



AMHERST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2625 TONAWANDA CREEK ROAD, AMHERST, NY 14228
PHONE: (716) 689-9944 FAX: (716) 564-0075

Statement of Beliefs

We, at Amherst Christian Academy, believe in:

- The inspiration of the Bible, equally in all parts and without error in its origin;
- The one God, eternal existent Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who created man by a direct immediate act;
- The pre-existence, incarnation, virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, ascension to Heaven, and the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ;
- The fall of man, the need of regeneration by the operation of the Holy Spirit on the basis of grace alone, and the resurrection of all to life or damnation;
- The spiritual relationship of all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, living a life of righteous works, separated from the world, witnessing of His saving grace through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

I have read the above statement of beliefs. I understand that Amherst Christian Academy, teachers, and staff will incorporate these beliefs into the daily teaching of my child. By signing below, I agree to support Amherst Christian Academy, the teachers, and staff as they instruct my child not only in academic matters, but in spiritual matters also.

Date

Signature of Father

Date

Signature of Mother

Policies and Guidelines

All biblical forms of Christian worship will be encouraged. We do believe in the full gospel expression as it is taught in the Holy Scripture. Freedom of worship during chapel and devotional times in each person's own way is allowed. However, no student will be forced to participate in these school activities, but attendance is required. Those students not participating are expected to respect the holiness of the occasion.

We have a racially nondiscriminatory policy and therefore, shall not discriminate against members, applicants, students, and others on the basis of race, color or national or ethnic origin.

Attendance

Absence

A written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented to the supervisor when a student returns to school after an absence. If the absence is foreseeable, a note should be sent in advance. Doctor, dental, music, and other appointments should be scheduled after school hours.

An absence excuse should include the following: date(s) of absence, reason for absence, and parent signature.

Absence for reasons other than for sickness and emergency will be excused if arrangements are made in advance with the teacher and the student is sufficiently advanced in his/her work.

Excessive absences will inhibit the student's progress. If, in the opinion of the administration, the absences are unnecessary, the student will be considered truant.

Tardiness

A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the learning center at 8:25 am. A detention may be given. Continued tardiness will necessitate a conference with parent and student, possibly leading to revocation of student privileges, and/or suspension. Tardy students must also have a tardy excuse similar to an absence excuse.

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found Department of the school is operated from the Church & School Office. At the end of each quarter, all items, which have not been claimed, will be disposed of through a Student Auction or given to a charity.

Homework

The responsibility of scholastic achievement is placed on the student. The goals set by the student and reviewed by the supervisor are no more than the student is capable of. Should the student not meet his/her goals for that day, he/she will be required, at the discretion of the teacher, to complete the work at home or after school in the learning center. Should the student have homework, a green homework slip, giving the pages to be completed, will be taken home with the assignment. The slip is to be signed by the parent and returned the following day.



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Fire Drills

Twelve drills are held each year. At the sound of the bell, students are to stand and walk out of the building, without talking, in an orderly manner to a designated place outside.

Progress Reports and Academic Records

Progress Reports are given to each student to present to their parents following each marking period. The report is to be signed by the parent and returned to the school promptly.

Academic Records will be sent to any school requested, as long as there is no outstanding financial obligation.

Teacher Conferences are scheduled after the first quarter of the school year, but meetings can be scheduled at any time. We encourage parents to be involved with the education of their children.

Discipline

This is not a corrective institution. We are here to work with the home, but not to take the place of parent's discipline of their child(ren). All new students are admitted on probation for the first six weeks.

Students must, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner becoming a Christian.

If your child does object about a policy or discipline, please follow this procedure:

1. Give the staff the benefit of the doubt.
2. Realize that your child's report is emotionally biased and may not include all the information.
3. Realize that the school has reasons for all rules and that they are enforced without partiality.
4. Support the administration and call the school for all the facts.

When a student's attitude is not in accord with school policies or principles, the student will be placed on probation and his/her parents will be called for a conference. If the administration feels the situation has not changed within two weeks, parents will be asked to withdraw the child.

