If the physician or dentist orders a non-prescription medication (i.e., acetaminophen, cough medicine, essential oil), it will be necessary for the physician or dentist to provide a prescription or written note. The container must be labeled with the student's name and directions concerning dosage or usage. No over-the-counter (non-prescription) medication will be administered without a written statement from the physician or dentist.
- **Containers:** The medication must be received in school and stored in its original container, labeled with the student's name, name of the drug, directions concerning dosage, time of day to be taken, physician's name, and date of prescription. The parent may ask the pharmacist for an extra labeled container when buying the drug. When the medication is not in use, it shall be stored in its original container in a secure fashion under lock and key in the school office.
- **Medication Administration:** The student should be responsible for coming to the office at the appropriate time for the medication. At no time should students have any medication (including inhalers or essential oils) on their person or belongings.

Communicable Diseases

Land O' Lakes Christian School desires to maintain a healthful school environment by instituting controls designed to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. The term "communicable disease" shall mean "an illness which arises as a result of a specific infectious agent, which may be transmitted to someone either directly or indirectly by a susceptible host or an infected person." A teacher or administrative official who reasonably suspects that a student or staff member has a communicable disease shall immediately notify the school administrator. The reportable diseases include but are not limited to the following:

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Hepatitis, AIDS Related Complex (ARC), Herpes Simplex, Amebiasis, Histoplasmosis, animal bite by a potentially rabid animal, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Anthrax, Legionnaire's Disease, Botulism, Lepto Spirosis, Brucellosis, Lymphogranuloma Venerreum, Campylobacteriosis, Malaria, Chancroid, Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning, Encephalitis, Pertussis, Giardiasis, Gonorrhea, Plague, Granuloma Inguinal, Poliomyelitis, Measles (rubella), Chicken Pox, Meningitis, Conjunctivitis, Meningococcal Disease, Dengue, Mumps, Diphtheria, Hansen's Disease, Psittacosis, Hemorrhagic Fevers, Rabies, Relapsing Fever, Tetanus, Toxoplasmosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Trichinosis, Rubella (Inc. congenital), Tuberculosis, Salmonellas, Tularemia, Shigellosis, Typhoid Fever, Schistosomiasis, Typhus, Smallpox, Vibrio Cholera, Syphilis, and Yellow Fever

Any student or staff member with a communicable disease for which immunization is required by law or is available shall be temporarily excluded from school while ill and during recognized periods of communicability. Students and staff members with a communicable disease for which immunization is not available shall be excluded from school while ill. If the nature of the disease and circumstances warrant, Land O' Lakes Christian School may require an independent physician's examination of the student or staff member (at the student's or staff member's expense) to verify the diagnosis of communicable disease. The school reserves the right to make all final decisions necessary to enforce its communicable disease policy and to take all necessary actions to control the spread of communicable diseases within the school community.

Head Lice

In accordance with Pasco County policy, students must be free of lice to attend school. Students will be individually checked periodically for head lice. If the student is found to have head lice, he will be isolated, and the parent(s) will be notified to pick up the student. Before the student returns to school, the parent must verify treatment and the student will be checked for lice in the office. No student will be allowed in school with active lice.

Emergency Procedures

In accordance with local and state fire codes, Land O' Lakes Christian School conducts regular fire drills. Fire evacuation charts are posted at the door of each classroom and teachers review these regularly with students. Students are to walk silently out of the designated building exit at a safe distance away from the building and report to their teacher for attendance. Upon the completion of the fire drill, students are to return and be ready for class immediately. In the event of an actual emergency, parents will be notified, and students will be evacuated to a safe location.

In accordance with local and state emergency codes, Land O' Lakes Christian School conducts regular tornado drills. Tornado shelter location charts are posted at the door of each classroom and teachers review these regularly with students. Students are to walk silently to the designated shelter area with their teacher and remain there until the 'all clear' is announced. Upon the completion of the tornado drill, students are to return and be ready for class immediately. In the event of an actual emergency, parents will be notified with pertinent information.

In addition to meeting the above mandated emergency codes, Land O' Lakes Christian School educates in the area of and conducts routine lockdown drills. Training the students in emergency areas that could be of a non-fire or non-weather-related event, we provide a level of safety beyond what is required by statute. Our ministry plans, trains, and prepares for a variety of potential local, state, and national crisis events. Details of our Crisis Response Plan are available in the school office.

Child Abuse

Florida law requires that all teachers and administrators report child abuse or suspected child abuse to the proper authorities.

Volunteers

Opportunities

An open-door policy is practiced toward Land O' Lakes Christian School parents. A number of activities are promoted and staffed by parents during the school year. Additionally, individual teachers may give opportunities to parents to serve in their student's classroom. Before participating in school activities, volunteers must undergo a background check. Background check forms may be obtained from the school office. If volunteer is not a parent of a current LOLCS student, they will be required to sign an agreement of the school's statement of faith.

Dress Standards

School volunteers are in a position of direct assistance within a classroom or with a teacher. We support respect for the position of volunteer and request your help in this emphasis by implementing professional attire. Parents who assist with students or help in the classroom (including helping with parties) are respectfully requested to follow the dress code guidelines listed below.

Ladies:

- No part of the outfit should be revealing, sheer, or too formfitting.
- Dresses or skirts should be at least as long as the bottom of the knee. All slits and openings should be sewn at least to the middle of the knee.
- Tops should have a neckline no lower than the width of four fingers below the collarbone in front and no lower than a hand's width from the prominent bone of the neck in back.
- Ladies may wear pants or capris provided they are not formfitting (no spandex or denim, please).

Gentlemen: Docker-style dress pants (non-denim) and a collared shirt (either button-front or polo-style) are suitable for most events.

Visitors

School visitors are those who are at LOLCS briefly to see their student or observe student participation in an event (chapel, assembly, presentation, etc.) Parents or other authorized visitors (i.e., family members, LOLCS graduates, pastors) are always welcome to observe our school, provided that prior arrangements have been made with the teacher and the administrator. Due to school growth and space restrictions, parents are asked not to join their students for lunch.

Visitor Badges

Authorized visitors must first report to the office to sign in, and they will be issued a visitor badge to be worn for the duration of the stay. Before leaving campus, visitors must sign out in the school office.

Parent Conferences

Parents are never to go directly to the classroom unless arrangements have been made. (See *Parent-Teacher Communication*)

Dress Standards

All visitors, especially parents, are asked to respect the standards of the school when on campus, even if only for a brief stop. Visitors are requested to wear modest apparel whenever appearing on campus for any reason. Specific guidelines include the following:

- No clothing that is sheer, revealing, or too formfitting (no spandex)
- No low necklines
- No styles that expose the top of the shoulders, the midriff, or the undergarments
- No shorts that are shorter than two inches above the knee
- No torn T-shirts
- No shirts that contain emblems, insignia, or wording that may be offensive. (This includes shirts with advertising or emblems representing tobacco or alcohol.)

Student Visitors

A student may bring a visitor only if the visitor is considering enrollment in Land O' Lakes Christian School. Note the following guidelines:

- A written consent and request from the parent of the LOLCS student must be sent in advance of the requested date.
- A written consent and request from the parent of the visiting student must also be sent.
- The written approval of the administrator and the teacher must be given at least one day in advance.
- The parents of the LOLCS student will be totally responsible for the actions of any authorized student visitor.
- Friends who are not LOLCS students are not allowed to come on campus to eat lunch or loiter in parking areas, etc.

Weapons Policy

Only law enforcement officers and those participating in the School Guardian Program (designated as School Safety Guards by Pasco Sheriff's Office) may carry a fire-arm on campus during school hours or school-related activities. Persons who possess a concealed carry permit issued by the state of Florida are allowed to possess a firearm while driving through carline or in their locked vehicle while parked on campus. If you are not a concealed carry permit holder, you cannot have a loaded firearm in your car on or within 1,000 feet of a school. Federal and state law prohibits even those with concealed carry permits from carrying into the school facilities.

Other weapons, including but not limited to knives, tasers, pepper spray, fireworks, ammunition, bullets, or other explosive devices are not allowed on campus. Faculty/staff are permitted to carry a pocket knife—whereas students are not.

Lunches

Although LOLCS does not currently offer a hot lunch program, students in grades 5-12 may use microwaves. The school also offers pre-paid, pre-ordered lunches through local food vendors on certain days. Due to school growth and space restrictions, parents are not permitted to join their students for lunch.

Academic Policies

Standardized Testing

Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Achievement Test: Land O' Lakes Christian School administers the ITBS yearly in the spring.

Test results are available with the student's final report card. Test scores will reveal your student's placement within the nation among those taking the ITBS.

Cognitive Abilities Test: The CogAT measures the ability and potential of each student. This test is given every year in the spring, and the results will be available with the student's final report card.

Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT): Testing is done on campus in the fall of each year for all 11th grade students.

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and American College Test (ACT): All 11th grade students are strongly encouraged to take the ACT or SAT with the option of retaking the test in 12th grade. Students may take the test as many times as they desire, and only the highest score is maintained. There is a fee, however, every time the test is taken. Taking the SAT or the ACT is a requirement for application to college. No college scholarships are made available unless one of these tests is taken.

Report Cards

Our reporting system is designed to give parents an indication of the progress of their student in all areas of study. Report cards are issued every nine weeks, and the dates of distribution are listed on the school calendar. Report cards must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher the following week. Current grades are available to both students and parents via the parent online portal.

