

ABLE Christian School Student Handbook

Vision Statement

We aspire for our students to reach their highest potential and become God-fearing leaders that positively affect the world in which they live.

Mission Statement

The mission of ABLE is to assist students with pursuing a life of purpose and maximized potential through utilizing their God-given abilities and passions, by providing them an individualized, experiential, brain-based learning program with a Christ-centered approach.

School Verse:

Ephesians 3:20 New Living Translation (NLT)

Now all glory to God, who is ABLE, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

Required Credits for Graduation

Core Subjects	Credits	Mandatory Courses
English	4.0 credits	English 9, 10, 11, and 12
Math	4.0 credits	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus
Science	4.0 credits	Biology, Chemistry, Physics/Physical Science, Other Science (i.e. Anatomy)
Social Studies	3.0 credits	U.S. History, World History, Civics/Economics

Other Requirements

Fine Arts	1.0 credit	Varies
Physical Education	0.5 credit	Physical Education
Health	0.5 credit	Health
Technology Education	1.0 credit	Foundational Technology
Foreign Language/Electives/ language)		World Language (both credits must be in the same language)
Bible	2.0 credits	
	3.0 credits	3 credits in electives
	1 credit per year in attendance Bible	
	1.0-4.0 credits	
	Total	
	24-27 credit	

Grades will be reported in RENWEB System as follows:

A+= 99-100 A= 92-98 A- = 90-91 B+ =88-89 B= 82-87

B- = 80-81 C+ = 78-79 C= 76-77 C- =74-75

P= NO CREDIT EARNED -WORK IN PROGRESS

ATTENDANCE/TARDINESS

School achievement begins with regular attendance. Parents/guardians must ensure that their students are in school on time daily. Additionally, school personnel must communicate any attendance problems or concerns to parents/guardians in a timely manner. The most effective strategy to prevent excessive absence and tardiness involves the school and family working together. It is imperative for students to be on time at the beginning of the school day, which starts at 8:30 a.m.

DRESS CODE POLICY

revised 8/2019

Since the Bible teaches that God cares about our appearance, it is our belief that we should strive to ensure that our appearance is pleasing to Him. The intent of our dress code is to promote and encourage modesty as well as a clean, neat appearance, expressing the Christian values we represent. Appearance can affect not only learning and the quality of school work, but also the strength of our Christian witness, all of which represent our purpose as a Christian school. Therefore, we strongly encourage appropriate dress and good grooming and ask that parents and students understand our intent.

1. General

2. ABLE uniforms, including outerwear, must be worn on Mondays-Thursdays, as well as designated special occasions.
3. Shirts must be tucked inside of pants and skirts. When wearing pants, an approved belt must be worn.
4. The length of skirts and shorts must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee, even when wearing approved tights.

5. Pants must not be too tight.
6. Students must wear their pants properly at the waist. No sagging.
7. Hair should be kept neat, clean and reasonably styled.
8. Facial hair should be neat and clean.
9. For girls, non-distracting piercings must be limited to the ears and one small nose piercing in either nostril.
10. Boys may not wear earrings.

2. Friday Dress Code

- A. An ABLE t-shirt must be worn.
- B. Jeans may be worn. No holes are allowed in the jeans.
- C. ABLE outerwear must be worn.

Dress Code Violations: Offenses tallied per semester

- A. First Offense - Warning- Change of clothing required.
- B. Second Offense - Change of clothing required-1 lunch detention
- C. Third Offense - Change of clothing required- 2 lunch detentions
- D. Fourth Offense - Change of clothing required- 1 day of In School Suspension
- E. Fifth and Final- Change of Clothing- 1 day of Out of School Suspension- Parent Meeting.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

PURPOSE

My son (daughter), preserve sound judgement and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; they will be life for you. – Proverbs 3:21,22

Philosophy of Discipline

ABLE Christian School, as a Christian academic community, strives to uphold a unity based on the lordship of Jesus Christ, guided by Biblical principles and certain prudent rules which we believe are beneficial in establishing an atmosphere conducive to Christian growth and order. Members of this community are expected to live according to the Word of God, responding to one another in love. Those who join this community are asked to accept the responsibilities of membership by respecting and supporting its Christian distinctive and its standards of conduct.

