

CCS  
CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



# Parent/Student Handbook

September 2022



Welcome to Cornerstone Christian School. Cornerstone is privileged to be able to partner with you as parents in the task of raising your children to be Godly in a world that, has in large part turned its back on God and the principles of the Bible. Our purpose here is to engage the mind, empower with Christ, and equip for life. This means that we are not so much a place of shelter from the world as a place of preparation to engage the world.

This handbook is designed to help you understand Cornerstone and to give you a place to look for answers to your questions. We are always willing to answer any of your questions in person, on the phone or through email, so please feel free to contact us.

Mr. Lee Behrns  
Principal

## **WHAT WE OFFER STUDENTS**

Cornerstone Christian School follows the Saskatchewan Education Curriculum and tries to stay as close as possible to the Prairie South school division school calendar regarding prep days and school breaks. We currently work on a modified week, with a daily class length that is a bit longer. This results in Friday afternoons off for students.

- ❖ We believe that Christian education enhances the academic opportunities for our students. Academics are taken seriously. We offer the fully recognized Saskatchewan Curriculum including all of the classes required for admittance into any post-secondary program a student may want to pursue. Our graduates have been accepted into several different programs at many universities, technical schools and Bible colleges where they have thrived. Cornerstone alumni have become doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, carpenters, advertising copy writers, actors, stage managers, business owners, dental hygienists, missionaries and the list goes on. At Cornerstone, students can acquire the kind of education that will take them where God wants them to be.
- ❖ All teachers are hired and supervised by Prairie South School Division. They are members of the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation (STF) and are registered with the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board (SPTRB).
- ❖ As Cornerstone Christian School is a Christian school, Chapel is a normal part of the week and occurs throughout the whole school year. Grades 9-12 Chapel is held every Tuesday morning, K-5 Chapel is held every Wednesday morning, Grade 6-8 Chapel is held every Thursday morning, and All School Chapel is held every Friday morning. Cornerstone Christian School does follow the practice of singing O Canada every morning as well as reciting the Lord's Prayer and verse of the week prior to announcements.
- ❖ Students are encouraged to get involved with activities. Cornerstone offers Golf, Boys Soccer (combined with Peacock), Girls Soccer (combined with Vanier), Volleyball, Basketball, Football (combined with Central Collegiate), Cross Country Running, Curling, Badminton, Track and Field and Vocal Jazz. Students can also be part of the Student Leadership Council and student worship teams. Every year, we involve students in the production of a Broadway- styled musical and participate and compete in the Regional Drama Festival each year.
- ❖ Cornerstone also supports Missions. Mission Trips may be planned locally, provincially, nationally, or internationally.
- ❖ Cornerstone has Student Led Conferences so parents can meet with a facilitator and allow the student to talk about their progress. Student Led Conferences are held in November and March for all students. Kindergarten students receive an early year's evaluation (EYE) in November and online report cards in March and June. Grades 1-6 report cards are available online in November, March and June. Grades 7-12 report cards are available online in November and end of January for Semester 1, April and end of June for Semester 2. If parents wish meet with the teacher, they may make arrangements with the teacher (to discuss problems or concerns).

- ❖ Each fall, the school holds an Open House for all current families.
- ❖ Cornerstone Christian School offers a bus service for those students that need a ride to school.
- ❖ Parents are updated with school happenings via email, the website ([www.ccsmj.ca](http://www.ccsmj.ca)), Facebook posts (Cornerstone Christian School Moose Jaw), Twitter (@ccsmoosejaw), Instagram (cornerstone\_christian\_mj) and phone calls.

For more information, please visit our school website at [www.ccsmj.ca](http://www.ccsmj.ca).