Grading Scale

Land O' Lakes Christian School uses the State Unified Grading Scale in all grades. The academic grade is based upon the actual work done on homework, quizzes, tests, projects, participation, etc. The grading scale is as follows:

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-59
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66		
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

Probation - Academic

A student with a D or F average in any subject may be issued probationary status (approximately the fifth week of each grading period). This probationary status may also be issued to students who are not working up to their ability. Most new students to LOLCS are routinely placed on academic probation to assure a smooth transition into our learning environment. This is designed to create a heightened awareness of academic status on the part of the teacher, the student, and the parent.

Homework

Purpose

Believing that homework is an integral part of the school program, each teacher is at liberty to give homework to aid the students to advance in their studies. Therefore, each student is required to complete his homework assignments on time. Homework is given for several reasons:

- **Reinforcement**: Most students require adequate review to master material essential for their education.
- **Practice**: Following classroom explanation, illustration, and review of new work, homework is given so that the material will be mastered.
- **Preparation**: Reading assignments may be given to prepare students for upcoming instruction.
- **Remedial Activity**: As instruction progresses, various weak points in the student's grasp of a subject become evident. Homework following instruction is given to overcome such difficulties.
- **Special Projects**: Book reports, compositions, research assignments and projects enable the student to apply the material learned. Independent study is a skill students do well to master early in the educational process.

Procedures

Students are expected to use assignment books (planners) to write down carefully the assignments for each night. Students in Grades 3-12 are required to use their school planner and fill it in on a daily or weekly basis. Student planners are also used for hall passes throughout the school year.

Policies

Each student is expected to complete the assigned homework and return the assignment by the due date. Students may also need to complete unfinished classwork at home. Parents should follow up with the teacher if this is habitual. The older the students gets the more homework they will have. The following is a suggested guideline for students who work at an average pace. Some students may work more quickly, or they may wisely use time given in the classroom and/or study hall. Other students, for different reasons, may require more time at home to complete their work.

Grade	Time (minutes)	Grade	Time (minutes)
Kindergarten (K4 and K5)	0-10	Fifth and Sixth Grades	45-60
First Grade	15-20	Seventh and Eighth Grades	60-80
Second Grade	20-30	High School	80-120
Third and Fourth Grades	30-40		

An attempt is made to limit homework on Wednesday nights and tests on Thursdays due to the FBC AWANA program and the midweek service of other churches. Quizzes may take place on Thursdays, however. Projects may be due on Thursday if students were given more than one day to complete them. Homework waivers are available in cases of special church meetings on school nights. The student's pastor should contact the school administrator for information.

Make-Up Work

All work missed because of an absence must be made up within a time frame equivalent to the amount of days missed unless other arrangements are made. The time period for make-up work to be completed begins immediately upon the student's return to school. It is the student's responsibility to contact his teachers and complete all make-up work.

Academic Website Warning

Some computer applications may be profitable for students as they learn academic content. However, students and parents are seriously warned concerning finding (or sharing) confidential course material online that would be considered cheating. Peer-sharing websites consist of students posting information to supposedly help them study. Computer applications such as Quizlet, however, may be inadvertently providing answers to assignments, quizzes and tests. Quizlet has guidelines and an honor code, but students are supposed to be responsible (rather than Quizlet, apparently) to make sure they are following the rules. Students who have not been responsible have been able to post exact questions and answers from quizzes and tests. Consequently, copyrighted quizzes and tests, as well as questions and answers from online test banks, may be readily available (even with Google). Students may be tempted to intentionally use the internet to get answers dishonestly, or they may unintentionally come across the answers. Therefore, LOLCS has put in place the following policy.

Academic Integrity Policy

If using any computer application, LOLCS students are expected to follow that website's guidelines and honor code before creating or studying any content. If exact questions and answers are inadvertently found by students (whether it be questions and answers from quizzes, tests, or assignments), they are expected to inform a teacher and/or the administrator without delay. Students must never post or share any information from an assignment, a quiz, or a test. Course content should not be made public online, including any notes students may produce for more profitable study. If Quizlet is used, students are expected to make their settings private. Additionally, students should never give their username or password to any other student. Also, if individual teachers at LOLCS request that students not use Quizlet for their classes, students are required to honor that request.

We also expect students who handwrite or type their notes to use them for their own benefit only (no printing copies for fellow classmates). Sharing content or notes only encourages the laziness of others. Students profit most when they read the textbook, search for information on their own, and take their own notes.

If any of these expectations are not met by a student, it could be considered cheating. (See *Cheating*)

Expected Behavior

Standards of Conduct

In every organization where many people interact on a regular basis, some specific rules and policies are necessary to establish acceptable standards of conduct, assure fair treatment of all members of the community, and enhance the smooth operation of the organization. Students and parents are expected to become familiar with and abide by the standards outlined in this section. The purpose of these rules is to maintain a community environment that protects the safety and dignity of each community member without placing unreasonable restrictions on anyone.

Land O' Lakes Christian School holds that the Bible is the infallible, divine Word of God and that salvation by faith in Christ is the initial step in the Christian life. Spiritual growth into the image of Christ (Romans 8:29), which is the work of the Holy Spirit (II Corinthians 3:18), begins with the initial act of saving faith and continues throughout life. The Holy Spirit makes the Christian conscious of the biblical demands for a holy life which fulfills both God's moral law and His high law of love (Matthew 22:37-39; Romans 13:8-10; Galatians 5:14). The result is a life consecrated to God and separated from the world.

Land O' Lakes Christian School must, therefore, provide an environment conducive to the spiritual growth and development of young people who are not yet mature Christians. A standard of conduct based on the biblical commands is necessary to provide such an environment. All of a Christian's activities must be subordinated to the goal of bringing glory to God, Who indwells us (I Corinthians 8:9; 13:13; 10:32). The Christian should endeavor to avoid practices which decrease his sensitivity to the spiritual needs of the world and endanger his physical, mental, or spiritual well-being (I Corinthians 9:27).

A sense of the need for spiritual growth in the light of these principles has led Land O' Lakes Christian School to adopt the following standards which it believes are conducive to the environment that will best promote the spiritual welfare of the student.

The school, therefore, asks each student—whether at home, school, or elsewhere—to:

- Maintain Christian standards in courtesy, kindness, honesty, morality, and modesty.
- Refrain from involvement in rock and roll music or so-called "Christian rock" music.
- Refrain from profanity, vulgarity, indecent language (written or verbal), inappropriate gestures, etc.
- Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages, smoking (including e-cigarettes and vaping), using addictive drugs, gambling, and dancing.
- Abstain from any type of sexual perversion including, but not limited to, pornography, premarital sex, and homosexuality as well as rejection of one's sex assigned by God at birth.
- Students should avoid physical contact including, but not limited to, poking, pushing, hugging, inappropriate touching, etc. (This includes opposite-sex and same-sex physical contact.)

A few of the restrictions mentioned above may appear arbitrary to some, but, while not condemning others who see differently, Land O' Lakes Christian School believes the above standards promote the type of outstanding conduct which the school has established as its objective. Students are expected to abide by these standards throughout their enrollment whether at home, school, or elsewhere. Students found to be out of harmony with the school's ideals of work and life may be asked to withdraw whenever the general welfare demands it, even though there may be no special breach of conduct.

In this atmosphere of definite and positive Christian standards of conduct, good scholastic planning, and genuine personal interest between faculty and student, there is fine opportunity for the development of strong Christian character. Additionally, we request your support of the following school procedures for each student:

- No criticism of any teacher or school policies by students will be tolerated.
- Disrespect and disobedience to an authority will not be tolerated.
- A proper response to a yes-or-no question is "Yes, Sir/Ma'am" or "No, Sir/Ma'am."
- Talking in class without permission is not allowed.

- Getting out of a seat without permission is not allowed.
- No writing, passing, or reading of notes is allowed throughout the school day.
- Students participating in social activities which contribute to low moral standards will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- Students are not to have any articles that distract from academics. Games, toys, electronic devices, etc. may be confiscated by the teacher. (Tablets and laptops may be used for academic purposes by 9th-12th graders only). This includes the use of cell phones without permission. The parents will be required to take these items home.
- No mutilation or destruction of any property will be tolerated. Parents will be billed for any damages caused by a student.
- Horseplay of any sort is considered out of order.
- Gum is not allowed on school property during the school day.
- No songbooks, CD's, or iPods are allowed at school except those being used for music class or special school programs at a teacher's request (including ESD.)
- Students should show respect for God, country, family, faculty, and fellow students.
- For everyone's safety, students should not be running on campus unless they are on the playground.

Note: Parents are asked to keep in mind that their student's behavior off campus has a bearing on the image and testimony of Land O' Lakes Christian School. Anything that the administration or School Board feels would bring reproach upon the name of the school, and thus the name of Christ, will be dealt with accordingly. We expect our students to participate only in those social activities that agree with the biblical principles taught at Land O' Lakes Christian School. Students participating in questionable social activities are subject to disciplinary measures up to and including expulsion.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is honoring to Christ and to live a life above reproach. If the ministry of LOLCS feels there is cause for reasonable suspicion that a serious breach has occurred, the student may be suspended. Following a reasonable time to investigate the allegation and prayerfully consider the appropriate response, the administrator will communicate the final decision to the parents (full re-instatement to the student body if allegation is unfounded or continued suspension/expulsion if allegation is discovered to be accurate). Students who have serious conduct issues and/or excessive demerits/detentions may be removed from leadership positions or involvement in extra-curricular activities. Serious breaches include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: *"But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."* (Galatians 6:4) It is the policy of Land O' Lakes Christian School that any student caught cheating will receive a zero on that specific project, paper, test, quiz, etc. Parents will be notified and demerits will be given. Cheating is considered stealing and will not be tolerated (See *Academic Integrity Policy*)
- Use of Drugs, Alcohol, or Tobacco: Any suspected use or possession of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco (on or off campus) will result in suspension while the allegation is investigated, followed by disciplinary action up to and including possible expulsion.
- Dangerous Items: Any student who brings any item to school that would endanger lives or cause serious injury will immediately be suspended and parents notified. This includes, but is not limited to firearms, knives or other sharp implements, and explosives.
- Deviant Behavior and Sexual Immorality: *"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled."* (Hebrews 13:4) Any sexual contact outside of marriage will not be tolerated, on or off campus, and will result in immediate suspension from Land O' Lakes Christian School while the allegation is investigated. This includes, but is not limited to, improper touching, homosexuality, lesbianism, fornication, adultery, use of pornography, and indecency. Improper behavior, talk, or gestures between boys and girls may result in suspension or expulsion.