Discipline Policy Overview (Positive Discipline)

The purpose of discipline in a Christian school is two-fold: to bring the student to maturity in Christ, and, second, to develop qualities of good citizenship. To help attain these goals, certain standards of conduct are established. Students are asked to discipline themselves in relation to this code because the best form of discipline is self-discipline under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, the goal of all outward

discipline is self-discipline within the framework of positive relationships between them.

Positively, the school seeks to cooperate with the home in forming good habits in the student such as cheerful obedience to authority, courtesy and respect for others, responsibility, cleanliness and orderliness, truthfulness and honesty, morally correct conduct, and wise use of time, talents and material possessions. ABLE seeks, in other words, to build Godly character traits into the lives of its students and pursues an active program in doing so, both through instruction and example. A rebellious spirit or negative attitude, which is unchanged after much effort by the faculty, can be a poor influence on other students. Continued deliberate disobedience to a teacher or to school rules has an adverse effect upon the school's testimony.

As an expression of ABLE's mission, the school's discipline policy is intended to support the discipleship process for students, and to serve as a reflection of Jesus Christ and as an extension of the home. As such, the primary purpose of the discipline process is to produce growth in students while maintaining an environment of learning and order, providing a support to parents, and reflecting scriptural principles of conduct and influence. In keeping with this purpose, the scriptural principles that provide the foundation for the discipline policy are as follows:

- Submission to authority (I Peter 2:13-17)
- The principle of reaping and sowing (Galatians 6:7-8)
- Confrontation, restoration, and separation (Matthew 18:15-17)

Under the guidelines of these scriptural principles, the goal of ABLE through the disciplinary process is to:

- Work alongside of parents within the process of discipline
- Provide an environment of order and respect that promotes an atmosphere conducive to learning (Kind, but Firm)
- Apply necessary and appropriate consequences for choices (logical consequences)
- Guide in the restoration of relationships with Jesus Christ and with ABLE, its employees and its students
- Use relational influence to produce spiritual growth, correction, and right choices
- Do so in a context that seeks the best interest of both the involved parties and the student body as a whole

As a general rule, classroom actions which evidence disrespect, lack of courtesy, general disturbance, abuse of permission, incomplete homework, and other offenses shall be handled by the teacher. Situations that the teacher evaluates as chronic, flagrant, or otherwise worthy of special handling will be referred to the Administrator. These situations will be dealt with as seems most helpful to the individual and the student body as outlined under the guidelines as outlined within this document.

Code of Conduct

In order to best fulfill the goals of the discipline process, ABLE has established a Code of Conduct that defines expected student behavior, and establishes the procedure and process

for addressing disciplinary matters. Please be aware that student conduct and behavior outside of ABLE can affect a student's standing as well as the reputation of ABLE, therefore it is the expectation of the administration that students adhere to the Code of Conduct at all times. It is therefore also understood that violations of the Code of Conduct both inside and outside of school, including breaks from school, may be addressed as a disciplinary concern by the administration. Students are specifically considered to be under school jurisdiction at any time at which they are under the direct supervision of ABLE and its employees, including when attending a school function or activity.

Students are expected to demonstrate the following behaviors and characteristics:

- Integrity in the keeping of one's word, speaking the truth, doing one's own work, carrying out responsibility (doing assignments adequately and on time) and respecting authority
- Respect for self, ABLE and its employees and students, and the property of others
- Courtesy extended in all relationships – student to student or student to teacher/staff
- Stewardship of the property, supplies, and equipment of Veritas Christian Academy, as well as wise stewardship of personal items
- Preparation for class and readiness to learn– Reconciliation through Biblical and appropriate repentance and forgiveness when offenses have been committed or received

ABLE STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE

1. **A**ccepting 2. **B**elieving 3. **L**ife- Speaking 4. **E**xceptional

Prohibited Activities

In order to inform our ABLE family, the following prohibited in-school activities (including time spent on in transport to activities), for which disciplinary penalties will be assessed, are provided. Items marked with an asterisk (*) relate to out-of-school situations as well. While the actions described below represent a cross section of activities, no compilation can be all inclusive and students are expected to refrain from behavior that would be characteristic of the areas mentioned below.