High-school students, because of their testimony before younger children, are expected to adhere to the school's philosophy and Christ-centered program. Such adherence includes abstinence from: smoking, alcoholic beverages, and narcotics, listening to secular music, swearing and other questionable practices.

This school is dedicated to the training of children in a program of study that is Christ-centered. We believe that "all things should be done decently and in order" and that our students should be taught to accept the responsibility to "walk honorably before all men."

Discipline is maintained which is firm, consistent, fair and tempered with love. Our staff maintains standards of behavior in the learning center through kindness, love, and a genuine regard for the students. Students are reminded that the Lord Jesus Christ expects us to be disciplined in all areas of our life.

“Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.” Colossians 3:20

“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light: and reproof of instruction are the way of life.” Proverbs 10:17

Privilege

We have three levels of privilege that we award students for their academic progress and proper behavior. They can earn various things including extra break time and additional privileges in the learning center.

Demerits

The paramount rule is “Do Right” and privilege is earned. However, demerit marks are given for disturbances or broken rules. Three or more demerits in one day result in detention as follows:

- 3 demerits = 15 min. detention
- 4 demerits = 30 min. detention
- 5 demerits = 45 min. detention
- 6 demerits = 60 min. detention

Demerits do not carry over to the next day. Just like the Lord, every day is a new start and our mercy is new every morning, too. When a student receives a detention, a “Corrective Action Notice” is sent home to be signed by the parent and returned the following day. Usually detention is served during the day, but may be assigned after school hours and parents are responsible for picking up their child.

More serious offenses may result in “In-School” suspension or suspension from school.



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Standard of Conduct

1. Christians are supposed to treat everyone with the proper respect, and are to show proper courtesy to those in authority. Such conduct as talking back, sarcasm addressed to those in authority, complaining, gossiping, and causing division are unacceptable.
2. It is expected that students will follow the rules in the classroom and be cooperative to instruction and correction of unacceptable behavior. Students need to demonstrate repentance and forgiveness toward others.
3. Lying, cheating and stealing will result in automatic detention or suspension.
4. School property that is distorted or defaced will be the financial responsibility of the student.
5. Cursing and using the Lord's name in vain, vulgar and slang expressions which are offensive are not allowed and students should refrain from such talk and will result in automatic detention or suspension.
6. No inappropriate touching is allowed. Students are not allowed to touch other students—such as pushing, hitting, kicking, scratching, pinching and poking. To be on the safe side, we tell students to keep six inches away from other students.
7. As our students come from different fundamental, Christian churches, we respect the variety of worship from different churches. We do expect that each student would show respect to all during Chapel services.

Prohibited Articles

For the protection and safety of all students, Amherst Christian Academy reserves the right to search student's person and belongings in the event the school suspects the student possesses a prohibited item. Students are not permitted to bring the following articles to school:

- Secular music
- Medication
- Cigarettes
- Weapons
- Drugs
- Offensive books & magazines
- Alcohol

Dress Code and Personal Appearance

We expect that all students will be clean and well- groomed and that their clothing will be clean, in good repair and fitting properly.

We appreciate both students' and parents' cooperation in abiding by the school dress code. As a school, we have seen the value of uniforms because:

- Uniforms and high standards help prevent giving offense.
- Uniforms result in higher discipline and academics
- Uniforms help improve a student's self-image
- Uniforms improve classroom décor
- Uniforms provide a distinct difference
- Uniforms give identification for building school spirit
- Uniforms reduce yearly schooling costs
- Uniforms eliminate competition in dress
- Uniforms standardize and neutralize externals while enhancing individualization in internal values

Christian T-Shirt/Dress Down Day:

At the end of each month students are awarded either a Dress Down or Christian T-shirt Day. The date is listed on the monthly calendar.

Dress Down Day:

Clothing may be casual but conservative. Jeans may not be tight or have holes in them. All shirts must have sleeves and may have a print, but words and designs must not be offensive. Students may wear dress shoes or sneakers only; no flip flops. During May and June, the girls may wear Capris; the boys may wear long shorts. They both must be below the knee.