Students who will not cooperate spiritually, morally, or scholastically may be required to withdraw. Any student displaying an uncooperative spirit either spiritually, morally, or scholastically may not be permitted to return or may be asked to withdraw. If parents cannot conscientiously support the school, it would be best for those parents to have their children in a school where there will not be open dispute or major disagreement.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

- Cell phones, smartwatches, and **smart glasses** may be brought to school and left in the student's locker or where otherwise directed by teachers; however, they must be turned off (not on beep, ring, or vibrate). There should be no calls or texting when students are on campus until after dismissal (3:00 p.m.). At 3:00 p.m., they may use their phone, but only to call or text parents for a ride or to clarify after-school plans.
- Laptop computers and tablets are permitted for instructional use for students in Grades 9-12.
- Scientific calculators are permitted for classroom instructional use only.
- Personal electronic video games may be allowed during travel for school-related activities but not on campus during school hours or during before or after-school care.
- Headphone use is not allowed on campus during school hours or during school-related activities without special permission (i.e. student workers or independent-study students when content is relevant to the courses they are taking).
- Students are not to use any electronic device (including cell phones and smartwatches) for entertainment during the times they are in the before- and after-care (ESD) programs. More information is given at orientation. Extra copies of the Extended School Day (ESD) Fee Structure are also available in the school office.
- Any device used in an unauthorized manner shall be subject to confiscation and deemed contraband. Electronic content contained within confiscated contraband is subject to administrative search.

Internet Policy

LOLCS administration reserves the right to view any internet postings, including, but not limited to, websites, chat rooms, blogs, social media websites, etc. Students will be accountable for content on their own sites, whether of their own posting or that of another. Content should conform to the same standards to which all other forms of expression are held.

Discipline Policy

Land O' Lakes Christian School provides classrooms which are conducive to a good learning environment and a joyful atmosphere. Effective classroom discipline is a necessary key ingredient. The teacher is responsible for maintaining appropriate classroom behavior. However, teaching discipline to the individual student is mainly the responsibility of the home, not the school. Therefore, parents should be involved in handling discipline problems and may be called if a problem continues that requires parental support. Failure to respond immediately with proper assistance in this area could result in the dismissal of the student from Land O' Lakes Christian School. The teacher's discipline cannot be effective without parental cooperation.

If a problem arises, parents should feel free to discuss it with their student's teacher at a convenient time. Classroom time should not be taken up for this purpose. If it is necessary to speak with someone during the school day, the office may be contacted. Parents and teachers must cooperate fully with each other. Anything said or done which undermines respect and confidence for either one will harm the student. When there is a misunderstanding or a problem, the parent should encourage the student to take it quickly to the teacher involved and try to resolve the problem. If the problem is still not completely resolved, often a phone call, a conference, or even a note can clear up the difficulty. A minor problem should not turn into a major one because of lack of communication. If, after sufficient communication, the problem cannot be solved with the student's teacher, parents should feel free to contact the administrator.

If needed, various forms of correction may be used at school, depending upon the nature and severity of the problem. The more the parents become involved in correcting behavioral problems at home, the more the home will be strengthened and the less discipline the student will require at school.

Actions resulting in the need for discipline of a more serious nature will result in suspension until adequate time has passed to investigate the situation and prayerfully consider final disciplinary action. Following consultation with the pastor and/or the School Board, parents will be notified of final action by the administrator, or in the absence of the administrator, the pastor or the School Board.

Probation - Behavioral

Behavioral probationary status may be issued to students who, by reason of willful violation of the religious beliefs and practices of the school, display poor character in areas described as punishable by demerit and detention. This status is conferred upon students solely at the discretion of the administrator and the School Board with proper notice being

given to parents. Continued willful violation of the religious beliefs and practices of the school may result in suspension or expulsion.

Property Damage to Church or School

Any damage to church, school, or ministry member's property as a result of student action will be repaired or replaced at the student's expense. We must be good stewards of that which God has given.

Hall and Restroom Procedures

Student movement on campus should be directed in an orderly manner and implemented consistently by the classroom teacher. Students and staff are permitted to use only the restroom associated with one's biological sex.

Students and staff members may not enter a restroom or locker room designated for the opposite sex. The only exception to this policy is for custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes, provided that restroom or locker room is not in use.

Statement on Harassment

Land O' Lakes Christian School reserves the right to operate according to its sincerely held religious beliefs about biblical marriage and sexuality and therefore does not define "harassment" as including any enforcement of, or adherence to, its biblical principles and expectations in the areas of marriage, sexuality, dress, and discipline.

Violence/Harassment Prevention Policy

Land O' Lakes Christian School does not tolerate violence or harassment in any form. LOLCS, including staff, students, parents, and volunteers, is committed to the school's mission of providing a safe and friendly environment that fosters appropriate expression and facilitates the dynamic educational process. Every student, teacher, parent/guardian, support staff, board member, pastor or others while on school property and at school sponsored events, is governed by these policies and shares in the responsibility for creating an environment that is safe, harmonious, and respectful.

LOLCS does not tolerate any intentional, unintentional, attempted or threatened use of force, threats, harassment or abuse against school personnel or students. Verbal or written taunts and threats (including sarcasm, ridicule, and humiliation), racial/ethnic/cultural harassment, physical and/or sexual harassment, or abuse perpetrated by anyone in the school, whether intentional or unintentional, is condemned as unacceptable. For full explanation of LOLCS Violence Prevention Policy, please see the Violence Prevention Manual in the school office.

Sexual Harassment Policy

All students and school personnel are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the dignity of others. If a student has concerns about the nature of any conduct or physical contact by a school or church employee, a fellow student, or a member of the public, the student should immediately report this concern to the administrator, supervisor, or teacher, as well as discuss this concern with his parent or guardian. The school will investigate all such reports immediately.

A student found to be in violation will be subject to disciplinary action up to and possibly including expulsion from school. An employee will be subject to disciplinary action up to and possibly including termination of employment. All such reports will be handled discreetly to maintain confidentiality, avoid embarrassment, and protect the student making the report. However, please be aware that Land O' Lakes Christian School is required by law to report suspected child abuse to the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Kindergarten & Elementary Section

The information contained within this section pertains specifically to PK3 through 6th grade students.

Parents are required to read the *Statement of Cooperation* and sign and return the signature page no later than Friday of the first week of school.

Dress Code - Kindergarten & Elementary

School Uniform

Students are required to wear the school uniform each day (unless otherwise specified for field trips, etc.). The standard uniform is available online through Lands' End School (landsend.com/school).

Girls' Uniforms	
Jumper/ Skirt	<u>PK3-1st</u> : Lands' End plaid jumper <u>2nd-6th</u> : Lands' End pleated plaid skirt Hems of the garments should come to the bottom of the knee.
Shirt	Lands' End navy or white knit polo-style logo shirt (white is mandatory attire for chapel services). Only the top button is allowed to be unbuttoned. Shirt must be tucked in at all times when worn with the skirt.
Socks	Socks must be navy, white, or a color that matches the uniform; no emblems are permitted. Navy or white tights or leggings (not pants) are permitted on cold days.
Shoes	<u>Style</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative, dress or semi-dress, fastened by either shoelace or Velcro closures. • Slip-ons are permitted provided the shoe remains on the foot when the student walks. • No platforms, slings, Crocs, sandals, slides, or open-toed shoes. • Athletic shoes with non-marking soles are permitted. <u>Color</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>PK3 & K4</u>: Black as well as other colors are permissible for these grades. • <u>K5-6th</u>: Entire shoe (including sole, shoe top, and laces) must be solid black. Any stripes, lettering, emblems, etc. must be blackened with a permanent ink marker. <u>Soles</u> : Black; non-marking soles. <u>Material</u> : Leather, vinyl, suede, Nu-buck, etc. Canvas material is permitted as long as, in the estimation of the administration, the shoes remain in like-new condition (not faded, frayed, or showing excessive wear.) <u>Heels</u> : Heel height at the back of the shoe must not exceed 2 inches (including the sole).
Accessories	Small stud earrings only, up to two pair at a time and only in the ear lobes. No gaudy necklaces, dangling or drop earrings, or pins. Students may not wear ankle bracelets. Students may wear up to two bracelets and/or rings. All hair accessories need to be the school colors: navy, white, green, or yellow. No cat-ear headbands or hair accessories that are large and distracting.
Makeup	No makeup is permitted.

Boys' Uniforms	
Shirts	Lands' End white or hunter green polo-style logo shirt (white is mandatory attire for chapel services). Shirt must be tucked in at all times.
Undershirt	(Optional) Plain white, gray, or colors that match the uniform shirt are allowed.
Pants	Lands' End (or similar) navy blue, in good repair; hem should touch the top of the shoes while standing. Black or navy belt if there are belt loops on the pants.
Shorts	<u>PK3-4th only</u> : Lands' End (or similar) navy blue walking shorts, in good repair. Length must be 2" or less above knee. It is recommended to purchase longer items to account for growth spurts.