Attendance Parameters– Leaving school campus without permission– Being in halls during class time without permission

- Being in locations where students are not normally allowed
- Excessive time out of class Dress Code
- Failure to conform to the expected dress code Careless Behavior
- Horseplay– Throwing or shooting objects in the building– Improper behavior when transported*– Reckless driving on school property or at any school event*

Classroom/School Etiquette– Disruptive behavior that impedes the educational process– The use of cellular phones and other electronic devices during work time

Usually for the first offense in a day, the student will be given a warning. This is left up to the discretion of the teacher, based upon prior offenses. The 2nd offense in a day will result in the phone being confiscated. Students may pick up their phone at the end of the session. The third offense in a day will result in the phone being confiscated. Parents must pick up the phone.

- Misbehaving in class or disturbing the class

Physical/Sexual Behavior

- Inappropriate public displays of romantic affection (i.e., holding hands, kissing, excessive hugging)
- The possession and/or distribution of pornographic materials and information, including the distribution of sexually suggestive material via cell phones, computers, or any other electronic devices.
- Possession of impure or suggestive literature, writing, symbols, drawings, or recordings (audio or video). Distribution of such will result in a more severe penalty
- Sexually harassing another individual (see Anti-Harassment Policy)

Sexual Immorality

ABLE Christian School is a uniquely religious, educational institution that seeks to provide a quality education in a distinct Christian environment. One of the goals of ABLE Christian School is to work with parents and guardians to train

Christian young men and women to be salt and light in their communities. ABLE Christian School believes that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and sets forth absolute truth by which Christians are to live. ABLE Christian School expects and requires that both students and parents will support the school in its distinct mission and in its Biblical beliefs. In relying on the teachings of Scripture, ABLE Christian School believes that the Bible prohibits sexual immorality of any type, including but not limited to pornography, homosexuality, or any other sexual activity outside the marriage of one man and one woman. On those occasions in which a particular home or student is acting counter to or in opposition to the Biblical beliefs and lifestyle that the school teaches, the school reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to refuse admission to an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a current student. This includes, but is not limited to, living in, condoning, or supporting any form of sexual immorality; practicing or promoting a homosexual lifestyle or alternative gender identity; or otherwise having the inability to support the moral principles of the school as stated throughout this handbook.

Leviticus 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

Leviticus 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Romans 1:26-28 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: [27] And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. [28] And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

I Corinthians 6:9-10 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, [10] Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Ephesians 5:3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

I Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

Harassment/Intimidation

- Sexual harassment including all acts of a sexual nature, whether verbal or physical, which are unsolicited, unwelcome, inappropriate, and/or demeaning, which interfere with an individual's performance or which create an intimidating, hostile or offensive atmosphere
- Physical harassment, including threats or intimidation of any nature, or inappropriate verbal or physical conduct which creates a hostile, offensive or fearful environment. Examples of threats or intimidation include, but are not limited to, provoking a fight, fighting, bullying, acts that inflict injury or damage, and/or acts intended to control by fear and/or intimidation.

Verbal Behavior

- Language and/or gestures that are vulgar, obscene, offensive, derogatory or disrespectful will result in disciplinary action. The believer's talk should build up, not put them down.

Dishonesty

- Dishonesty in any form, including lying, theft, cheating, and plagiarism this guideline applies to the person copying as well as to the person knowingly supplying the material to be copied)

Disrespectful Behavior

- Rebellious or disrespectful attitude
- Flagrant disrespect and disobedience
- Littering
- Disturbance or rude behavior in Chapel or Bible class
- Defacing of any kind of school, church, student, or faculty property
- Direct disobedience to any teacher or Administrator
- Deliberate destruction or damage to school, church, student, and/or faculty property
- Disrespect by word or action toward any faculty, staff member, or student

Prohibited Items and Activities

- Use or possession of weapons and/or dangerous items (i.e., guns, knives (including pocket knives), explosive devices, etc.) A zero-tolerance policy is in

place on bringing any type of such weapons or explosives to school.

- The use and/or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and the abuse of prescription medications.

The possession or use of any illicit drugs, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, etc. at school or any school function will be considered grounds for suspension and possible expulsion. Because of the harmful nature of these activities,

the continuance in our school of any student involved in such activities in or out of school is in serious question. Students involved in the use, possession, or selling of drugs, alcohol or tobacco may also be turned over to the proper authorities.

Disciplinary Process

Disciplinary action will be taken for infractions of school policy and rules. Logical consequences will be administered. These may include conferences, written assignments, work detail, detention, probation, suspension, or as a final resort, expulsion. It is the goal of ABLE to assist all students with making the right choices.

As a result, students will be engaged in personal conferences that are aimed at getting to the root of the problem and repentance.

Most disciplinary issues are managed by the teacher in the classroom, and the process can involve any of the following, separately or in combination as appropriate.

Minor Infractions:- Personal conference with the teacher and/or Administrator- Notification of behavior problems to parents- Detention (12:00-1:00) Includes written assignments and/or work detail - A parent-teacher-student or parent-teacher-administrator conference

More extreme or persistent cases of misconduct will be managed by the administration and treated with one or more of the following measures.

Major Infractions:- Behavior Plan

- Probation, combined with appropriate application of consequences relevant to the offense
- In-school suspension- Withdrawal, temporary, until restitution and restoration can be confirmed via visible student behavior and recommendation of counselor, etc.
- ExpulsionA formal report to record all infractions will be retained, outlining the nature of the infraction and how the issue was addressed. Disciplinary Probation

Disciplinary probation is designed to alert the student and his or her parents to areas of his or her life that need special attention. Students may be placed on disciplinary probation by the recommendation of the faculty and the approval of the Administrator for a specified period of time for actions which include, but are not limited to, continued deliberate disobedience, continued and persistent rebellious attitude, negative influence on other students, academic progress that is unacceptable because the student is not working up to his or ability, committing a serious breach of conduct inside or outside the school, failure by students and parents to comply with school policies, or failure by the parents to get recommended professional help of students when needed.

A conference with the student and his or her parents is held at the beginning of the probation to discuss the reasons for the probation. Teachers who wish to participate in the conference may do so or they may be requested by the Administrator to attend. A letter stating the results of the conference and the reasons for the probation will follow this conference.

In cases where the probation follows a serious breach of conduct, a second major incident of misconduct during the

disciplinary probation period will result in the suspension or expulsion of the student. If the offense occurs during the second semester, the student may be admitted the following year only under disciplinary probation.

During the restriction the teachers will periodically review the progress of the student. The Administrator will then decide whether the student shall be returned to the status of a regular student or expelled from the school.

Disciplinary probation is sincerely intended as an intermediate step for the student to “get his or her act together.” If there is no progress in attitude, behavior, or general academic achievement, the student will be asked to withdraw from the school or he or she will be expelled .

Suspension and Expulsion

Suspension is the responsibility of the Administrator and may be used for serious violations or repeated violations of school rules. Examples of such conduct include cheating, smoking, drinking, illegal use of drugs or the possession of drugs, sexually immoral behavior, etc. Students involved in the use, possession, or selling of drugs or alcohol may be turned over to the proper authorities. A student may be suspended for a period of one to ten days at the discretion of the Administrator.

The following violations of the Code of Conduct will result in an immediate suspension from school, pending a more thorough investigation of the matter, and may result in withdrawal or expulsion:

- The use and/or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages,

or illegal drugs, and the abuse of prescription medication

- Immoral sexual conduct- Possession of weapons and/or dangerous items
- Repeated dishonesty
- Flagrant disrespect and disobedience
- Leaving campus without permission
- The possession and/or distribution of pornographic materials and information
- Harassment in any form, both physical and/or sexual in nature – Vandalism- Continued willful disobedience, misconduct, disrespect

During the suspension period the student must keep up with his or her school work. All assignments missed during the period of suspension must be completed.

