



CODE OF CONDUCT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

JPII Catholic Schools Policy 5015

Pre-Kindergarten – 5th Grade Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct Philosophy

In the spirit of the Catholic Faith, JPII Catholic Schools' Code of Conduct informs students and parents of the basic expectations of a student.

Preface

The intention of this Code of Conduct is to assist the students to be *"imitators of God as beloved children and walk in love"* by conforming their thoughts, words, and actions to the *"mind...which is yours in Christ Jesus,"* and by following his example. (CCC 1694) It is meant to ensure a safe, healthy, and moral environment for youth in our school setting. This Code is a reminder that we are all created with dignity in the image and likeness of God. (Gen.1:26- 28).

Pope St. John Paul II challenged young people to heroic faith. In his message for World Youth Day 2002, he exhorted them *"not be content with anything less than the highest ideals!"* He also said, *"If you have an ardent desire for the Lord, you will steer clear of the mediocrity and conformity so widespread in our society..."* This Code aids in the creation of an environment that aspires to the highest of standards and ideals.

The content of this Code is inspired by the Holy Father's message, Jesus' *"great commandment"* (Matt 22:36-40) of love, and the God-given dignity of each person. This Code is one of Christian kindness, respect, hospitality, and care, which will provide an ability to defeat mediocrity and conformity. This Code also reflects Christian stewardship and our proper duty and respect towards places and things.

The following Code of Conduct will be used in conjunction with existing JPII Catholic Schools Student Handbook, policies, and protocols.

Responsibility Toward God – *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment."* (Matt 22:36-38)

- By using God's name and the name of Jesus Christ only with respect, and never in careless, abusive, or angry manner
- By respectfully participating in prayer and worship
- By faithfully representing the teachings of the Catholic Church with integrity in word and action
- By showing respect to the Creator by taking care of God's creation

Responsibility Toward Self – *"...blessed are the pure of heart for they will see God."* (Matt 5:8)

- By being mindful that God created each of us in His image and likeness, participants will act accordingly
- By being truthful, understanding, open-minded, gracious, reliable, and respectful
- By upholding and supporting God's plan for growth and maturity as young men and women
- By promoting purity in dress, speech, and action
- By respecting human life in the following ways
 - Not using alcohol, tobacco, and/or any form of illegal drugs
 - Not swearing
 - Not possessing weapons
 - Not acting in a disruptive manner

Responsibility Toward Others – “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*” (Matt 22:39)

- By honoring and respecting the personal dignity and boundaries of others
- By being kind to others
- By respecting adults
- By treating everyone fairly regardless of sex, race, religious or political orientation, or economic status
- By reporting immediately to a responsible adult anytime I see the safety of another in jeopardy
- By making restitution for any damages I may cause
- By demonstrating responsibility toward others, students will not:
 - Use physical aggression and/or harm
 - Use language that insults, intimidates, or humiliates
 - Isolate or exclude others
 - Threaten or use behavior that leads others into disobedience, disrespect for others, or illegal behavior
 - Steal
 - Disrespect the property of others
 - Gossip, slander, or use mean speech or jokes
 - Cheating
 - Encourage or cooperate in harmful behavior or harassment.

It shall be an expectation that each student behaves in a manner both on and off campus that is consistent with the Catholic principles of the school. The fact that a student is registered at JP II Catholic Schools indicates that the applicable policies, rules, regulations, and consequences have been examined and accepted by the student and parents/guardians. The school will work cooperatively with parents/guardians and students to assist students in meeting the academic, moral, and behavioral expectations of the school.

Virtue Based Discipline

- Minor Misconduct Behavior/Tier 1: (behavior not appropriate for the student’s age) Teacher handles in the classroom.
 - The main consequence is a “reset”. No excitement or energy is given, just the consequence
 - Naming virtues when you see them practiced
 - Calling students to a virtue that needs to be practiced
 - Noticing and acknowledging efforts to improve
 - It is more effective to correct challenging behaviors when the student is not exhibiting it rather than when they are exhibiting it.
 - Disrespectful (Opposing trait-Resisting the directives of rightful authority)
Definition: Student engages in brief or low-intensity failure to respond to adult requests.
 - Disruptive (Opposing trait- Being excessive in words or actions, acting impulsively)
Definition: Student is disturbing other students or teacher during class time. Student engages in low intensity, but inappropriate disruption.
 - Inappropriate Use of Language and Actions (Opposing trait-Being cruel in looks, words, or actions)
Definition: Low level instance of inappropriate language. Accidental slip of inappropriate language, poor choice of words used in common areas/classroom,

- non-directed verbal assault, or hand gestures. Implied meaning without literal verbiage. Student using inappropriate language to make fun of another student.
 - Injustice (Opposing trait-Causing damage to property, or another’s reputation)
Definition: Student is not using tools and supplies for their intended purpose. Student is damaging the reputation of others.
 - Other: Student engages in any other minor misconduct behaviors that do not fall within the above categories.
- Major Misconduct Behavior/Tier 2:
 - **First Major Behavior:** The student will complete the Virtue Reflection Sheet and have a discipline conversation with the Principal. The Principal will call parents to discuss.
 - **Second Major Behavior:** A meeting will be called involving the parents and student support team to create a plan of support.
 - **Third Major Behavior:** The administration will meet to discuss further action.
 - Disrespect (Opposing trait-Resisting the directives of rightful authority)
Definition: Student disrespects someone by acting rude, impolite, offensive, defiant, or shows lack of regard for others.
 - Disruptive (Opposing trait-Being excessive in words or actions, acting impulsively)
Definition: Student engages in actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur. A loss in temper resulting in property damage and/or intimidation of another student. Student delivers disrespectful message to another student that may include threats, intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, or written notes.
 - Inappropriate Language (Opposing trait-Being cruel in looks, words, or actions)
Definition: Student delivers verbal messages that includes swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate way.
 - Injustice (Opposing trait-Causing damage to property, another’s reputation)
Definition: Student destroys or defaces school property or property belonging to another student or staff members. Student is damaging the reputation of others.
 - Bullying (Opposing trait-Not regarding the well-being of others, being cruel in words and actions.)
Definition: Bullying is the repeated, unwanted, or aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is intentional with the purpose to control or harm others.⁴⁷
 - Other: Student engages in any other major misconduct behaviors that do not fall within the above categories, e.g., cheating, threatening...

Student and parent signatures on the online Receipt and Acknowledgement signifies acceptance and understanding of the conditions outlined above.