Boys' Uniforms

Shoes	<p><u>Style:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative, dress or semi-dress, fastened by either shoelace or Velcro closures. • Slip-ons are permitted provided the shoe remains on the foot when the student walks. • Athletic shoes with non-marking soles are permitted. • No sandals, slides, or Crocs. <p><u>Color:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>PK3 & K4:</u> Black as well as other colors are permissible for these grades. • <u>K5-6th:</u> Entire shoe (including sole, shoe top, and laces) must be solid black. Any stripes, lettering, emblems, etc. must be blackened with a permanent ink marker. <p><u>Soles:</u> Black; non-marking soles.</p> <p><u>Material:</u> Leather, vinyl, suede, Nu-buck, etc. Canvas material is permitted as long as, in the estimation of administration, the shoes remain in like-new condition (not faded, frayed, or showing excessive wear.)</p>
Socks	Solid black or navy blue only. White crew socks are acceptable in PK3 & K-4.

Outerwear

The two sweater options and the fleece jacket from Lands' End are optional purchases. These are the only outdoor garments that may be worn in the classroom. Other jackets and sweaters may be worn to school but must be removed upon entering the classroom.

Jewelry

Earrings (or other piercings) are not allowed for boys. Necklaces and bracelets should not be worn unless they are medical-warning necklaces or bracelets. Watches, purity rings, and LOLCS class rings are the only acceptable jewelry for boys.

Physical Education (PE) Uniforms

Available through Lands' End

Shorts	LOLCS Uniform--2" or less above knee (note: recommended purchasing long so shorts will last all year as student grows)
Shirts	The LOLCS PE shirt should be long enough to meet the shorts when the arms are raised and may not contain any additional writing.
Shoes	Athletic shoes, lace-up or Velcro-style to prevent shoes from being inadvertently removed while participating in PE
Cold Weather Wear	Solid-color sweat pants and solid-color turtlenecks or sweatshirts (preferably school colors, white, or black); long-sleeved PE shirts, sweat pants, and sweatshirts are also available from Lands' End.

Hair Code

Girls: Hair color and style must be such that the hair does not draw undue attention to itself. Hair should remain a natural color. Subtle, natural-looking highlights are acceptable, but extremes in hair coloring, chunky streaking, bleaching, or styling are not allowed.

Boys: (The administrator will make final decisions on questionable haircuts.)

- Boys are to have their hair cut regularly, not allowing it to become too long. When hair begins to flip up on the ends, it is too long.
- Hair is to be cut in such a way that it is off the eyebrows and tapered neatly off the collar and ears.
- It is to be combed neatly and styled in a modest fashion, without any added or altered coloration so as not to draw undue attention to it.
- Hair is not to be sculpted, stepped, spiked, or higher than 2" above the top of the head.

- Bowl cuts are not acceptable.
- Shaggy or bushy hair, even if in accordance with the above requirements, is not acceptable.
- Faddish haircuts are not allowed.
- Boys are to have sideburns no lower than the middle of the ear.

Backpacks & Lunch Boxes

Personal items including backpacks, lunch boxes, and water bottles should not display inappropriate logos, slogans, and/or images, such as those promoting subject matter contrary to Biblical principles, anti-Christian sentiment, racism, inflammatory political themes, sex-related themes, or other generally inappropriate content.

Dress Code (When Not in Uniform)

It is not too early for the kindergarten and elementary students to be thinking about modesty and appropriateness of attire. LOLCS requests that when the uniform is not being worn (for certain field trips, games, programs, etc.), students adhere to the following guidelines:

Girls:

- No part of the outfit should be revealing, sheer, or too formfitting.
- Dresses or skirts must be at least as long as the bottom of the knee. All slits and openings must be sewn at least to the middle of the knee.
- Tops must have a neckline no lower than four fingers below the collarbone in front and no lower than a hand's width from the prominent bone of the neck in back.

Boys: Docker-style dress pants (non-denim) and a collared shirt (either button-front or polo-style) are suitable for most events.

Athletic Attendance on Campus

An adult must accompany kindergarten and elementary students who wish to attend athletic events after school. Students not accompanied by an adult will remain in the Extended School Day (ESD) program.

Discipline Policy

Land O' Lakes Christian School defines discipline as "the control and guidance of behavior." It is the goal of the school to guide and develop within student's self-discipline rooted in recognition of Christlike character and a godly respect for others rather than a fear of punishment.

Discipline is learned; we recognize that it is taught in the home, as well as at school. This learning process should assist students in developing a godly, biblically-based sense of responsibility toward their own behaviors, attitudes, and actions. The clearly communicated, firm, fair, and consistent application of biblically-based principles is the guiding factor in every aspect of developing a safe and harmonious school environment.

K-5 through fifth grade:

In keeping with the goal of helping students become more conformed to the image of Christ, our character-based approach to discipline will utilize a written form, when necessary, to identify specific areas within which students need to improve. This form is entitled "Elementary Character/Behavior/Work Habits Notice." Students receiving this notice are to take it home and show it to a parent immediately. A parent signature is required, and the notice needs to be returned to the teacher the next day. Note the following guidelines concerning these notices:

- More than 3 per week will require a parent-teacher conference.
- More than 7 within any 10-day period will require a meeting with the principal.
- More than 15 within any quarter will result in behavioral probation.

Students with over 15 character notices within any quarter are subject to behavioral probation and may be asked to withdraw during the next grading term if student behavior does not alter or if sufficient parental support is not

forthcoming. The quarterly report card will also reflect areas of character, behavior, and work habits as the Behavior/Character Notice.

Sixth grade: Sixth graders receive demerits rather than elementary notices. Students who receive demerit slips must return them with a parent's signature the next day. **Current LOLCS students in 6th grade will be interviewed by a principal before acceptance into Jr. High.** See *Demerits and Detentions*.

Conduct Grading Key

The Christian character or conduct code is indicated by an alphabetical letter used to reflect attitude, effort, and conduct. This is an important part of the student's report card.

E	Excellent	Indicates that the student always does what is required (sometimes going above and beyond), has an exceptionally cooperative attitude, and behaves in accordance with the rules of the classroom.
S	Satisfactory	Indicates that the student has a positive attitude and is no particular discipline problem in the classroom.
N	Needs Improvement	Indicates that the student is not working up to his ability and/or is inconsistent in attitude or conduct.
U	Unacceptable	Indicates the student's effort, attitude, and behavior are unacceptable. Students given a grade of U in two or more classes will jeopardize their privilege to attend Land O' Lakes Christian School.
<i>Note:</i> Students consistently given a grade of U may jeopardize their privilege to attend Land O' Lakes Christian School.		

Junior & Senior High Section

The information contained within this section pertains specifically to students in Grades 7–12.

Please read the section carefully.

Junior/senior high students and their parents are required to read the *Statement of Cooperation*, sign the signature page, and return it no later than Friday of the first week of school.

Admissions

Students are tentatively accepted at Land O' Lakes Christian School after submission of a registration application and an interview with the administrator. Final acceptance is contingent upon the content of former records, pastoral reference forms, and the result of testing and placement of the student. Each student's status will be reviewed yearly, and the student will be accepted for re-enrollment on the basis of academic progress, disciplinary records, and agreement with the school's statement of faith. A student who does not agree and cooperate with the overall purpose and program of the school will not be admitted or allowed to remain at Land O' Lakes Christian School. This decision rests with the administration and the School Board. Parents are notified if the student's enrollment status is in jeopardy.

Land O' Lakes Christian School reserves the privilege of setting and maintaining specific standards of conduct, dress, cleanliness, and scholarship for its students. The desire of the school is to provide a Christian atmosphere in the academic world. Land O' Lakes Christian School expects full cooperation from both students and parents. The school maintains the right to refuse admission to anyone who fails to meet entrance requirements or to whom, in the opinion of the administration, the school cannot minister effectively. The school administrator, the pastor of First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes, and the School Board of Land O' Lakes Christian School make the final decision in the acceptance of any student to the academic programs. Furthermore, they maintain the right to suspend, dismiss, or expel any student who violates the standards set down in the handbook or any other rule of conduct as defined by the school administration.

Besides the general admissions policies in the *General Section*, please note the following:

Prospective students in Grades 7-12 and their parents:

- Should have trusted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.
- Should be faithfully attending First Baptist Church of Land O' Lakes or a church of like faith and practice (providing a reference from the pastor as to character and church attendance).
- Must meet with the administrator and/or the pastor of FBCLOL for an interview.
- Must meet minimum academic requirements (standardized math and reading scores greater than 40th percentile).

Academics

Curriculum

Land O' Lakes Christian School has a strong academic program and a dedicated faculty. Abeka Book and Bob Jones University Press are the primary curriculum used in Grades 7-12.