Christian T-shirt Day:

Students must wear their regular uniform, except for those students who wear a Christian T-shirt. Students may dress down if wearing a Christian T-shirt. On these days please wear a shirt or T-shirt with a Christian theme or emblem. Jeans, casual pants, long shorts and conservative capris may be worn with dress shoes or sneakers.

Student Dress Code

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.”

Colossians 3: 12-14



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Girl's Dress Code:

Nursery – 3 rd Grade	4 th – 12 th Grade
<p>Polo shirt: White or light blue polo shirts, short or long sleeve. Shirts must be tucked in. In winter long sleeve shirts or white or light blue turtle neck shirts may be worn under the polo shirt.</p>	<p>Blouse: White or light blue Oxford, button-down, short or long sleeve. Only the top button may be undone, blouses must be tucked in. No colored or printed T-shirts under blouse. Solid white tank top should be worn on shirts that are see-through.</p>
<p>Skirt, Pants, shorts or Jumper: Navy blue. Skirts need to be below the knee and slacks need to be loose fitting. If a belt is needed, please use a black or brown dress belt.</p>	<p>Skirt, Pants or Jumper: Navy blue. Skirts need to be below the knee and slacks need to be loose fitting. If a belt is needed, please use a black or brown dress belt.</p>
<p>Shoes: Black, brown, blue or navy sensible tie shoe or slip-on shoe with a closed back. A pair of sneakers may be kept at school for use on the playground. No slippers, boots, open toe, or bright colors. In the winter students may wear boots on the bus, but must change into school shoes before going to class.</p>	<p>Shoes: Black, blue or navy sensible tie shoe or slip-on shoe with a closed back. No slippers, boots, open toe, or bright colors. In the winter students may wear boots on the bus, but must change into school shoes before going to class.</p>
<p>Socks: White, navy, neutral, or pastel colored crew, knee-hi, stockings, or tights. Socks must match. In the winter students may wear white, navy, or neutral full length leggings (no print) with socks and shoes.</p>	<p>Socks: White, navy, neutral, or pastel colored crew, knee-hi, stockings, or tights. Socks must match. In the winter students may wear white, navy, or neutral full length leggings (no print) with socks and shoes.</p>
<p>Jewelry: Limit of two earrings per ear. No nose rings or other body piercings.</p>	<p>Jewelry: Limit of two earrings per ear. No nose rings or other body piercings.</p>
<p>Hair: Conservative in cut, style and color.</p>	<p>Hair: Conservative in cut, style and color.</p>
<p>Makeup: No makeup</p>	<p>Makeup: 4th – 6th grade: No makeup 7th -12th grade: May wear conservative makeup. No visible tattoos.</p>
<p>Additional Apparel: White, navy, or shades of blue sweater, sweatshirt, or jersey with no accent colors or lettering.</p>	<p>Additional Apparel: White, navy, or shades of blue sweater, sweatshirt, or jersey with no accent colors or lettering.</p>

Boy's Dress Code:

Nursery – 3 rd Grade	4 th – 12 th Grade
Polo shirt: White or light blue polo shirts, short or long sleeve. Shirts must be tucked in. In winter, long sleeve shirts or white or light blue turtle neck shirts may be worn under the polo shirt.	Shirt: White or light blue Oxford, button-down, short, or long sleeve. Only the top button may be undone, shirts must be tucked in. No colored or printed T-shirts under shirt. Solid white under shirts should be worn on shirts that are see-through.
Dress pants or shorts: Navy blue with a black, brown or blue dress belt.	Dress pants: Navy blue with a black, brown, or blue dress belt.
Shoes: Black or brown leather tie or slip-on shoes. A pair of sneakers may be kept at school for use on the playground. No sneaker-like or boot-like shoes. In the winter, students may wear boots on the bus, but must change into school shoes before going to class.	Shoes: Black or brown leather tie or slip-on shoes. No sneaker-like or boot-like shoes. In the winter, students may wear boots on the bus, but must change into school shoes before going to class.
Socks: Dark dress socks. White sport socks may be kept at school to be used with sneakers on the playground.	Socks: Dark dress socks.
Jewelry: No earrings, nose rings or other body parts or other body piercings.	Jewelry: No earrings, nose rings or other body parts or other body piercings.
Hair: Hair should be conservatively cut with the length above the collar. No pony tails or extreme hairstyles.	Hair: Hair should be conservatively cut with the length above the collar. No pony tails or extreme hairstyles.
Makeup: No makeup or tattoos.	Makeup: No makeup or visible tattoos.
Additional Apparel: White, navy, or shades of blue sweater, sweatshirt, or jersey with no accent colors or lettering.	Additional Apparel: White, navy, or shades of blue sweater, sweatshirt, or jersey with no accent colors or lettering.