The student returns to school and the student will be placed on probation for a period of six weeks or more.

Students may be expelled from school when major moral or social offenses have been committed and after other disciplinary procedures have failed.

Discipline Policy Signature Page

Parents and Students: Upon thoroughly reading this discipline policy, please sign and return this page to ABLE.

I have read and understand the ABLE Discipline Policy, and agree to support and abide by it.

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

Date:

ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT: COMPUTER/INTERNET

I understand that the ABLE Christian School provides electronic resources, including Internet access and computers for students' work, as an integral part of the curriculum. Behavior and language in the use of these resources should be consistent with classroom standards. I agree to the following responsibilities and restrictions:

1. I will use the internet and my computer for educational purposes during academic work times during the school day.
2. I will not take up space on my computer for non-academic games, etc.
3. I will not use games or other electronic resources that have objectionable content or that engage me in an inappropriate simulated activity.
4. I will not give my password to any other user, nor attempt to learn or to use anyone else's password, and I will not transmit my address or telephone number, or any personal or confidential information about myself or others.
5. I will not upload, link, or embed an image of myself or others to non-secured, public sites without my teacher's permission.
6. I will not make statements or use the likeness of another person through website postings, email, instant messages, etc., that harass, intimidate, threaten, insult, or ridicule students, teachers, administrators or other staff members of the school community, make statements that are falsely

attributed to others, or use language that is obscene.

7. I will not attempt to access, upload, or transmit material that attacks ethnic, religious or racial groups, or material that is pornographic or explicitly sexual in nature.

8. I will not violate copyright laws, damage or tamper with hardware or software, vandalize or destroy data, intrude upon, alter or destroy the files of another user, introduce or use computer "viruses," attempt to gain access to restricted information or networks, or block, intercept or interfere with any email or electronic communications by teachers and administrators to parents, or others.

9. I will not use, or create for others, any program to interfere with, change, or interact with programs, security settings, systems, or devices .

10. I will report any problems to the supervising staff member.

12. I understand that my use of the school system's computers is not private, and that ABLE/WAY reserves the right to monitor use to assure compliance with these guidelines; violations may lead to revocation of computer access and/or other disciplinary measures.

13. I understand that the prohibited conduct described above is also prohibited off campus when using private equipment if it has the effect of seriously interfering with the educational process, and that such off-campus violations may lead to disciplinary measures.

14. I will follow all school rules while using my other devices on school grounds and I understand that the rules outlined

above regarding my use of the computer resources apply to my use of my other personal devices on school property and that rule 11 above applies to my use of my device off school property.

15. I will not take photos or record video of any student, teacher or administrator unless I have that individual's express permission to do so.

16. I will not use my device during class unless expressly instructed to do so by a teacher and I will immediately comply with a directive to turn my device off, to put my device away or to turn my device over to a teacher or administrator.

17. I understand that my computer and other devices may be confiscated at any time, and that a teacher or administrator may view contents of my device, including but not limited to, texts, emails or social media postings, if it appears that I may have used my device in an inappropriate manner.

18. I understand that ABLE will not cover the cost of repairs for computers that have been mishandled or abused, including dropping or placing non-approved content on the computer.

Print Student's Name:

Grade: _____

Student's Signature:

Date: _____

Parents: I have read, understood, and discussed with my son or daughter this Acceptable Use Agreement, and I give him or her permission to use electronic resources, understanding that this access and use of personal devices on school grounds is conditional upon adherence to the agreement. Although students are supervised when using school resources, and their use of school resources is electronically monitored, I am aware of the possibility that my son or daughter may gain access to material that school officials and I may consider inappropriate or not of educational value.

Print Parent's Name:

Parent's Signature:

Date: _____

THIS AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO ABLE.