Courses of Study – Junior High		
Courses	Grade 7	Grade 8
Bible	Old or New Testament	Old or New Testament
Social Studies/History	American or World History	American or World History
Science	Life or Earth Science	Life or Earth Science
English	<i>Required</i>	<i>Required</i>
Mathematics	Math 7	Pre-Algebra
Physical Education	<i>Required</i>	<i>Required</i>
Electives	3-4 minimum	3-4 minimum

Courses of Study – High School (Grades 9-12)

Course	Credits
Language Arts <i>(concentration in grammar, composition, and literature)</i>	4.0
Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra 1 (Standard or Honors) • Geometry (Standard or Honors) • Algebra 2 (Standard or Honors) • Pre-Calculus/Calculus • Probability & Statistics 	4.0
Bible	4.0
Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. History (Honors or Dual Enrollment) • World History (Honors) • American Government (Honors) • Economics • Geography* 	1.0 1.0 0.5 0.5 1.0
Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology (Honors) <i>required</i> • Chemistry (Honors) • Physical Science (Honors) • Physics (Honors) • Anatomy & Physiology 	4.0 <i>(2 credits must be earned with lab components)</i>
Life Management	0.5
Personal Finance	0.5
Foreign Language <i>(same foreign language must be taken consecutively)*</i>	2.0
Physical Education	1.0
Practical Arts or Performing Fine Arts	1.0
Electives (min.)	2.0
Minimum Graduation Requirements: 24 credits	

*Not required to graduate but recommended for college enrollment

Requirements

Passing Grades: In Grades 7-12, a student must pass English, math, and Bible in order to be promoted to the next grade.

Exams: Preparing well for exams is important as exam grades make up a percentage of the **semester grade** which is the grade published on transcripts for prospective colleges.

- Exam grades make up 10% of the **semester grade**.

Chapel: Participation in a regular chapel program is a required part of the curriculum.

Community Service: In addition to the academic course work, high school students (Grades 9-12) must complete a total of 120 community service hours (30 per year while in attendance at LOLCS) within the following categories:

- *Church:* Local church or ministry (10 hours)
- *Service:* Non-church based; within community (10 hours)
- *Action:* Physical labor at either a local church or a para-church organization (10 hours)

Community service hours will need to be approved by the administration. Students who have completed 8th grade may begin earning community service hours as early as the summer after 8th grade. Hours must be completed before the end of the senior year. Recorded hours may be viewed via the parent portal.

Athletes: All students participating in sports are required to do the following:

- Read and agree with the Parent/Student Athletic Handbook.
- Be responsible for all homework assignments regardless of game or activity schedules. (This may require completing homework on the bus.)
- A current **sports** physical examination (*FHSAA Pre-participation Physical Evaluation-Form EL02*). This exam must be done yearly, after June 1 of the upcoming school year. (See *Parent-Student Athletic Handbook*.)

Lab Fees: Besides the fees listed under Financial Policies in the general section, a lab fee may be assessed to students enrolled in classes that require lab work or extensive additional funding such as band, culinary arts, computer science, and science.

Punctuality: Punctuality is expected. Students must be ready to begin class on time at each appointed hour. Demerits may be given to students who are late.

Special Electives: Some electives (i.e., choir, band, handbells) require time outside of the regular school day for practicing and lessons, if applicable. Attendance for scheduled performances is mandatory, and grades will reflect the level of participation.

Additional High School Coursework

High school students are permitted (by approval) to take online classes and/or dual-enrollment classes while enrolled at LOLCS. Online courses may not be approved if the same classes are offered at LOLCS. Many students take online classes free of charge through Florida Virtual School (FLVS.net). Students who take dual-enrollment classes receive both high school and college credit. This may be done through our articulation agreement with Pasco-Hernando State College and/or several Christian colleges that now offer courses to high school students. Any associated fees are the responsibility of the parents.

Honors Courses (LOLCS or other)

These courses add 0.5 to the student's GPA for the course when a weighted GPA is calculated.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

- *AP exam with score of 3 or greater* add 1.0 to the student's GPA for those courses when a weighted GPA is calculated. Students have the responsibility to report their AP exam scores in order to receive the full 1.0 added to the course's GPA.
- *AP courses without an AP exam or for which the AP exam score was less than 3* will add 0.5 to the student's GPA for those courses when a weighted GPA is calculated.

College Dual Enrollment (DE) Courses

Land O' Lakes Christian School allows high school students (especially 11-12th grade) to participate in dual enrollment courses. These courses add 1.0 to the student's GPA for those courses when a weighted GPA is calculated. LOLCS has an articulation agreement with Pasco Hernando State College and University of South Florida. We also encourage students to enroll in dual enrollment courses with private or Christian colleges. While the state of Florida reimburses state universities for dual enrollment courses, the family of the student is responsible to pay for the dual enrollment course taken through a private or Christian college.

Attendance

School attendance is extremely important. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in succeeding in school. It also shows integrity and prepares one for success in the job market.

All junior high and high school students enrolled at Land O' Lakes Christian School are obligated to attend classes regularly. Participation in classroom activities is an important part of the credit earned in any course.

Seniors

Twelfth grade students are normally exempt from the final exam of any class in which they have an A average for 4th quarter. However, if they incur one or more unexcused absences, they may lose final-exam exemption privileges.

Excessive Absences

Students with ten or more total absences (excused or unexcused) in any one class during a semester, even if they have a passing grade, may receive an F (59% value). **Students must be in attendance 80 days per semester to receive high school credit.** A student may make an appeal to the School Board within the prescribed time established in each semester. All absences will be considered unexcused unless and until a legibly signed note or email from the parent is received by the office and approved by the administrator (or his designee). The School Board shall have the authority to reinstate the student's passing grade by imposing additional requirements on the student if deemed necessary.

Truancy

The Florida Legislature has enacted F.S. 322.091(1) stating that minors (ages 14-17) must satisfy school attendance requirements in order to apply for and maintain their driving privileges. The administrator is required to submit to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) the name of any student (along with date of birth, sex, and social security number) who does not satisfy attendance requirements.

If a student's name is sent to the DHSMV for lack of attendance, the student is in danger of having his driving privilege suspended. For students who are under age 16, future application for licensure may be denied. Following a license suspension by DHSMV, the driving privilege may be reinstated if the student submits written verification to DHSMV that he has completed 30 days of attendance in school without unexcused absence.

Student Dress and Appearance

School Uniform

Students are required to wear the school uniform each day (unless otherwise specified for certain field trips, etc.). The standard uniform is available through Lands' End /School (landsend.com/school). Dress code violations will receive a demerit, and blatant infractions of the dress code, immodest apparel, or dressing in such a way as to willfully reject one's sex assigned at birth (Gen. 1:27) will require a student to change clothes. See the charts below for more specific guidelines.

Physical Education (PE) Uniforms

Available through Lands' End

Shorts	LOLCS Uniform--2" or less above knee (note: recommended purchasing long so shorts will last all year as student grows)
Shirts	The LOLCS PE shirt should be long enough to meet the shorts when the arms are raised and may not contain any additional writing
Shoes	Athletic shoes, lace-up or Velcro-style to prevent shoes from being inadvertently removed while participating in PE
Cold Weather Wear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solid-color sweat pants and solid-color turtlenecks or sweatshirts (preferably school colors, white, or black)• Long-sleeved PE shirts, sweat pants, and sweatshirts are also available from Lands' End.• LOLCS athletic hoodies may also be worn outside during PE when it is cold.

Outerwear

The two sweater options and the fleece jacket from Lands' End are optional purchases. The LOLCS sweater and fleece, as well as the LOLCS athletic and senior class hoodies, are the only outerwear that may be worn in the classroom. Other jackets and sweaters may be worn to school but must be removed upon entering the classroom.

Tattoos

Students are not allowed to get tattoos, nor are they allowed to put anything on the skin which may resemble a tattoo.

Guidelines for Girls

Girls' Uniforms

Skirt	<p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> The pleated plaid skirt from Lands' End is required.</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> There are two options for the khaki skirt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwards Chino Skirt 9711 (available online from All Seasons Uniforms, Wal-Mart, etc.) • Lands' End pleated khaki skirt (Item #430797BP0) <p>The skirts must adhere to the LOLCS dress code with regards to form and fit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hemline of the skirt should come to the bottom of the knee. • The skirt should not be too formfitting. • No "rolling" of the waistband.
Blouse or Polo	<p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> Girls may choose to wear the navy or the white knit polo. The top must be tucked in at all times.</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> The French-blue logo blouse from Lands' End is required on chapel days.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Only the top button is allowed to be unbuttoned on either blouse.</p>
Socks	<p><u>7th-12th:</u> White, navy (or a color that matches uniform) knee socks or anklets (with no emblems). White or navy leggings (with no emblems or stripes) or tights are permitted under skirts on cold days.</p>
Shoes	<p><u>Style:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative, dress or semi-dress, fastened by either shoelace or Velcro closures. • Slip-ons are permitted provided the shoe remains on the foot when the student walks. • No platforms, slings, Crocs, sandals, slides, or open-toed shoes. • Athletic shoes with non-marking soles are permitted <p><u>Color:</u></p> <p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> Entire shoe (including sole, shoe top, and laces) must be solid black. Any stripes, lettering, emblems, etc. must be blackened with a permanent ink marker.</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> Students may wear their everyday black shoes to chapel or opt for a tan, brown, or black semi-dress or dress shoe. Slip-on canvas shoes (i.e., Keds) are not permitted.</p> <p><u>Soles:</u> Black; non-marking soles.</p> <p><u>Material:</u> Leather, vinyl, suede, Nu-buck, etc. Canvas material is permitted as long as, in the estimation of administration, the shoes remain in like-new condition (not faded, frayed, or showing excessive wear.)</p> <p><u>Heels:</u> Heel height at the back of the shoe must not exceed 2 inches (including sole).</p>

Jewelry: No gaudy necklaces, earrings, or pins are allowed. Students may not wear ankle bracelets. Earrings (up to two earrings on the lobe of each ear) may be worn with the following stipulations: Small stud earrings without a dangle or drop (½ inch or less in diameter) are permitted for all female students in Grades 7-12. Hoop earrings are permitted for female students in Grades 9-12 with the hoop being up to one inch in size. No other body piercing is allowed. Students may wear up to two bracelets and/or rings.