Gym Uniform (apply only to 4th – 12th graders):

ACA has a mandatory gym uniform. This includes grey or black gym shirts with ACA logo. Long black knee length shorts, not form fitting. For winter, black sweat pants with ACA logo. Sneakers must be worn with white athletic socks.



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Transportation

Parents are responsible for the transportation of their child(ren) to and from school. A transportation form should be on file with ACA. Students will not be permitted to leave school in any manner than listed on the transportation form. If a change in means of transportation needs to be made, parents are to inform the school in written form.

Students with a driver's license must have written permission to transport another student from both their own parent and the other student's parent.

Visitors

Please contact the school in advance to schedule a visit. All visitors are to report to the Church & School Office.

Telephone Use

Telephone and Electronic Devices:

Students are to leave cell phones at home. Students desiring to bring their cell phone to school, need to hand in their device to the main office when they arrive at school. They will receive their device when they leave the school at the end of each day. Any use of a cell phone during school hours by a student will result in disciplinary action, and their device will be confiscated. The administration will return confiscated devices to parents upon request.

IPOD's and MP3 Players without WIFI are permitted to a student on E Level Privilege only. Teachers have permission to check the contents of what students are listening to as all music should be morally wholesome in content.

The school phone is for official school business and emergencies. Students desiring to use the phone must give the name and nature of the call to their supervisor. The supervisor will determine if the call can be made and make arrangements. Messages may be left with the school administrative assistant.

Note: "Forgetting" to turn off the cell phone is not an excuse.

Use of a cell phone during a test for any reason (i.e. text messaging, photos, etc.) will automatically be considered cheating, and appropriate academic and disciplinary action will be taken at the sole discretion of the administration.

No taking of or other use of cell phone photographs is permitted during the school day. Particularly, no cell phone photographs are permitted in the restrooms, or gym changing areas. Violation of this prohibition is a serious discipline offense.

Parents who need to contact their child during the school day for emergency purposes should use the school's normal emergency contact process and call the main school phone number. School staff will assist parents in communicating with their child in appropriate emergency situations. Parents should not consider their child's cell phone as a means of contacting their child for any reason during the school day.

Note: These guidelines were formulated after careful review of school cell phone policies across New York State and the country.

Health Services

Health services are provided through the Williamsville School District. They provide school physicals, eye and hearing screening, medical records and emergency first aid. Parents can privately attain these services through their own physicians. Physical examinations are necessary for all students entering Kindergarten, Second, Fourth, Seventh, Tenth, all new entrants and participants in sports program. We follow the State guidelines for immunizations. Immunization records are required on the first day of school.

Any accidents at the school are reported to the parents and a written report is prepared and kept on file. If the student needs medical attention or is sick, the parents are called to pick up their child.

Please do not send children to school who have: a temperature of 100.1 or higher, head lice, unknown rashes, diarrhea, or vomited within the last 24 hours.

Students are not allowed to carry medication with them. Any medication prescription or over the counter (i.e. –Tylenol, Advil, Sinus Medications, Inhalers) must be brought to school by the parent and administered by school personnel. Written permission for administration of prescription or over the counter medications must be in the student's files. These medication forms are available at the school office.