## **OUR PURPOSE**

The purpose of Cornerstone Christian School is to **Engage the Mind, Empower with Christ and Equip for Life.** Our statement purpose is reflected in the three key words that define our role as a Christian School

**Engage:** Engaging students in the Provincial curriculum from a Christian World View.

**Empower:** Helping students grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.

**Equip:** Preparing students for all aspects of life after CCS.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

Cornerstone Christian School values:

- The integration of Christian faith and doctrine with provincial curriculum.
- The cultivation of a sense of community and family among all our constituents.
- Strong leadership provided by faculty, staff and board who follow God and His Word.
- The role of discipleship and spiritual formation in the educational process.
- All our students and the contribution each one makes to our community.
- Diversity in academic opportunities and extra-curricular activities.

## **OUR PRIORITIES**

We have identified three priorities for Cornerstone Christian School, which flow directly from the three main elements of our purpose statement.

**Education** – to Engage the Mind.

*“Engaging students in the Provincial curriculum from a Christian Worldview.”*

Desired outcomes:

1. High rate of enrolment and success in post-secondary education.
2. Ability to discern secular and Christian worldviews.

**Transformation** – to Empower with Christ.

*“Helping students grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.”*

Desired outcomes:

1. Students come to know Christ.
2. Daily walk with God.
3. Active in a Church.
4. Use of Spiritual gifts to serve others.
5. Love and acceptance of others.

**Preparation** – to Equip for Life.

*“Preparing students for all aspects of life after CCS.”*

Desired outcomes:

1. Students bringing the education, character and self-knowledge gained at CCS to bear in life’s next phase.
2. Students having a high level of self-knowledge (gifts, talents, calling, limitations).
3. Students taking with them the Christian character that was formed at CCS (confidence, faith, integrity, respect, resilience and many others).

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### **Article 1 - Understanding the Christian School:**

The Christian school is an institution, established and controlled by an association of Christian believers, to provide and promote education in total and voluntary submission to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. The programs of Cornerstone Christian School will reflect this biblical view of truth; the Holy Scriptures are the divine benchmark for all truth and the moral grid from which to judge all knowledge. The programs of Cornerstone Christian School will seek to equip students for living the Christian life. Learning is not a static achievement, but a lifelong dynamic activity for the glory of God. The programs of Cornerstone Christian School will foster both individual and collective action and responsibility, since one can use his/her calling to serve God and neighbour. A Christian values each person as a creation of God and not for their possession or appearance.

### **Article 2 - Statement of Faith:**

1. We believe the Bible to be the only inspired, infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God (II Timothy 3:15, II Peter 1:21).
2. We believe there is only one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:1, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30).
3. We believe in the deity of Christ (John 10:33); His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Luke 1:35); His sinless life (Hebrews 4:15, 7:26); His miracles (John 2:11); His vicarious and atoning death (I Corinthians 15:3, Ephesians 1:7, Hebrews 2:9); His resurrection (John 11:25, I Corinthians 15:4); His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Mark 16:19) and His personal return in power and glory (Acts 1:11, Revelation 19:11).
4. We believe in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature; and that we are justified solely on faith in the shed blood of Christ, and that only by God's grace through faith alone are we saved (John 3:16-19, 5:24, Romans 3:23, 5:89, Ephesians 2:8-19, Titus 3:5).
5. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation (John 5:28, 29).
6. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:9, Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:26-28).
7. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (Romans 8:13-14, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20, Ephesians 4:30, 5:18).

### **Article 3 - Admissions Policy:**

A. Registration Procedures: Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

B. Registration Priorities:

#### Category 1

- Students presently enrolled and who are fully paid up (or satisfactory arrangements made).
- Children of teachers or staff, who are fully paid up (or satisfactory arrangements made).

#### Category 2

- Students on the wait list, who have siblings presently enrolled.



Category 3

- Students who owe monies from previous years.
- Students who do not have the ability to pay tuition or have it paid by someone.