Makeup: Girls in grades 7-12 may wear natural-looking makeup that is not excessively obvious, specifically in the color and degree of application of foundation, blush, eyeliner, eye shadow, and mascara. Makeup should be worn in such a way that it enhances the face and natural features.

Hair Code: Hair color and style must be such that the hair does not draw undue attention to itself. Hair should remain a natural color. Subtle, natural-looking highlights are acceptable, but extremes in hair coloring, chunky streaking, bleaching, or styling are not allowed. All hair accessories need to be the school colors: navy, white, green, or yellow. Large, distracting hair accessories are not permitted.

Casual Dress

It is not too early for students to be thinking about modesty and appropriateness of attire. LOLCS requests that when the uniform is not being worn (for certain field trips, games, programs, etc.), girls adhere to the following guidelines:

- No part of the outfit should be revealing, sheer, or too formfitting.
- Dresses or skirts must be at least as long as the bottom of the knee. All slits and openings must be sewn at least to the middle of the knee.

- Tops must have a neckline no lower than four fingers below the collarbone in front and no lower than a hand's width from the prominent bone of the neck in back.
- No styles that expose the top of the shoulders, the midriff, or the undergarments are allowed.
- Students are permitted to wear non-denim slacks or Capri slacks to sporting events.
- No pieces of attire should advertise or represent drugs or alcohol.
- No clothing should contain symbols or insignias that represent groups or ideals contrary to biblical standards.
- When denim is permitted, denim garments may not be torn or show signs of extreme fading or wear.
- Pants and shorts, if permitted at the event, must be loose fitting and no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.

Dress-Up Occasions: When an event calls for something other than the uniform or casual dress, girls must abide by the following standards:

- Dresses or skirts must be at least as long as the bottom of the knee. All slits and openings must be sewn at least to the middle of the knee.
- Tops must have a solid fabric neckline no lower than four fingers below the collarbone in front and no lower than a hand's width from the prominent bone of the neck in back.
- Dresses that bare the shoulders or those with only narrow straps must be worn with a shawl or a jacket that remains on during the entire event.
 - Dresses with a minimum of two inches (2") of material between the neck and shoulder are considered a sleeveless dress.
 - Dresses with less than 2" of fabric between neck and shoulder are considered a dress with straps.
- Dress checks will be scheduled before the event. The girls may be asked to try on their dresses before they are approved. (The tag and the receipt should be kept just in case a dress does not pass inspection.)
- All parts of the dress must meet our standards for modesty; no portion may be sheer without having an under layer that meets modesty guidelines noted above.

Guidelines for Boys

Boys' Uniforms	
Shirts	<p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> Boys may choose to wear the white or green polo-style shirt. Only the top button is allowed to be unbuttoned, and the shirt must be tucked in at all times.</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> The French-blue logo shirt worn with the Lands' End navy-gold striped tie is required. The top button must be buttoned, and the shirt must be tucked in at all times.</p>
Undershirt	(Optional) Plain white, gray, or colors that match the uniform shirt are allowed.
Pants	<p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> Lands' End (or similar) uniform navy-blue pants</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> Khaki pants (Docker style, not cargo style) are required. Pants should not be dirty or torn. They must touch the top of the shoes. No sewn-on pockets, patch pockets, or jeans-style pants are permitted.</p>
Shoes	<p><u>Style:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservative, dress or semi-dress, fastened by either shoelace or Velcro closures. • Slip-ons are permitted provided the shoe remains on the foot when the student walks. • No sandals, slides, or Crocs. • Athletic shoes with non-marking soles are permitted. <p><u>Color:</u></p> <p><u>Non-chapel days:</u> Entire shoe (including sole, shoe top, and laces) must be solid black. Any stripes, lettering, emblems, etc. must be blackened with a permanent ink marker.</p> <p><u>Chapel days:</u> Students may wear their everyday black shoes to chapel or opt for a tan, brown, or black semi-dress or dress shoe.</p> <p><u>Soles:</u> Black non-marking soles.</p> <p><u>Material:</u> Leather, vinyl, suede, Nu-buck, etc. Canvas material is permitted as long as, in the estimation of administration, the shoes remain in like-new condition (not faded, frayed, or showing excessive wear.)</p>
Socks	Socks must be solid black or navy blue. On chapel days, solid-colored socks that match the chapel day uniform may be worn.
Tie	The navy-gold striped necktie or bowtie from Lands' End must be worn with the uniform dress shirt on chapel days.

Boys' Uniforms

Belt	Boys are required to wear a navy blue or black belt. It should be of the dressy leather style rather than a casual style.
------	---

Outerwear: The Drifter sweater and the fleece jacket from Lands' End are optional purchases. However, these items (as well as the LOLCS athletic hoodies) are the only outdoor garments that may be worn in the classroom. Other jackets and sweaters may be worn to school but must be removed upon entering the classroom.

Jewelry, etc.: Earrings (or other piercings), nail polish, and makeup are not allowed for boys. Necklaces and bracelets should not be worn unless they are medical-warning necklaces or bracelets. Watches, purity rings, and LOLCS class rings are the only acceptable jewelry for boys.

Hair Code: Boys should follow these guidelines: (The administrator will make final decisions on questionable haircuts.)

- Boys are to have their hair cut regularly, not allowing it to become too long. When hair begins to flip up on the ends, it is too long.
- Hair is to be cut in such a way that it is off the eyebrows and tapered neatly off the collar and ears.
- It is to be combed neatly and styled in a modest fashion, without any added or altered coloration so as not to draw undue attention to it.
- Hair is not to be sculpted, stepped, spiked, or higher than 2" above the top of the head.
- Bowl cuts are not acceptable.
- Shaggy or bushy hair, even if in accordance with the above requirements, is not acceptable.
- Faddish haircuts are not allowed.
- Boys are to be clean shaven (no beards or mustaches), with sideburns no lower than the middle of the ear.

Casual Dress: It is not too early for students to be thinking about modesty and appropriateness of attire. LOLCS requests that when the uniform is not being worn (for certain field trips, games, programs, etc.), students adhere to the following guidelines:

- Docker-style dress pants (non-denim) and a collared shirt (either button-front or polo-style) are suitable for most events.
- No pieces of attire should advertise or represent drugs or alcohol.
- No clothing should contain symbols or insignias that represent groups or ideals contrary to biblical standards.
- Clothing should be in good repair, not torn or faded.
- Pants should be securely fastened at the natural waist without revealing any portion of an undergarment.
- Boys should wear non-denim slacks to sporting events (no jeans or shorts).
- Collared shirts (polo-style or button front) are required at sporting events (Exception: Boys may wear the LOLCS spirit T-shirt).
- When permitted, denim garments may not be torn nor show signs of extreme fading or wear.

Dress-Up Occasions: When an event calls for a suit and tie, something other than the uniform, or casual dress, boys are not allowed to wear jeans or denim.

Student Conduct

Discipline Policy

Land O' Lakes Christian School defines discipline as "the control and guidance of behavior." It is the goal of Land O' Lakes Christian School to guide and develop within student's self-discipline rooted in recognition of Christlike character and a godly respect for others rather than a fear of punishment.

Discipline is learned. It is taught in the home, as well as at school. This learning process should assist each student in developing a godly, biblically-based sense of responsibility toward their own behaviors, attitudes, and actions. The clearly communicated, firm, fair, and consistent application of biblically-based principles is the guiding factor in every aspect of developing a safe and harmonious school environment.

Details about expected behavior and standards of conduct have already been addressed in the general section of the handbook. Following are additional guidelines specific to the older students.

Search and Seizure of Suspicious, Illegal, or Unauthorized Materials

In some schools there are those students who not only push the limits where the rules are concerned but also violate them when they can. This often occurs when the student brings to school items which are prohibited, such as weapons or drugs. Therefore, Land O' Lakes Christian School reserves the right to search any student's person and belongings in the event the school suspects that the student possesses an unapproved item. This search may be conducted without the student's or the parents' knowledge. Electronic content contained within or on confiscated contraband is subject to administrative search. Registration and subsequent enrollment of the student constitutes parental consent to such searches. Backpacks, purses, pockets, lockers, desks, etc., are all subject to search if the school suspects the possession of any unapproved, unauthorized item.

Student Driving Policy

Students who drive must secure a parking permit from school. Students will need to provide a copy of their driver's license and proof of insurance. A Student Vehicle Registration Form must be completed, signed, and turned in to the school office. Student driver regulations are as follows:

- Driving a vehicle to and from school is a privilege. Do not abuse it.
- All vehicles must be parked in the designated student parking area.
- All vehicles must remain locked and unused from the time of arrival at school until departure following the last class or activity. Students should not remain in a parked automobile after arrival or dismissal.
- Any incident reported and verified involving misconduct or lack of safety at any time may cause a student's driving privilege to be temporarily or permanently suspended or revoked.
- Students are not allowed to play near the vehicles or lounge in or on any vehicle at any time while on the school grounds.
- No student is allowed to ride with another student for a school function, without written permission from both sets of parents. The administrator must be notified of the arrangement.
- Bumper or window stickers which promote things contrary to school standards or are offensive are not allowed.
- All traffic control devices must be observed.
- The speed limit must be observed.
- Land O' Lakes Christian School is a closed campus. Once a student is on campus, he must remain on campus unless he has permission to leave from the administration. Once given permission to leave campus prior to normal dismissal time, student drivers must sign out in the school office.
- If attending or participating in an authorized after-school activity, student drivers are expected to leave campus immediately following dismissal or remain under the direct supervision of LOLCS staff.
- Land O' Lakes Christian School is not responsible for loss or damage to a student's vehicle while it is on school property.
- Tardy student drivers are still responsible to report to the office upon arrival. Excessive tardies may result in loss of driving privileges.

