

Faith Christian Academy

Student & Family Handbook



Overview

Faith Christian Academy (FCA) is a Christ-centered educational community dedicated to partnering with families to nurture each student's spiritual, academic, social, and physical growth. FCA serves students from Pre-K through 8th Grade, providing a safe, supportive environment grounded in Biblical truth.

Mission Statement

The mission of Faith Christian Academy is to serve families by providing a Christ-centered education that equips students to become leaders by instilling a Biblical worldview in their hearts and minds.

Vision Statement

The vision of Faith Christian Academy is to see graduates develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and confidently apply spiritual, academic, and social foundations to serve God with all their heart, soul, and mind.

Statement of Faith

Faith Christian Academy adheres to the Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God. We believe:

- The Bible is the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16).
- There is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14).
- In the deity of Jesus Christ: His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension, and future return (Matthew 16:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3–4).
- In the blessed hope—the rapture of the Church at Christ's coming (Titus 2:13).
- Salvation comes only through repentance and faith in the blood of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:18–19).

- Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential for salvation (John 3:3–5).
- Divine healing is provided through Christ’s redemptive work (1 Peter 2:24).
- The sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit enables believers to live holy lives (Galatians 5:16).
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to believers (Acts 2:4, 39).
- In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost—eternal life or eternal separation from God (John 5:28–29).

Philosophy of Christian School Education

Faith Christian Academy exists to provide academic excellence integrated with a Biblical worldview. We believe education is a partnership between home, church, and school. Guided by Proverbs 22:6 and Luke 2:52, FCA seeks to develop the whole child—spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically.

Our faculty and staff are committed Christian role models who integrate faith into every subject area, fostering critical thinking through the lens of Scripture. FCA functions as an extension of the Christian home, supporting parents in their God-given responsibility to educate their children (Deuteronomy 6:6–7).

Purpose and Educational Objectives

The ultimate objective of Faith Christian Academy is to develop future leaders of Christian character and academic excellence.

A. Spiritual and Moral Growth

- Develop love and respect for God’s Word
- Teach foundational Biblical doctrines
- Encourage personal faith in Jesus Christ
- Cultivate Godly character

- Apply Biblical truth through critical thinking

B. Personal and Social Development

- Recognize each student as uniquely created in God's image
- Practice respect, kindness, and responsibility
- Develop stewardship of time, talents, and resources
- Build healthy relationships and communication skills
- Promote physical health and wellness
- Respect authority and property

C. Academic Advancement

- Maintain high academic standards
- Build strong literacy and numeracy skills
- Encourage effective study habits
- Foster creative and critical thinking
- Promote citizenship and cultural awareness
- Encourage appreciation of the arts
- Teach respect for life and God's creation

D. School–Home Relationships

- Encourage church involvement
- Support Christ-centered homes
- Maintain open communication with families

- Partner with parents to support student learning
- Teach Biblical respect for parents (Ephesians 6:1–2)

Admission Policies

Faith Christian Academy follows New York State age requirements:

- Pre-K: 4 years old by December 1
- Kindergarten: 5 years old by December 1

Admission is based on family alignment with FCA's mission, philosophy, and Statement of Faith. Admission may include interviews, academic screenings, and record reviews. FCA reserves the right to deny admission if the school cannot adequately meet a student's needs.

Re-Enrollment Policy

The status of all returning students is reviewed annually. Re-enrollment decisions are based on academic progress, behavioral record, attitude, and family partnership with the school. Re-enrollment is not automatic. A completed re-enrollment form and all required fees must be submitted to the school office by the designated deadline for consideration.

Operational Procedures

- School day: 8:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- Arrival: no earlier than 8:15 a.m.
- Dismissal: students must leave promptly unless in a school-sponsored activity.

Classroom Expectations

- Respect classroom furniture, equipment, materials, and the learning process.
- Maintain a clean workspace and organize belongings daily.

Instructional Materials

- Textbooks and materials are assigned to students.
- Families are responsible for lost or damaged items.

Homework

- Designed to reinforce learning and build responsibility.
- Daily reading is encouraged.
- Average: 10 minutes per grade level per night.

Special Classes

- PE, Art, Music, Library, Computer, and World Language

Physical Education

- Required participation, proper attire needed.
- Medical exclusions require a written note.

Chapel

- Weekly worship and spiritual growth opportunities.

Playground and Recess

- Daily outdoor recess (weather permitting).
- Safety and kindness are expected.

- Indoor recess during inclement weather.

Lunchroom

- Orderly, respectful, and enjoyable.
- Students may bring their own lunch or purchase one from the school.

School Programs & Special Events

- Assemblies, holiday programs, and field trips enhance learning.
- Written parental permission is required for field trips.

Transportation & Dismissal

- Written notes required for early dismissal.
- Students are released only to authorized individuals.
- Bus and parent-provided transportation rules apply.

Parking Lot Procedures

- Speed limit: 10 MPH
- Drop-off under the portico, pick-up at the school entrance
- No blocking bus lanes

School Bus Transportation

- Safety rules must be followed.
- Concerns are reported to the driver first, then the office.

After-School Activities

- Minimum 65 average required for eligibility.
- Parents are responsible for timely pick-up.

Health, Safety & Wellness

- Accidents reported to the office.
- Fire drills as required by NYS law.
- Current emergency contact info must be on file.

Attendance, Dress Code & Discipline

Attendance & Tardiness

- Regular attendance essential.
- Written excuse required for absences.

Dress Code

- School uniforms required (Land's End).
- Footwear: no flip-flops, combat boots, or Crocs.

Discipline Procedures

- **Positive Discipline:** Correct in love, teach responsibility.
- **Routine measures:** loss of privileges, lunch detention, suspension.
- **Bullying, Harassment, and Violence – Zero Tolerance Policy**
Faith Christian Academy maintains a **zero-tolerance policy** for bullying, harassment, intimidation, or discrimination **of any kind**, whether verbal, physical, emotional, social, or electronic (including cyberbullying). Any behavior that demeans, threatens, humiliates, or harms another student is strictly prohibited.
- **Physical violence is not tolerated** and is taken very seriously. Acts of physical aggression, fighting, or threats of harm will result in **immediate disciplinary action**, which may include **suspension and possible expulsion**, depending on the severity and circumstances of the incident.
- All reports of bullying or harassment will be **promptly investigated by the administration**, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with school policy. Retaliation against anyone who reports bullying or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited.
- Faith Christian Academy is committed to maintaining a **safe, respectful, and Christ-honoring environment**, and students are expected to treat one another with kindness, dignity, and respect at all times.

Technology & Internet Use

- Students are not permitted to use their cell phones on school property unless authorized by the administration.
- Filtered internet is provided
- Technology should only be used for educational purposes.

Non-Discrimination & Harassment Policies

- FCA admits students of any race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.
- Harassment or discrimination is not tolerated.

Family–School Partnership

- Families are partners in supporting spiritual and academic growth.
- Encourage open communication, prayer, and participation in events.

Acknowledgement Form

I acknowledge that I have received and read the Faith Christian Academy Student & Family Handbook. I understand the policies, procedures, dress code, and discipline guidelines and agree to support them.

Student Name: _____ **Grade:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____