C. Admissions Criteria:

1. Students shall be admitted to a given grade level based on the pupil placement policies of Prairie South School Division.
2. A signed release form authorizing Cornerstone Christian School access to any confidential reports such as educational/psychological evaluations and reports, speech and language reports, and any diagnostic reports, must accompany the registration form. Failure to report any potential information that may reflect on the child's admission to the school - or supports required - may result in the removal of the student.
3. The number of students admitted each year will depend on availability of space as determined by the administration.
4. Parents may register their child(ren) for the grade level only for which they are eligible.
5. International students must pay for both tuition and the grant deficit to cover their education costs.
6. An interview may be required for new students and parents.
7. CCS may decline enrolment for a student if the school does not have adequate resources or properly trained staff to provide a viable educational program for the student.
8. If parents register more than one child and CCS cannot enroll all their children, then they may choose to:
  - a. Accept the registration offered and maintain their spot on the wait list for the remaining children, or
  - b. Decline the enrolment and maintain their spot on the wait list until all their children can be enrolled, recognizing that the available spot will be offered to the next student on the list.

D. Wait List:

1. A wait list will be maintained for all individuals who registered and CCS was unable to enroll due to space availability.

**Article 4 - Grade Placement Policy:**

Students will be placed in the grade appropriate for their age according to the pupil placement policy of Prairie South School Division.

Students entering Grade 10, 11 or 12, who previously attended a school outside of Saskatchewan, will have their Official Transcripts evaluated by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education in order to be placed in the appropriate credit courses.

**Article 5 - Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy:**

**1. Introduction:**

In Matthew 22:37 - 39, Jesus states that the greatest commandment is to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind'. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'. We are all made in the image of God. We are all equal before God. Students and staff at CCS have the right to develop their potential, to learn and grow, to become faithful disciples of Christ, in a positive and safe environment. Discrimination and sexual harassment are harmful to individuals and their relationship to God, to the school environment, and to the CCS community as a whole and will not be tolerated.

**2. Discrimination:**

We understand discrimination to be defined as an action towards someone, taken with partiality or prejudice.

### **Enrolment and the Provision of Programs:**

CCS does not discriminate in enrolment on race, creed, religion, colour, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, disability, physical size or weight, age, nationality, ancestry or place of origin. This type of harassment is prohibited in The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.

### **3. Sexual Harassment:**

We understand sexual harassment to be defined as 'unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature'. Furthermore, we believe that the following types of conduct also constitute sexual harassment at different levels as described by Michele A. Paludi and Richard B. Barickmann (*Academic and Workplace Sexual Harassment: a Resource Manual*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991).

### **4. Definitions:**

- 4.1 Gender Harassment: Generalized sexist statements and behaviors that convey insulting, degrading and/or sexist attitudes.
- 4.2 Seductive Behavior: Inappropriate and/or offensive physical or verbal advances of a sexual nature.
- 4.3 Sexual Bribery: Solicitation of sexual activity or other sex-linked behavior by promise of reward.
- 4.4 Sexual Coercion: Coercion of sexual activity or other sex-linked behavior by threat of punishment.
- 4.5 Peer Harassment: Sexual harassment by colleagues in a classroom, work environment, or social setting.
- 4.6 Sexual Assault: Sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual touching, or sexual interference (child). These are the ultimate forms of sexual harassment and are criminal offenses as well.

*All forms of harassment, by staff or students, create an environment that makes education and work less productive and satisfying and are clearly violations of biblical standards. Therefore, all staff will proactively discourage the above behaviors.*

### **5. Examples of Prohibited Conduct:**

Examples of conduct prohibited by this policy include, but are not limited to:

- 5.1 Flirtation, leering, advances and/or propositions of a sexual nature.
- 5.2 Insults, humor, jokes and/or anecdotes that belittle or demean an individual's or a group's sexuality or gender.
- 5.3 Comments or gestures of a sexual nature about an individual's body or clothing.
- 5.4 Displays of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, in any form.
- 5.5 Inappropriate touching, such as patting, pinching, hugging, or repeated brushing against an individual's body.
- 5.6 Suggestions that submission to or rejection of sexual advances will affect decisions regarding such matters as an individual's employment, work assignment or status, salary, academic standing, grades, receipt of financial aid, or letters of recommendation.
- 5.7 Sexual assault.