Demerit System

In keeping with the goal of helping students become more conformed to the image of Christ, our character-based approach to discipline in junior and senior high utilizes a demerit system when necessary to identify specific areas within which students need to improve. The demerit system is a guide for behavior at Land O' Lakes Christian School. The school expects students to be well disciplined and maintain the highest standards of conduct and behavior at all times. Failure to comply with codes and regulations will result in the issuing of demerits and/or other disciplinary action.

A student demerit report is written by the teacher for a student who is not complying with school policies. Offenses not listed in the handbook will be dealt with at the discretion of the administration.

A continued attitude problem and/or negative influence upon other students may result in demerits, detention, probation, suspension, or expulsion. Accumulating demerits or being a behavioral problem will jeopardize both a student's participation in school activities and enrollment at Land O' Lakes Christian School. The following guidelines are for each nine-week grading period:

# Demerits	Disciplinary Action
10 demerits	Detention
15 demerits	Parental contact and additional detention
20 demerits	Parent conference with the administrator and in-school suspension
25 demerits	Three-day out-of-school suspension and disqualification from participation in extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the nine-week grading period

A student who accumulates a total of 40 demerits in two successive semesters will not be permitted to attend the school without the approval of the administration or the School Board. A student who accumulates 30 demerits in one semester may lose the privilege of attending Land O' Lakes Christian School.

Offenses and Corresponding Demerits			
Offense	# Demerits	Offense	# Demerits
Book uncovered	1	Horseplay	1-10
Chewing gum, eating without permission	1	Inappropriate language or behavior	1-10
Tardy without excuse	1	Direct disobedience	5-10
Unprepared for class	1	Cheating	5-15
Failure to return parental notices	1	Profanity, vulgarity (written or verbal), or obscene gestures	5-15
Talking without permission/disrupting class	1	Bullying or physical violence	5-15
Dress-code violation	1	Lying	5-15
Writing, reading, or passing notes	1-5	Stealing	5-15
Disrespect	1-10	Drugs, alcohol, smoking, vaping	up to and including expulsion
Inappropriate physical contact	1-10	Pornography	

This list is not intended to be complete but to represent the types of behaviors that will result in demerits. Additional demerits may be issued at the teacher's discretion. The administration and the School Board reserve the right to make exceptions. Actions resulting in the need for discipline of a more serious nature will result in suspension until adequate time has passed to investigate the situation and prayerfully consider final disciplinary action. Following consultation with the pastor and/or the School Board, parents will be notified of final action by the administrator or, in the absence of the administrator, the pastor or the School Board.

Detention

Students that demonstrate behavioral problems or a lack of responsibility may be required to serve detention before school. Students are expected to demonstrate godly character in fulfilling their responsibilities. If a student receives notification of an assigned detention, he should:

1. Present the detention slip to a parent/guardian for their signature.
2. Arrive promptly at detention on the day assigned.
3. Bring a \$5 supervisory fee to the detention.

If students do not fulfill their responsibilities as listed above, additional consequences will occur as described below:

- Students who fail to show up for an assigned detention will receive an additional detention.
- Students who arrive to detention more than five minutes late will receive a demerit for being tardy, and the missed detention time doubles.
- Students who arrive without their parent's signature will be issued a demerit.
- Students who fail to bring the \$5 supervisory fee will be issued a demerit each day until the fee is paid to the supervising teacher.

Parent-Student Athletic Handbook

I Corinthians 10:31

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do,
do all to the glory of God.

Athletic Director

Mr. Scott Long

Administrator

Pastor Dave Nichols

Philosophy

The athletic program of Land O' Lakes Christian School is primarily focused on training young people to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. Great effort is put forth in teaching the athletes how to conduct themselves like Christ in high-pressure situations. It is our goal to instill competition, cooperation, character, and submission. In the battlefield of competition, our character is truly tested. Every coach will take this as an opportunity to teach the athletes to conduct themselves as Christ would and then give Him the glory for all that is accomplished.

Winning should be a goal of every athlete and coach. However, character should never be sacrificed in order to obtain the victory. A victory unearned or undeserved is in fact no victory at all. Winning should never glorify an individual athlete or team. Winning should glorify God, because He is the One who bestowed the talents on the individuals and the coaches.

The Benefits of Being an Athlete

- An athlete has a great opportunity to show a positive testimony for the Lord to the public.
- An athlete is able to learn to work with other athletes of varying abilities in order to achieve a common goal.
- An athlete will learn to set aside self-interest for the good of the team.
- An athlete will learn to be obedient to authority without complaining.
- An athlete will be able to utilize self-control in high-pressure situations.
- An athlete will become more efficient in budgeting his\her time.
- An athlete has the opportunity to give God glory for things that are learned both in victory and in defeat.
- An athlete will develop "Christian Sportsmanship" in both victory and defeat.
- An athlete has the opportunity to learn to handle frustration, conflict, disappointment, defeat and victory in a Christ-honoring manner.
- An athlete will depend on the Lord for empowerment to carry out responsibilities both on and off the field/court.
- An athlete will be able to put disappointments behind him/her while going on for the Lord.
- An athlete has the opportunity to test his or her character and work on the areas where needed.
- An athlete will have the opportunity to lead by developing others while developing self.

Eligibility

Prior to the first game, all students must have:

1. A current sports physical examination (FHSA Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation-Form EL02). This exam must be done yearly, after June 1 of the upcoming school year.
2. A signed statement of parental consent for the current year.
3. All required fees for the sport participating in.
4. A copy of the student's birth certificate.
5. An athlete ineligible because of grades will discuss with the coach and teachers a plan on how to bring these grades up.
6. A student who fails to have at least a "C" average in each class on his report card will not be permitted to play sports until he has brought that grade up according to the Florida Christian Conference guidelines.

The following are requirements during the season:

1. A "C" average must be maintained in all classes. (If participating in a sport at the beginning of the school year, all classes the previous year must have a passing grade.)
2. A student may play only four consecutive years from the time he/she enters the 9th grade.
3. No student above the 10th grade will be allowed to play on the Junior Varsity level.
4. A student may not participate in a game on a day in which he/she did not attend school for more than half of the regular school day. If he/or she is absent for less than two periods, playing time will be limited to:
 - a. Soccer - No play until after first water break.
 - b. JV Volleyball - No play until after a team reaches 15.
 - c. Varsity Volleyball - No play until after a team reaches 20.
 - d. Basketball - No play in 1st quarter
5. If he/she is absent for more than 2 periods but less than 4 playing time will be limited to:
 - a. Soccer - No play until after half time.
 - b. JV Volleyball - No play until after a team reaches 10 in the second set.

- c. Varsity Volleyball - No play until after a team reaches 15 in the second set.
 - d. Basketball - No play in first half.
 - e. Golf - Can play but score will not count.
6. If an athlete is tardy the day after a game, the missed classes will be considered unexcused absences unless accompanied by a doctor's note and all grades taken during that class will result in a 0.
 7. Any student who strikes, curses, or threatens an official during a game, or fails to maintain a standard of conduct satisfactory to the administrator of the school, the coach and the Florida Christian Conference will be ineligible for the remainder of the season.
 8. An athlete who is ineligible at the end of the season will be recognized with the team at the end of the season; but will not be eligible for school, state, or conference awards.
 9. A student is ineligible to participate for the remainder of the season if he/she decides to quit the team. He/she is also ineligible for school, state, or conference awards.

Policies and Procedures

Athletics is a privilege, not a right.

Attendance

1. Athletes who are involved in other clubs or organizations must discuss any conflicts of time with the coach before the season begins.
2. Practices are required by all members of the team unless:
 - a. They have personally obtained permission from the coach.
 - b. They are sick.
 - c. There is a death in the family.
3. The students must be on time for practice.
4. An unexcused absence from practice or a game will result in added work after the next practice session and/or ineligibility to play in future games.
5. Any athlete absent from school may not participate in any game scheduled that day. (Not being present for at least half of the day is considered an absence.)
6. Consistent absences from practices will result in possible termination from the team.
7. Any student assigned to in-school or out-of-school suspension will not be permitted to participate in practice or games while suspended. (Actions that would result in this suspension may disqualify them from the team.)
8. Students are still required to attend school the day following a game, even if the athletes do not get home until late.
9. Dress for practices will follow the guidelines for PE class.

Attitudes

1. Athletes are to control their attitude toward referees while our team is playing as well as while other teams are playing.
2. Athletes are never to speak or act disrespectfully to other schools, coaches, or referees.
3. Profanity is totally unacceptable.
4. Any sign of disrespect such as spitting, arguing, facial expressions, removing of shirt, or any other way of communicating to the public will result in suspension from the team. Repeat offenders will be expelled from the team.
5. A true athlete is a leader. Athletes must exhibit leadership qualities both on and off the field or court.
6. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any fighting, hitting, cursing, threatening an official, or other area of unsportsmanlike conduct will disqualify that student for the season.

Uniforms

1. Uniforms will be issued before each game and collected after the game by the coach.
2. Uniforms or warm-ups that are lost or ruined because of abuse will be replaced by the athlete.
3. Attire After Games:
 - a. Soccer: Loose fitting warm-up pants and LOLCS school/athletic shirt (or school uniform)
 - b. Basketball & Volleyball: The official LOLCS basketball warm-ups only are to be worn to and from games.

Traveling

1. While traveling to away games, all students must ride the bus.
2. While stopped at a restaurant, the athletes must remember that they represent the school and Christ.
3. No headphones, radios, CD players, or other electronics will be permitted on the bus. Phones may only be used to contact parents for pickup.
4. Team Travel/Expectations on Special Trips (PCC, Multi-Day Tournaments, etc.): Students will be required to travel with/stay on property/attend ALL meetings with the team. Parents are welcome to join and attend all games/functions; however, athletes are responsible to the school/athletic department until the completion of the event.

Equipment

Any student found abusing school equipment will be subject to disciplinary action and may be required to replace the equipment.

A Letter to the Parents

Students generally know of the requirements we have for them. However, a few parents are uninformed as to what we expect of the athletes. Therefore, we have included a few suggestions that will make a big difference to the entire team. Denying your child permission to attend practice or a game as a disciplinary measure will be treated as an unexcused absence, which could result in expulsion from the team. We stress to our players the responsibility of upholding their commitment to their teammates. Please exhaust other avenues of discipline before taking actions that affect the whole team. The coach would be happy to work with you to correct any problems we might encounter.

1. Criticism has no place in the Christian's life or at Land O' Lakes Christian School. Please avoid negative comments. If you have concerns, the proper way to handle the situation would be to have a personal conference with the coach.
2. Please keep comments directed to the officials, other teams, and our athletes positive. We expect our students as well as their parents not to "boo" or make any other negative comments to anyone. If parents neglect this, it becomes very hard to instill this necessary principle of respect in the students. Everyone we meet should be treated as either a fellow Christian or someone that we are trying to reach for the Lord.
3. We ask the parents and students to keep our primary goals in mind when decisions are made which affect the students.

We will be playing in a varsity level competition. This might limit the amount of playing time that some athletes might get. We will do our best to make sure that everyone enjoys the season. A great advantage to being on the team even if you are not getting a lot of playing time is the practice you receive will increase your abilities for the next season.

We appreciate our parents and the support they give the athletic program. Many demands are placed on the athletes as well as the parents. We would like to thank you for your cooperation in all these matters.

Pledges & Creed

LOLCS students are to stand, hold their hand over their hearts, and show respect for God and country.

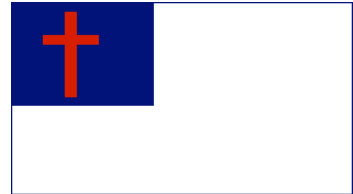


Pledge to the American Flag

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Pledge to the Christian Flag

“I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag and to the Savior for Whose kingdom it stands; One Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty for all who believe.”



Pledge to the Bible

“I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God’s Holy Word.
I will make it a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
I will hide its words in my heart
that I might not sin against God.”

Land O’ Lakes Christian School Creed

I believe the Bible is God’s Word, both the Old and the New Testaments; that man was created by the direct act of God.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through the virgin birth became a man, died on the cross and shed His blood to wash away our sin.

I believe in the resurrection of His body from the tomb, His ascension back to heaven, and that He is coming again to rule and to reign on the earth.

I believe salvation is a gift from God, not obtained by good works, but given freely to all who by faith receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior.



Index

- Academic Integrity Policy, 17
- Academic Website Warning, 17
- Academic Policies, 15
- Academics, Jr. & Sr. High, 28
- Accreditation, 6
- Admissions, 7, 28
 - Homeschooled Students, 18
 - International Students, 8
- Alcohol, 19
- Attendance, 10, 30
- Capital Improvement Fee (CIF), 9
- Cell Phones, 12, 20
- Cheating, 17, 19
- Child Abuse, 14
- Church Affiliation, 6
- Communicable Diseases, 13
- Communication, 11
- Community Service, 29
- Course of Study
 - Jr. High, 28
 - Sr. High, 29
- Dangerous Items, 19
- Demerit System, 35
- Detention, 36
- Discipline Policy, 20, 25, 34
- Dismissal, 11
- Dress Code
 - Boys, Jr. & Sr. High, 33
 - Boys, Kindergarten & Elementary, 23
 - Girls, Jr. & Sr. High, 32
 - Girls, Kindergarten & Elementary, 23
- Driving, Student, 35
- Drugs, 19
- Dual Enrollment, 30
- Emergency Contacts, 11
- Emergency Procedures, 13
- Financial Assistance. *See* Scholarship Opportunities, 10
- Florida Virtual School, 30
- Grading Scale, 16
- Hall Procedures, 21
- Head Lice, 13
- Health Issues, 12
- Homework, 16
- Illness, 12
- Immunizations, 7
- Internet Policy, 20
- Leaving School Early, 10
- Lice. *See* Head Lice
- Lifestyle Policy, 7
- Lunch Program, 15
- Make-Up Work, 17
- Medication, 12
- Mission Statement and Goals, 5
- New Student Requirements, 7
- Non-Discrimination Policy, 7
- Online Courses, 30
- Parent Portal, 11
- Parent Conferences, 15
- Part-Time Student Policy, 8
- Payment Types, 9
- Photographs, 8
- Physical Examinations, 7
 - Sports, 38
- Pick-Up Lists, 11
- Professional Affiliation, 6
- Quizlet. *See* Academic Website Warning
- Re-Enrollment, 7
- Referral Credits, 9
- Refund Policy, 9
- Registration Fee, 9
- Report Cards, 16
- Restroom Procedures, 21
- Scholarship Opportunities, 10
- School Board, 6
- School Office, 12
- Sexual Harassment Policy, 21
- Sexual Immorality, 19
- Sexual Preference Policy, 7
- Standards of Conduct, 18
- Standardized Testing, 15
- Statement of Faith, 4
- Student Comprehensive Fee (SCF), 9
- Tardiness, 10
- Telephone Use, 12
- Tobacco, 19
- Tuition Payments, 8
- Uniforms, Boys, 23, 33
- Uniforms, Girls, 23, 33
- Uniforms, PE, 24, 31
- Violence/Harassment Prevention Policy, 20
- Visitors, 14
- Volunteers, 14
- Weapons Policy, 15
- Weather-Related School Closure, 11
- Withdrawal/Dismissal, 8

Statement of Cooperation

It is my desire for my student to complete the school year. I assume responsibility for all financial obligations of my student to the school, including payment for lost or damaged books. I also understand that report cards, transcripts, and other records will be withheld unless financial accounts are in order. I understand that monthly tuition is due on the 10th day of the calendar month and is considered delinquent after the 10th of the month, at which time a late charge of \$20.00 will be added to my account. I understand that my student is subject to dismissal should my account become 30 days in arrears. I also understand that there will be a fee of \$20.00 for any returned check.

The administration is hereby given full discretion in the discipline of my student, including issuing of demerits or detentions, suspension, and expulsion from the school program. I understand that dismissal may result at any time when my student demonstrates by conduct or attitude that he is not in harmony with the rules and beliefs or if he fails to answer honestly any question on the registration form or during the interviews. I have read the school handbook and will abide by it completely. I agree that my student must abide by all of the policies, rules, and regulations of the school, including those listed in the school handbook. I am in agreement with the school's statement of faith.

I understand and agree that attending Land O' Lakes Christian School is a privilege and that the school reserves the right to suspend or expel my student from school for just cause, as determined by the school. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, this agreement does not bind either party to any specific period of enrollment. Either party may terminate this agreement without cause upon 7 days written notice.

Since I am a Christian and Land O' Lakes Christian School is a Christian ministry organization, I agree never to make demands, threaten to sue, or actually litigate any matter whatsoever relating to or resulting from this agreement. To do otherwise would be in clear violation of biblical teaching and practice.

I understand and agree that the instructors and other school officials will guide the education of my student. I agree that my purpose in obtaining a Christian education for my student will be achieved by following the curriculum set by the instructors. To that end, I agree that I will require my student to perform all duties and responsibilities entrusted to him by the instructors or school officials to the best of his ability and to their satisfaction. I understand and agree that during my student's enrollment, the courses offered and the instructors teaching them may change from time to time according to the discretion of the school leadership.

In the event of illness or accident, should the school be unable to reach either parent, I give my permission for the school to choose and secure a doctor or hospital to administer aid to my student.

I understand that Land O' Lakes Christian School reserves the right to change, amend, correct, or void the student handbook or any portion thereof at any time.

Signature Page – Kindergarten and Elementary

PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE AND RETURN
TO THE TEACHER

I have read the Land O' Lakes Christian School policy handbook completely. I understand the importance of this information and will abide by the policies and sincerely held religious beliefs set forth as long as my student is enrolled at Land O' Lakes Christian School. I have read the Statement of Cooperation. I understand and agree to it.

Student Name (please print)

Signature—Father (Guardian)

Date

Signature—Mother (Guardian)

Date

Each student is responsible for returning this page to the teacher no later than Friday of the first week of school.

Signature Page – Junior and Senior High

STUDENT, PLEASE REMOVE THIS PAGE AFTER IT IS SIGNED
AND RETURN IT TO YOUR CLASS SPONSOR.

Student:

I have received a parent/student policy handbook. I have read this handbook completely and will abide by the policies and sincerely held religious beliefs set forth as long as I am a student at Land O' Lakes Christian School.

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent:

I have read the Land O' Lakes Christian School policy handbook completely. I understand the importance of this information and will abide by the policies and sincerely held religious beliefs set forth as long as my student is enrolled at Land O' Lakes Christian School. I have read the Statement of Cooperation. I understand and agree to it.

Signature—Father (Guardian)

Date

Signature—Mother (Guardian)

Date

Each student is responsible for returning this page to their first period teacher no later than Friday of the first week of school.