### **6. Retaliation:**

Threats, other forms of intimidation, and retaliation against a complainant or any other party involved in implementing the CCS sexual harassment policy are violations of the policy and a further criminal offence and may be grounds for disciplinary action or police referral.

### **7. False Allegations:**

Because of the nature of the problem, complaints of sexual harassment cannot always be substantiated. Lack of corroborating evidence should not discourage complainants from seeking relief through the procedures

outlined above. However, allegations found to have been made intentionally dishonest or made maliciously without regard for truth will subject complainants to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, or police referral.

### **8. Prevention:**

Respect is the key to the prevention of sexual harassment. Being aware of the effect of our actions and being willing to modify them when they offend others is also important. You can help make a difference by:

- being aware of how your attitudes and actions can constitute or condone harassment
- speaking out against harassment
- refusing to laugh at harassment disguised as humour
- offering support to anyone being harassed
- not participating in any action that may bring discredit upon ourselves, our school or our community.

### **Article 6 - Code of Conduct Policy:**

Cornerstone Christian School is striving for excellence in all areas. It has its own standards and requirements. It is irrevocably committed to work toward achieving the highest and best for each child enrolled in the school. The school will work in cooperation with the parents to uphold and promote the high standards and expectations of the home during the hours that the child is at school. School regulations are designed for the safety and welfare of the students and the care of the physical school building.

- a. It is right to obey. Romans 13:1-5
- b. Our Christian witness should show clearly that we are under God's authority, and that we respect those God has placed in authority over us.
- c. Our conduct should be such that there is no possibility that anyone could be injured.
- d. Our conduct should be such that there is no damage to school property or equipment.
- e. Our conduct should be such that everyone has the maximum opportunity for learning.
- f. Our conduct should demonstrate respect for all students and staff of CCS.

According to the Saskatchewan Education Act, every pupil shall:

1. Attend school regularly and punctually.
2. Purchase any supplies and materials not furnished by the board that the principal considers necessary for any particular course of instruction.
3. Observe standards approved by the board with respect to:  
cleanliness and tidiness of person, general deportment, obedience, courtesy and the rights of other persons.
4. Be diligent in his or her studies.
5. Conform to the rules of the school approved by the board.
6. Be accountable to the teacher for the pupil's conduct on the school premises during school hours and during those hours that the teacher is in charge of the pupil in class or while engaged in authorized school activities conducted during out-of-school hours.
7. Be accountable to the principal for the pupil's general deportment at any time that the pupil is under the supervision of the school and members of the teaching staff, including time spent in traveling between the school and the pupil's place of attendance.

### **Article 7 - General Relationships:**

The Cornerstone Christian School community thrives because of the emphasis on positive, healthy, relationships between staff, board members, parents/guardians, students, and other community stakeholders (e.g. churches, Prairie South School Division, local ministries, etc.). In the CCS community, we expect that that

each member will intentionally develop and maintain respectful relationships which support, encourage, and serve others. Relationships of this nature honour God, enrich the lives of those in our community, and enhance the quality of the education provided at Cornerstone Christian School.

### **Article 8 - Parental Responsibilities:**

Cornerstone Christian School has been established to operate as an extension of the Christian home, rather than an evangelistic tool or a facility for students with behaviour problems. The school will provide a safe, caring environment for students to study a curriculum that is Christian in worldview, with teachers and peers who will provide quality role modeling and influence. As an extension of the home, the success of Cornerstone depends on the quality of the homes represented there. Although the trend in our society is to neglect parental responsibilities or to delegate them to “experts”, Cornerstone parents are expected to take those responsibilities seriously and personally. Quality parenting is the family’s first and most important contribution to the school.

We expect parents to visit the school and to know what their children are studying. Parents are responsible before God for the care, training, and education of their children. Therefore, the person or institution to whom any of that responsibility is delegated becomes a partner in that venture. So, strong parental support and communication between the home and the school is essential.

It is of prime importance that Christian values based on biblical truth are taught and reinforced in the home. The foundations of a strong Christian home are the diligent study of the Bible and constant attention to prayer. These values need to be both taught and modeled. Each child’s interests, attitudes, and language very directly impact other children, the classroom and the teachers.

It is expected that the parents are partnering with CCS especially when it comes to dealing with difficult student behaviors; Cornerstone Christian School is a choice.

### **Article 9 - Concerns, Disagreements, General Grievances:**

On occasion, conflicts, disagreements, or grievances may arise within the Cornerstone community. Matthew 18 advises (paraphrase): When you have a problem with someone, you must first go to that person and talk with them. Most issues can be resolved this way. Members of the Cornerstone community are expected to follow the following principles in times of conflict:

- Spend time in prayer over the concern.
- Misunderstanding or miscommunication, not malice or incompetency, should be assumed.
- Speak directly with the specific individual involved.
- Resolve the conflict at the lowest level authority possible.
- Proceed step by step through the appropriate levels of authority *if necessary* without bypassing any of the levels.
- Carefully guard what is spoken and heard in order to protect the reputation of others.
- Pursue resolution, forgiveness, and reconciliation to the fullest extent possible.

For example, should parents become concerned over their child and a particular teacher, the parents should proceed through the following levels of authority to resolve the situation:

- Level 1: Speak directly to the teacher.
- Level 2: If speaking to the teacher fails to yield satisfactory resolution, invite the involvement of school administration.
- Level 3: Division or CCS Board involvement (pending type of issue) would be invited only after multiple genuine attempts at resolution and reconciliation have failed.

All parties are strongly encouraged to cooperate at each level and to proceed together by mutual consent to the next level only if absolutely necessary.

Speaking with uninvolved parties (e.g. Life or Bible study groups, friends, etc.), other parents, other staff members, or sharing grievances via social media are not appropriate means to deal with any real/perceived issues with a teacher, member of the CCS community, or CCS in general.

## **Article 10 - Student Dating Relationships & Student Pregnancy and Paternity:**

### **Student Dating Relationships:**

Cornerstone Christian School is a place where students are encouraged to engage in positive peer relationships. Students should be primarily focused on developing their relationship with God, strengthening their relationship with their family, and nurturing positive friendships. Cornerstone Christian School does not advocate dating during one's school years, but does encourage students to develop meaningful friendships within the school community and beyond.

Issues around dating are solely the responsibility of the home and under the authority of parents. The age at which a student is permitted to date and who they are permitted to date are parent decisions. Students are advised that when a dating relationship is established and known within the school community, it will be assumed that parents of both individuals know and approve of the dating relationship.

"Public displays of affection" between dating couples generally are not part of the Cornerstone culture and are discouraged. There should be no visible difference between how friends and how dating couples interact at school or during school activities (on or off campus). Cornerstone strives to provide a warm, caring, safe, and wholesome environment for all students and families.

### **Student Pregnancy and Paternity:**

In dealing with student pregnancy or paternity, the school administration, teachers and students are called to practice the Gospel command of love of neighbor both by sensitivity to the needs of the particular student and by upholding the biblical teaching on sexual morality.

1. a) A pregnant student ordinarily shall have the option of continuing their education at Cornerstone. The Principal, in consultation with other appropriate persons (parents, physicians, teachers, etc) shall regulate any special adjustments that must be made; e.g. pregnancy and maternity leave, manner of making up missed class work, etc.  
b) The Principal shall expect all staff to treat pregnant students with respect and compassion and emphasize the supportive role of the school.
2. A student known to have fathered a child outside of marriage ordinarily shall have the option of continuing their education at Cornerstone. The Principal, in consultation with other appropriate persons, shall determine any special conditions for the student's continuance at Cornerstone.

## **Article 11 – Medications:**

In accordance with the policies and procedures of Prairie South School Division, no medication prescribed or otherwise, shall be administered to students by faculty or staff.

Cornerstone recognizes that some students may require essential oral and/or injectable medication, or an essential procedure on a regular basis or in an emergency situation. In those cases, the parent must complete the Authorization/Request for Administration of Essential Medication and/or Essential Procedures form each school year.

### **Article 12 - Cell Phone Usage Policy:**

1. It is the position of the school that students may use their cell phones, only during the non-instructional part of a school day, as a way of communicating with parents/guardians, unless they are given specific permission from their teacher for each use of the cell phone during instructional time. Therefore, the following cell phone usage policy has been developed for Cornerstone Christian School.

Cell phone usage by students will be as follows **during the school day:**

- Kindergarten to Grade 6 – Not allowed cell phone usage.
- Grade 7 to 9 – Noon hour break or during class with permission of the teacher.
- Grade 10 to 12 – Noon hour and classroom breaks including spares or during class only with permission of the teacher.
- If a student is found using their cell phone when the bell rings for class, this is considered part of the instructional day and the cell phone will be confiscated. During class times, cell phones are to be shut off and out of sight.
- Permission of the teacher must be granted for each individual use.

A first violation of the policy will result in the cell phone being confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Second and subsequent violations of the policy will result in the cell phone being confiscated, returned only to a parent, and the student receiving 2 opportunity points.

Use of cell phone for field trips and sporting events during school hours will be at the discretion of the coach/sponsor/teacher.

### **Article 13 - Personal Property Loss or Damage:**

1. If students bring personal property or possessions with them, CCS will not accept responsibility or liability for items lost or damaged, either on or off campus, at school-related activities.
2. If staff or volunteers are requested to bring personal property with them to the school or to school-related activities, the school will accept responsibility and liability for such items. These items must be approved by the administration for them to fall into this category.
3. If students are requested to bring personal property for the purpose of specific school functions (such as a drama), the school may accept responsibility for items lost or stolen. Teachers and staff must make administration aware of any items students are requested to bring in order for these items to fall into this category.

### **Article 14 – Vandalism:**

In cases of willful damage, vandalism, or other mischief, the person(s) found responsible shall be held liable for compensation.

### **Article 15 - Student Attendance Policy:**

Regular class attendance is highly valued at CCS to promote student success and personal discipline and reliability.

1. Absences are considered unexcused when there has been no parental contact.
2. Students arriving for late for class or leaving early must report to the main office.
3. Attendance at chapels is expected of all students.

### **Article 16 - Late & Incomplete Assignments:**

Students are expected to submit assignments on time. When a student does not submit work on time, the teacher will use his/her professional judgment to determine an appropriate course of action, taking into account factors such as age and maturity of the student, medical status, other personal circumstances, grade level and past behaviour. Teachers may use their professional discretion to provide students who have missed deadlines due to exceptional circumstances with alternative arrangements to complete assignments. Actions related to late assignments will be taken within the context of a school-wide plan and will reflect the practices in the Prairie South School Division Grading Document.

### **Article 17 - Dress Code:**

The way that students, staff, and volunteers dress has an impact on the tone of the school; therefore, all are expected to dress appropriately for their particular roles. Cornerstone's standard of dress and appearance aims to demonstrate that it is a place of business. The dress code is in effect during the school day, during extra-curricular activities, class field trips, and any other school related function that may happen in or out of the school.

It is noted that not every possible scenario can be predicted and detailed in a dress code. Therefore, staff reserves the right to address a concern which is not specified in the dress code. Common sense shall prevail. We acknowledge that our guidelines may be viewed as too strict by some and not strict enough by others. Our families come from diverse backgrounds and have differing beliefs around issues like modesty and appropriate dress. Our guidelines are designed with this diversity in mind and strive to be within a reasonable middle-ground.

#### **General:**

School is a place of business. Dress and appearance should be appropriate for a conservative workplace. Students may engage in many different activities throughout their school day so should dress with this in mind.

***Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring and enforcing that students dress according to the guidelines below. By choosing to send children to Cornerstone, parents/guardians inherently agree to support school rules, expectations, and the dress code.***

The following are more specific guidelines:

- Students should dress for the weather and in a way that is comfortable for a variety of activities such as sitting in desks, completing activities around tables, sitting on the floor in chapel, etc.
- Shoes with non-marking soles are to be worn at all times in the building.
- Hats and hoods can only be worn outside of the school building. Exemptions may be negotiable for medical or physical reasons (ex. hair loss due to illness) as well as for special theme days.
- Clothing, jewelry, and other accessories must be free of offensive or suggestive language, pictures, designs, symbols, and slogans; political ideologies; and must not promote values contrary to Christianity.
- Cornerstone is a "Scent-Sensitive" environment—heavy fragrances, perfumes, body-sprays, etc. should be avoided.

#### **Dress Code Concerns:**

Staff will respectfully address minor concerns with students (ex. a student wearing a hat in class). Staff will also respectfully address issues around offensive or Counter-Christian content with students and/or parents. Students may be asked to remove or cover-up the item in question or go home to change pending the circumstance. Length of shorts/skirts, amount of revealed skin, and other such possibilities are under the umbrella of parental autonomy and choice for their family. Staff may contact parents if there is a major concern in an attempt to protect the dignity of a student.

### **Article 18 - Discipline Preamble:**

Discipline of children is primarily the responsibility of the parents. We teach our children at home how to behave when they are out so that they will not impact others negatively. In school, there are requirements for behavior that are different than might be expected at home because the needs of others are involved. Students need to behave in a manner that maximizes their opportunity to learn while not inhibiting the learning opportunity of other students in the school. They also need to demonstrate respect and obedience towards the teachers placed in authority over them at school.

When dealing with students' behavior at school we will make every effort to be fair. We take a problem-solving approach, working to help students develop the missing skills they need to behave properly in and out of school. This is a teaching model of discipline and more closely parallels discipleship, working towards changing the heart of the student involved, as well as the behavior. Having your help and support as a parent is required as we cannot do this in isolation.

### **Article 19 - Elementary Discipline Policy:**

Each time a student is sent to the office their discipline record will be reviewed. Serious discipline issues or persistent minor issues will result in communication of the events to parents and consequences at school. Consequences could be lunch time detentions, recess detentions or loss of privileges.

For persistent or serious issues, parents may be asked to come in for a meeting with the teacher and an administrator in order to come up with a plan for behavior change that will involve both home and school.

The process will begin again after each meeting with the parents and will be cyclic until the behavior is successfully changed. Suspensions of elementary students will be reserved for the most serious offences that threaten the safety and wellbeing of other students and/ or staff.

### **Article 20 - Discipline Expectations:**

It is expected that discipline will occur when:

1. The behaviour of the student demonstrates a lack of respect for teachers and staff.
2. The behaviour of the student demonstrates a lack of respect for fellow students.
3. The behaviour of the student demonstrates a lack of respect for the rules of CCS.
4. The behaviour of the student demonstrates a lack of respect for the facilities of CCS or property used by Cornerstone Christian School.
5. The behaviour of the student impacts the learning environment in the classroom.
6. The student disobeys the instructions of a teacher or staff member.
7. The student does not meet classroom assignment expectations in a timely manner.
8. The student does not meet the expectations of the school schedule, by arriving late, having unexcused absences, etc.



### **Article 21 - Discipline Guidelines – Grade 7-12:**

When dealing with student's behavior at school, every effort will be made to be fair, and yet maintain the standards of the school, while working towards changing the heart of the student involved and behaviour. With this in mind, the following guidelines apply:

1. While it is not the intention of the school to embarrass students publicly, a student may be disciplined within the framework of the classroom. This may occur as a result of the student's inappropriate behaviour being displayed in the presence of the class, and as such, the teacher may feel it is best resolved in that same forum; or there may not be a teacher or administrator available to deal with the matter outside of the classroom in a timely manner.
2. A system of points (Opportunity Points) will be used to track student behaviour, and ultimately, serve as a framework for extended discipline. Points in themselves are not the discipline. They are simply the method used to track inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour.