

CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF HOPE

Family Handbook Academic Year 2023-2024 Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope embraces and lives the teachings of the Catholic Church, which are defined and clarified by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. We base our admissions, employment, and operational decisions on the Church's teachings on faith and morals, which promote the dignity of all persons created in the image and likeness of God.

Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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I. Our Mission and Philosophy of Education

"Catholic education is above all a question of communicating Christ, of helping to form Christ in the lives of others." - POPE SAINT JOHN PAULII

MISSION AND VISION

At Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope, our mission is to form students whose lives are animated by love for the truth, goodness, and beauty of being that is fully revealed in Jesus Christ, and thereby help parents raise up a generation of joyful saints and servant leaders. To accomplish this, we cultivate a community of friends pursuing wisdom and virtue in all we do – study, prayer, fellowship, play – especially through worship and the discussion of great works.

With St. John Paul II we are convinced that "God has placed in the human heart the desire to know the truth—in a word, to know Himself—so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves." At Our Lady of Hope we look to nourish this inborn desire for truth. Rooted in and enlivened by the teachings and practices of the Catholic faith, we study art, music, literature, language, history, mathematics, science, philosophy, and religion, and foster thereby a culture of life that makes our children fully alive in faith, hope, and love—ready to build the kingdom here in anticipation of the fullness of life hereafter.

Gilbert Keith Chesterton writes, "Education is not a subject, and does not deal in subjects. Instead, it is the transfer of a way of life." We are called as faithful Christians to build a way of life that affirms the intelligibility and goodness of being and the infinite dignity of every human person. We are called, that is, to build a culture of life. Rooting ourselves in what is fundamental liberates us from simply following, or rebelling against, modern trends and fashions, especially in our approach to learning. As Chesterton observes, "A dead thing goes with the stream; only a living thing can go against it." We trust that young men and women who have tasted the true depth and joy of life, and have heard and thrilled at the Shepherd's voice, will follow the True Way and lead others into it.

To build this culture, we guide students in how they learn, play, compete, share meals, and grow in friendship. In the halls, on the playing field, in the chapel, the classroom, and the lunchroom, students hear the call to grow in wisdom, virtue, and holiness. Thanks to the labors of their teachers and staff, every moment of their days is infused with meaning, with inklings of the full depth and mystery of reality. Through this, they become men and women whose love for truth makes them guileless and earnest rather than cynical; confident, not insecure; thoughtful, humble, capable of giving themselves fully, and, above all, men and women who are animated by deep, joyful repentance and living faith because they know Jesus Christ and His great love for His Church.

PATRONS

G. K. Chesterton. Chesterton Academy is named for the great English writer and Catholic convert, G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936). Chesterton is a model for our school because he exemplified the Catholic faith through a life filled with joy, wonder, and gratitude. Chesterton was considered one of the world's most outstanding men of

letters in the early 20th century. An accomplished essayist, novelist, and poet, he wrote a hundred books on all different subjects. In 1922, he shocked the literary establishment by converting to Catholicism. He was later eulogized by Pope Pius XI as "a gifted defender of the faith," and there is presently a popular movement to have him canonized. The school has chosen him for its patron because he not only represents the fullness of faith and reason, but also Catholic joy and common sense.

Our Lady of Hope. So that God's Word might dwell in and among us, God takes flesh from Mary, a lowly creature. He does not destroy that flesh, but makes it free to become fully what it is. Hence Mary is a sign of our hope. As He does great things for her (Luke 1:49), He will, we are confident, do great things for us. In Mary God reveals His generous plan to take what we offer Him—mind, body, spirit, whole person—and form us, by her motherly help (John 19:27), into "full stature [maturity] in Christ" (Ephesians 4:13). We venerate the saints and, in a special way, Mary because of what God has done in them through Christ and His Spirit. Thus, Our Lady of Hope is our patron because Mary reveals in her own flesh the gratuitous and incomprehensible fruits of the Divine plan and, through her intercession, draws us more deeply into this great hope.

II. Basic Expectations

A. TADS EDUCATE

TADS Educate is our student information and communication system. Before the beginning of the academic year, new families will be given access to their account. Parents and students will have the opportunity to review grades and communications periodically through TADS educate. This system is also the primary way for parents and students to communicate with faculty.

B. SCHOOL HOURS AND BELL SCHEDULE

Students report directly to Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope. The school opens at 7:20AM and students should be dropped off by 7:50, so that they may go to their lockers and be ready for morning prayer in their first period classroom at 7:55. Classes are dismissed at 3:30PM. Students must wait in the designated pickup area until 4:00PM, or until their ride arrives. Parents will be charged \$1 per minute for rides arriving after 4:00PM, unless a prior arrangement has been agreed on. Mass will be said during one of the periods each day.

C. TARDIES AND ABSENCES

All absences or tardies must be reported before 7:30AM by calling 401.287.2280 or by emailing attendance@chestertonri.org.

When absences occur, a student is expected to make up any work missed. Students will be assigned a homework buddy. It is the responsibility of the student to contact his or her homework buddy and, after contacting the homework buddy, if necessary to contact the teacher to obtain missed classwork.

In-class participation, an integral part of our education, cannot be made up, and absences may adversely affect grades. If a student is absent for more than 12 periods for any one course in a semester (even for medical reasons), the school reserves the right not to grant credit for that course. Unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action.

D. MASS PARTICIPATION

Our school day includes the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the source and summit of the Catholic faith. Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope sees daily participation at Mass as a central part of our educational program, as much as any of the subjects taught. Please refer to Appendix A for Mass guidelines and expectations.

E. AFTER SCHOOL POLICY

After school is dismissed, students may request permission from a teacher to turn on their cell phones only for essential communication about transportation logistics, with the teacher present nearby. Once this communication is complete, phones must be turned off and put away again. Listening to music, watching videos, using social media or other entertainment apps/sites are prohibited while on school property.

Students who participate in Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope athletics or extracurricular clubs that require a change of clothes should use the locker rooms or other designated changing rooms to change. All other students should stay in their uniform, properly worn, while on campus.

Students must wait in the designated pickup area until 3:45PM, or until their ride arrives. Parents will be charged \$1 per minute for rides arriving after 3:45PM, unless a prior arrangement has been agreed on.

F. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED EVENTS

From time to time, students are required to attend events off campus and/or outside of school hours. Below are some examples, but the events may vary year to year. Please see official calendar for details.

August	- Beginning of Year Retreat (All Students)
	- New Student Orientation (All New Students)
October	- Gala (All Students)
December	- Advent Choir Concert (All Students)
January	- RI March for Life at the Capitol (All Students)
April	- Spring Concert (All Students)

If you have a serious conflict with any of these required events, please notify us immediately.

G. STUDENT PARKING

Parking for students at Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope is a privilege that requires a parking permit. Parking permits are free and will be issued by the school office once proper documentation is received. Upon applying for a student parking permit, students agree to obey the parking regulations established by the Academy and know that violation of the parking policy could result in disciplinary action or revocation of the permit.

H. EXCLUSIVITY ON CAMPUS

The Catholic educational community is by its nature a social community. We are created to delight in relationships with people of varying personalities, interests, and backgrounds. And while it is natural that we are drawn towards those who share our common interests, we at Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope work toward growth in Christian friendship by actively building strong friendships with all members of the community. Therefore, relationships that exclude members of the community can cultivate disharmony and prevent the cultivation of the virtues essential to friendship, virtues which are an integral part of a full human life. Examples of exclusive relationships are couples and cliques. These types of relationships should not be visible on campus.

I. UNIFORMS AND OUT OF UNIFORM ATTIRE

Students are required to be completely in uniform dress while at church or on the Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope campus. Modesty and professionalism are the primary guides in all matters of the required uniform. Students will be expected to present themselves in a way that reflects their great dignity, the dignity of their vocation as students, and the seriousness of our collective task. Therefore, they will wear the Academy uniform in a modest and neat way, avoiding all manner of ostentation. The uniforms must be clean and in good condition with no rips, holes, or stains.

Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope requires all students to dress according to the school uniform code and out-of-uniform code (see Appendices B, C and D).

J. SCHOOL TELEPHONE USE

Students are not permitted to leave class to make or receive calls at the office without permission. It is understood that all business will be handled through the school office. Messages from parents will be delivered to students as needed and in a timely fashion. Action will be taken in accordance with the importance of the message.

K. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Personal electronic devices tend to isolate individuals from the people around them. Since Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope works to build community among its members, we want to eliminate distractions of devices that undermine that goal. For this reason, students are <u>not permitted</u> to use personal communication or listening devices, <u>nor have</u> <u>them on their persons</u> while in church or on the Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope campus. If a parent allows their child to bring a personal communication device to school, it must be turned off and stored in a backpack or locker. After 3:15PM, students may use their cell phones for essential communication only, with teacher permission and supervision. Any device being used in a way not consistent with these guidelines will be confiscated. At the end of the school day, parents will have the opportunity to purchase it back for \$10.

L. LUNCH AND SNACKS

Given the limited resources of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope, we request that students bring their own lunches to school where a designated area will be provided for a common meal. Faculty will supervise students during the lunch period. Students will be responsible for cleaning up after their lunch period. There is limited access to microwaves.

- Bringing food to or eating in the classrooms is not permitted except during a designated snack period.
- There should be no eating at the lockers or in the hallways.
- No gum chewing is permitted.
- If the teacher grants permission, students may bring beverages into class in modestsized, resealable containers.

M. LOCKERS

The Academy may supply each student with a locker for use during the school year. The locker remains at all times the property of the Academy, and faculty and staff may open any locker at any time. No locks will be permitted on the lockers. Students should not store valuables in their lockers nor should they assume any level of privacy. Misuse of lockers may result in the privilege being revoked.

N. SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Parents will be notified on all occasions when the school may be closed. In the event of inclement weather, the school day at Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope may be canceled by the headmaster. Official notice will be sent via TADS by 6:00 AM, and will also be listed on local news outlets.

O. FIELD TRIPS

Frugality requires that the school make use of carpools for transportation to and from events and activities which take place during school hours. Where drivers are needed, the school will request volunteer drivers. Whenever carpools are utilized, the school will provide details to parents about timing, pickup, and drop off points and drivers. <u>Only persons over 21 years of age and who have completed the required background checks may drive a carpool to Academy events.</u>

P. MEDICATIONS

<u>Prescription medications may not be stored in a student's locker.</u> If a prescription medication needs to be taken during school hours, a parent must submit the appropriate forms along with the prescription medication in the original bottle. The medication will be securely stored and administered by Chesterton staff, unless special arrangements have been made. Students may keep over-the-counter medicine such as aspirin or ibuprofen in their lockers <u>only if written parent permission</u> is on record at the school.

Q. INJURIES AND ILLNESS

Injuries and illness will be treated with basic first aid. More serious injuries will require parents to take students home or to the doctor. Emergencies will be addressed via 911. We will make every effort to contact families using the emergency contact information on file. Students who become unwell may rest in the front office and may be sent home if they are unable to return to class. If a family has students with distinctive or consistent medical needs, we ask to be notified.

R. SOCIAL MEDIA

The advent of various forms of social media has created potential difficulties for high school students. All students should be aware that the things they say on blogs, forums, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. reflect upon their charity and virtue. No one should assume that remarks made via social media will remain private. Uncharitable, scandalous, or libelous remarks which harm the Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope community may be subject to school discipline or even legal action.

S. VISITOR POLICY

Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope is a closed campus and requires that all visitors, including family members, friends, and alumni, sign in at the Chesterton front office. Visitors permitted to be on campus for any length of time will be given a visitor's badge.

III. Mentorship and Discipline

A. CODE OF CONDUCT

Students of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope are asked to show respect for the truth they are learning, for those helping them to learn, for their fellow students, for the institution in which they are learning, and for themselves as children of God. This is the Academy's Code of Conduct, and since it is modeled upon the example of Christ, it should guide all members of the Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope community whether on campus or off campus.

B. MERITS AND DEMERITS

The Houses of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope foster Christian community among the students, staff, and faculty. The house system is a long and time-honored approach for creating smaller, integrated communities within a larger academic institution. Each house is led by a faculty member and house prefects. Each member of the house can score points (merits) for their house through acts of virtue, full engagement in the community of learners, and positive leadership and mentorship. Each house member may also lose points (demerits) for their house through acts of irresponsibility. Students' merits and demerits will be recorded in their TADS account. Repeated demerits will result in a meeting with the dean or headmaster.

C. DETENTIONS

A student will receive a 30-minute detention for a more serious breach of the rules such as repeated failure to observe the rules, including side-talking, disrespect to faculty, staff, and peers, a major disruption in class or in the hallways, or a clear disregard for the ethos and rules of the academy. Detentions will also cost the student's house three house points.

D. SUSPENSION

An immediate in-school or out-of-school suspension will follow from willful or repeated breach of the rules or policies of the school that is a significant disruption to the learning environment. Examples include, but are not limited to, showing disrespect to the staff, damaging school property, serious classroom disruptions and scandalous language. A student is ineligible for extracurricular activities while suspended.

E. DISCIPLINARY ELIGIBILITY

Students who receive more than five detentions in a semester may become ineligible for extracurricular activities for the remainder of the semester.

F. EXPULSION

At the discretion of the headmaster, expulsion may result instantly for any egregious offense that causes scandal or harm.

G. APPEAL

Students are always encouraged to seek further understanding of the reason why they received a detention. Any suspension or expulsion recommended by the headmaster may be appealed to the Board. Suspensions and expulsions are presumed valid, and the student will remain out of school pending the appeal. Decisions by the Board are final.

H. THEFT OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Any damage to the Academy's or another's property is strictly forbidden. Reimbursement will be required. Theft will be considered a serious breach of discipline and will result in suspension or expulsion.

I. TOBACCO, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR WEAPONS

Unauthorized possession or use of tobacco, e-cigarettes, drugs, alcohol, or weapons on school property or at any school event by students is strictly forbidden, even if legal. Violation of this or any state law regarding the same may result in immediate expulsion.

J. MALICIOUS OR SCANDALOUS BEHAVIOR

Behavior such as bullying, gossiping, ridicule, foul or scandalous language, and lying are contrary to what the Academy stands for, and strike at the heart of the common good. As serious offenses, they will be dealt with accordingly and may result in suspension or expulsion.

K. THE AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY

Each teacher has the authority to implement the Academy's vision for discipline and formation. For infractions of a serious nature, the headmaster shall be informed and will take appropriate action.

In addition to the aforementioned misconduct, any other misconduct that runs contrary to the mission of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope or the teachings of the Catholic Church is forbidden. The final arbiter of discipline at the Academy is the headmaster.

IV. Academic Expectations

"The glory of God is man fully alive" (St. Irenaeus). Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope features a robust and rigorous curriculum that facilitates an encounter with truth, goodness, and beauty, alongside intentionally structured extracurricular activities, including clubs and sports, to educate the whole person in accordance with the Academy's mission and vision. It seeks to cultivate an ethos of joy, wonder, and earnest and serious pursuit of truth in friendship. Students of the Academy will achieve excellent academic results and deepen their yearning for wisdom, virtue, and holiness. A student of the Academy will receive excellent preparation for the practical demands before them – such as college, practical vocations, and religious vocational discernment – and for a full human life.

A. ACADEMIC PROBATION / ELIGIBILITY

We want to help students prioritize their many responsibilities as they grow academically in all fields. We help students and staff identify academic deficiencies and remediate them. Approximately every four weeks, or at the discretion of the headmaster, the school will run academic reports on all students. Any student with an overall cumulative semester GPA of less than 2.0, or who is failing any class, will be placed on academic probation. Probation will result in a meeting of the student and parents with the headmaster to discuss reasons for the deficiency, the best steps for remediation, and the consequences of continued academic deficiency. At the time that the student is placed on academic probation, the student may become ineligible for extracurricular activities. The ineligibility will remain in effect until a subsequent progress report shows a GPA of at least 2.0 and no failing grades.

B. ADVANCEMENT AND RETENTION

Students will receive full credit for all classes completed with a cumulative percentage of 60% (D- or above). Credit for year-long courses will be given one semester at a time. It will be possible for students to pass one semester of a year-long course and fail another. Where a student fails one semester of a year-long course, the student will receive credit only for the semester that was passed. The failed semester will be considered a deficiency. The grade given in any one semester of a two-semester grade will not affect the grade of the other semester.

In the event of any failing grades, students will be asked to attend summer classes or make individual arrangements to demonstrate adequate academic progress in the failed courses. The adequacy of any individual arrangements will be determined by the headmaster. In the event of promotion despite failing a course required for graduation, students will have to fulfill the goals of the Academy's graduation requirements before being granted a diploma or participating in the graduation ceremony (see section below on Graduation Requirements).

Students who fail a course during the school year may be subject to retention at the discretion of the Headmaster. A retained student will repeat the previous year's course work.

C. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

At Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope our students take the full complement of courses and must receive sixty credits or more to be eligible to graduate.

D. CREDITS AND GPA CALCULATION

<u>Humanities</u>	Years Credits	Math & Scie	ence Year	s Credits
Literature	4 yrs. 8.0	Mathematics	4 yrs.	8.0
History	4 yrs. 6.0	Science	4 yrs.	8.0
Philosophy	4 yrs. 6.0			
Theology	4 yrs. 6.0	Fine Arts	Years	Credits
Language	4 yrs. 6.0	Art	4 yrs.	4.0
Composition	1 yr. 0.5	Drama	3 yrs.	2.5
Debate	1 yr. 0.5	Music	4 yrs.	6.0
		P.E. & Health	Years	Credits
			2 yrs.	2.0

A student's semester Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by totaling up all the grade points earned in all the student's courses that semester and dividing by the total number of credits attempted.

The number of grade points earned in each course is found by multiplying the numerical value of the grade earned in the course (e.g. A = 4.0, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, etc. - see handbook for further details) by the number of credits the course is worth (either 1, .75, .50 credit). For example, this means that the student's grades in 1-credit courses will weigh more heavily than the student's grades in other courses. Consider the following example for student A:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Calculation</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
Theology	0.75	А	0.75 x 4 =	3.00
Geometry	1.00	B+	1 x 3.33=	3.33
Choir	0.75	В	0.75 x 3 =	2.25
Art	<u>0.50</u>	С	0.50 x 2 =	<u>1.00</u>
Total	3.00			9.58

So, student A's semester GPA = 9.58/3.00 = 3.19

A student's cumulative GPA is determined by totaling all the grade points attempted during every semester the student has completed, and dividing by the total number of credits attempted during that time.

NOTE: Diplomas and transcripts may be withheld for students with unpaid fees or tuition.

E. AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

One of the many ways that Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope maintains its standards for conduct and academic rigor is by recognizing excellence through several awards. Awards are determined by the faculty in committee at the end of the academic year. The awards are detailed below:

First and Second Honors are awarded to students of each grade level who complete all the coursework for the academic year and meet the following GPA requirements:

- First Honors: cumulative GPA for that year between 3.67 and 4.0
- Second Honors: cumulative GPA for that year between 3.33 and 3.66

In addition to First and Second Honors, specific grade levels are eligible for the following awards:

<u>Freshmen</u>

• Freshman Award (recognizing excellence in all subjects)

<u>Sophomores</u>

- Humanities Award
- Mathematics Award
- Biology Award

<u>Juniors</u>

• Humanities Award

- Mathematics Award
- Chemistry Award
- Drama Award (for one female and one male student)

<u>Seniors</u>

- Humanities Award
- Mathematics Award
- Physics Award
- Drama Award (for one female and one male student)
- Art Award
- Music Award
- Best Essay Award (for the best essay written during the senior year)
- <u>G.K. Award:</u> In addition to the academic awards, one graduating senior is eligible for this award which is given to the student who has demonstrated the great virtues of charity and joy so evident in our intellectual patron, G.K. Chesterton.
- <u>Socrates Award:</u> Socrates was a wise, witty, and intelligent interlocutor who gave his life as a witness to the ultimate importance of authentically pursuing the truth. This award is given to a student <u>in each grade</u> who has demonstrated the spirit of earnest discourse in genuine pursuit of truth, by engaging consistently in thoughtful and charitable discussion across the curriculum, demonstrating a deep capacity for wonder and an earnest desire for intellectual friendship.

Upon graduation, the following cumulative GPAs will be awarded Honors as follows:

- 3.90 or higher:
- Summa Cum Laude
- 3.80 3.89: Magna Cum Laude
- 3.67 3.79: Cum Laude

F. ACADEMIC VIOLATIONS

Cheating and plagiarism are grounds for academic and disciplinary action. Academic cheating is defined as representing someone else's work as your own. It can take many forms, including copying or sharing another's work, getting or purchasing a term paper or test questions in advance, collaborating with another student or students during an academic exercise without the consent of the instructor, asking or paying another to do the work for you, or getting the information from an unauthorized source (such as the internet or an expert in the subject). It is important to realize that anyone who aids another in cheating is a participant in the deception and will be treated in the same way as the one who benefits from their work.

Here are some examples of actions that fall under the category of "cheating."

- Copying another student's work (with or without his knowledge) on a test, on a homework assignment, or on an in-class project or lab
- Copying, cutting, and pasting information from an electronic source
- Using any kind of notes during a quiz, test, or exam, unless specifically allowed by teacher
- Having a friend, sibling, or parent produce or complete any part of the assignment

- Copying the answers from the back of the book
- Inventing or counterfeiting sources

Plagiarism is the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words without acknowledgment. The incorporation of another person's work into one's own always requires appropriate identification and acknowledgment. The following are forms of plagiarism when the source is not cited:

- Word-for-word copying of another person's ideas or words (even copying a threeword phrase can be considered plagiarism)
- Interspersing of one's own words here and there while, in essence, copying another's work
- Paraphrasing an author's original theory or idea without proper citation
- Re-submitting one's own previously-written paper (or portion of it) for a different assignment (self plagiarism)

Given the challenging nature of the curriculum, parents and other family members will often find themselves helping students. However, parents are asked to be conscientious in the extent of help that they provide. It is essential to our goal of educating students that the work they submit for evaluation is entirely their own.

Students will receive a zero on any assignment where cheating or plagiarism is evident and will have a meeting with the headmaster. Repeated incidents of cheating and plagiarism may lead to more serious disciplinary actions such as suspension or expulsion. Serious academic violations may be communicated to colleges upon request.

G. ASSIGNMENTS

Homework is integral to the course of study at Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope. Students should have a regular routine of time and place for homework. They should complete their own assignments and work to develop independent study habits.

It is the practice of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope to be reasonable in the amount of homework assigned. An average student can expect roughly one to two hours of homework each evening.

Other than assessments and projects, homework that is one day late will receive half credit. Homework more than one day late will receive no credit. Assessments and projects must be completed and will be penalized 10% per day late. At the discretion of the teacher, students who are consistently late turning in work may receive a more significant penalty. Some assignments by nature will not be accepted when handed in late.

Work made up after an absence is not considered late. Generally, students will have as many school days (not class days) as they missed to make up for missed work. Tests must be made up in the same way and may be penalized up to 10% for each school day they are late. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that work and tests missed due to absence are made up. Individual teachers may alter the late policy for individual assignments at their discretion.

H. ASSESSMENT

Teachers will evaluate student work by letter, percentage, or comment. The Academy is on a semester system. At the completion of each semester, report cards are issued. The grade given each semester is a composite of weekly quizzes, tests, written and oral assignments, achievements in various forms, the results of quarterly examinations, and participation.

I. CLASS RANKING

Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope does not produce class ranking.

J. GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Percentage Correlation	<u>GPA Point Equivalent</u>
А	93 and above	4.0
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
В	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
С	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	.67
F	0-59	0

K. PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

There will be parent-teacher conferences at the end of the first quarter. Additional meetings with parents are always welcome. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule an appointment.

L. TEXTBOOKS AND NON-TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks assigned are valuable school property and are loaned for the convenience of the students. Textbooks should be cared for and covered. Damaged or lost textbooks may result in the assessment of fines for their replacement. Non-textbooks that are not the Academy's property are the property of the student and are intended to be theirs for the building of a personal library. Students will be given a list of all the books at the beginning of each year. This list states which textbooks are school property and which non-textbooks are theirs to keep. This list also notes which of those non-textbooks will be needed in subsequent academic years. It will also include replacement costs for lost or damaged textbooks.

V. Miscellaneous

A. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities are an important part of our students' educational program. We will seek to make available extracurricular activities that enable students to continue deepening their experience and understanding of a full life. Given our limited resources, parental assistance and involvement in this effort will significantly help us to offer a rich extracurricular program. Extracurricular clubs and sports may have associated fees.

B. FAMILY FUNDRAISING COMMITMENT

The cost of education at the Academy is not fully covered by tuition. Therefore, the financial health of the Academy will depend on the success of fundraising activities. Fundraising is the shared responsibility of all registered families for the common good. We ask each family to meet a minimum fundraising goal of \$1,000. To this end, we ask the following of each family:

• Fill a table at the 2023 Gala by selling 10 \$100 tickets

This Gala fundraising expectation is in addition to standard volunteer commitments we ask all families to make throughout the year. These services are as valuable as direct fundraising as they reduce our operational costs. While not all may be able to assist in the same way, all families will be asked to participate in these efforts.

C. 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR DATES

1st Semester: August 28th, 2023 to January 26th, 2024 2nd Semester: January 29th, 2024 to June 12th, 2024

D. SCHOOL INFORMATION

Location:610 Jefferson Blvd, Warwick, RI 02886Phone:401-287-2280Website:www.chestertonri.org

E. KEY CONTACTS

HEADMASTERRobert Duffy, PhDEXECUTIVE DIRECTORMichael CaseyOFFICE MANAGERATTENDANCEADMISSIONSATHLETICSSAFE ENVIRONMENTSAFE ENVIRONMENT

rduffy@chestertonRl.org mcasey@chestertonRl.org info@chestertonRl.org attendance@chestertonRl.org admissions@chestertonRl.org athletics@chestertonRl.org safeenvironment@chestertonRl.org

For a complete list of Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope faculty and staff, visit https://www.chestertonri.org/faculty-1

WHO DO I CONTACT?

- If your student is sick or will miss school, email attendance@chestertonRl.org.
- For questions regarding TADS Educate or for additional training, contact the Headmaster
- For tuition billing questions, email info@chestertonRl.org.
- For questions regarding grades, contact your student's teacher. If you still have questions, contact the Headmaster.
- For questions regarding dress code, contact the Headmaster.
- To contact the Board, contact info@chestertonRl.org.
- To inquire about volunteering and events, contact info@chestertonRl.org.
- For questions regarding admissions or re-enrollment, contact admissions@chestertonRl.org.
- For questions regarding the newsletter, please contact info@chestertonRl.org.

G. SCHOOL PRAYER AND SONG.

PRAYER FOR Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope

Dear Heavenly Father, We thank You for providing Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope.

Help it to grow and flourish according to Your Holy Will.

We ask Your blessing upon the students and their families, the staff and teachers, the founders and benefactors, and all who help support Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope with their time and talents.

May we all grow to love You more and spread the Gospel of Life to the world. May all praise and thanksgiving be given to You through our efforts.

> Jesus, I trust in You. Mary, cause of our joy, pray for us.

> > Amen.

SCHOOL SONG – SALVE REGINA

Salve Regina, Mater Misericordiae Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra salve.

Ad te clamamus, exsules, filii Hevae. Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes In hac lacrimarum valle.

Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, Illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte. Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, Nobis post hoc exsilium ostende.

> O clemens! O pia! O dulcis! Virgo Maria.

> > - Translation –

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy: our life, our sweetness, and our hope.

To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, Mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.

> Turn then, most gracious advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us.

And after this, our exile, Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

> O clement! O loving! O sweet Virgin Mary!

Appendix A: Introduction to the Catholic Liturgy

Like any activity, the proper worship of God in the Catholic liturgy requires that we know certain things in advance. What follows is a brief catechesis on Catholic liturgy, as well as guidelines for Mass participation and common prayers. All the questions and answers below are taken from *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and all citations reference the paragraph numbers in that text.

A BRIEF CATECHESIS

Who celebrates the liturgy of the Church?

The whole community of those who are united to Christ, both living and dead (1136, 1140). All those who are baptized therefore share in a "common priesthood" (1141). Not all members of the common priesthood have the same function in the liturgy, but some of its male members are called to act in the person of Christ for the service of the Church (1142).

What other functions can people perform in the liturgy? Servers, readers, commentators and members of the choir also exercise a genuine liturgical function (1143).

What is the liturgy comprised of? The liturgy is comprised of physical signs and symbols (1145). In particular, it is comprised of signs and symbols from creation (such as fire, smoke, water, candles), daily human life (eating, drinking and washing), and the history of salvation (the Passover meal) (1189).

Why is the liturgy comprised of physical signs and symbols? Because God, though he is invisible and spiritual (1159), speaks to human beings through the visible, physical world (1147). (God Himself became incarnate.)

What criteria should we use to determine if liturgical music is appropriate? There are three criteria (1157):

1. It must be beautiful and expressive of prayer.

- 2. Some of the music must be sung by the whole assembly.
- 3. It must preserve the solemnity of the liturgy.

The Liturgy is also called "the sacrifice of the Mass". Why is it a sacrifice? The Eucharist is not a new or separate sacrifice. The Eucharist makes Christ's one sacrifice on the cross really, and not merely symbolically, present (1366, 1374).

What is the Eucharist? The Eucharist is a sacrament of the Church in which Christ is truly, really, and substantially present, as both God and man, under the appearances of bread and wine. (1374)

May anyone receive the Eucharist during communion? Ecclesial communities derived from the Reformation and separated from the Catholic Church, "have not preserved the proper reality of the Eucharistic mystery in its fullness, especially because of the absence of the sacrament of Holv Orders." It is for this reason that, for the Catholic Church, Eucharistic intercommunion with these communities is not possible. (1400) Out of respect for this ecclesial difference, non-Catholics should not receive the Eucharist at Mass. Additionally, see below for the requirements for a Catholic to be properly disposed to receive Holy Communion.

What should a member of the Chesterton community do when not receiving the Eucharist at Mass? With the whole assembly proceed to the sanctuary and as a sign of not receiving the Eucharist, reverently cross your arms over your chest

and bow your head for a blessing. Proceed with the whole assembly back to your seat and kneel in prayer.

How often should the faithful receive the Eucharist? The faithful should receive communion each time they are at Mass, so long as they have the required dispositions (1388).

What should the faithful do to prepare to receive the Eucharist well? To receive the Eucharist worthily, a practicing Catholic must be in a state of grace (i.e., has made a good confession since his or her last mortal sin). He or she should observe the fast required by the Church, and be sure that his or her behavior and clothing reflect the respect, solemnity and joy of the occasion (1387).

What is a mortal sin? A mortal sin is a violation of God's law that destroys the possibility of charity (1855). In order for a sin to be mortal, three conditions must be met (1858, 1859):

- It must have grave matter, that is, it must be something seriously contrary to the eternal law
- 2. We must have full knowledge that what we are doing is a sin. If, for example, someone only has an imperfect awareness that he must go to Mass on Sunday it is not a mortal sin for him to miss it, even though to do so is against the Ten Commandments.
- 3. We must give complete consent to the sinful action.

If someone commits a mortal sin, what must he or she do before they receive the Eucharist? If a person commits a mortal sin, he or she must receive the sacrament of confession before they can receive the Eucharist (1385).

MASS PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Given the importance of the Mass as the

source and summit of our faith, and remembering that we attend daily Mass as a school function, there are some basic guidelines to keep in mind:

<u>1. Be on time.</u> Be in your pew and quiet 5 minutes before Mass begins. Students who come late should quickly and quietly move into their assigned seats. Remember, this is the time we are dedicating to our Lord.

2. Be reverent. Genuflect when entering and exiting the pews at the beginning and end of Mass. Sit up straight and do not slouch. Remove any non-uniform jackets or sweaters. Avoid hands in pockets. Do not put your jacket on or close your hymnal while the recessional is being sung. Out of respect for our Lord, wait until the song is finished.

<u>3. Exit in a respectful fashion.</u> Others will remain to pray and the life of the parish goes on as we are leaving.

<u>4. Participate.</u> Sing the hymns when invited. Say or sing the responses. If you are uncertain about the Mass responses, use the card in the pews. Stand and kneel when the congregation is invited to do so.

<u>5. Unity at Communion.</u> When not receiving, students are to go up for a blessing with their arms crossed, hands on shoulders. Do not remain in the pew or aisle while others go up for Communion.

<u>6. Receiving the Eucharist.</u> When receiving our Lord, it is customary to bow reverently prior to reception and to respond to the priest (or, occasionally, an extraordinary minister) with "Amen." Students may receive on the tongue or in the hand, and students may receive standing or kneeling.

COMMON PRAYERS

Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Grace Before Meals

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,

that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins our Mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful;

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer them. Amen.

The Angelus

V: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.R: And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.All: Hail Mary...V: Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R: Be it done unto me according to thy word. All: Hail Mary...

V: And the Word was made Flesh.

R: And dwelt among us.

All: Hail Mary...

V: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

V: Let us pray.

All: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that, we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an Angel, may by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Appendix B: Dress for Excellence

Uniform Expectations: General Rules for Attire and Appearance

Why do most Catholic schools require uniforms? The tradition goes back to Medieval times when caps and gowns were required at universities. Thus, all students regardless of background dressed alike, and all would show an outward sign of their dedication to the task of learning together within the university community.

In other words, from the very beginning, uniforms have been in support of three goals: modesty, professionalism, and community, or school spirit. Our uniform policy aims at the same three goals.

We ask the students to wear the uniform so they look professional. The work that we do at school is part of a student's life that is extraordinary, set apart from the ordinary routines of life.

In our Western tradition, we dress up for extraordinary events to show their importance and our respect for those who participate in them with us. We dress up for Mass and for the work day, and we dress up for school.

We ask that the uniforms are neat and clean, that cuffs are rolled down and buttoned, that ties are neatly fastened, and that accessories are fitting for a professional environment.

Learning to maintain a neat appearance is part of a student's education. Students should always be fully in uniform while on school grounds unless participating in a school-sponsored activity with permission to change fully out of uniform. Students must arrive and leave school in full uniform, including the blazer.

It is the responsibility of both the parents and the student to know and abide by the school dress code standards and uniform expectations.

Blazers, shirts, sweaters, trousers, skirts, ties and belts, must be labeled with the student's name (e.g., John Smith or Smith). The label should be placed on the inside collar of the blazer, shirt and sweater, on the inside of the trousers and skirts, and on the back of the tie and belt. This simple expedient will help ensure that we can always identify which uniform items belong to which students.

All uniform items should be purchased through Schoolbelles. This will streamline the process and help us maintain the highest standards of uniformity in the dress code during the entire school year.

Schoolbelles: www.schoolbelles.com

Uniform Standards for the Ladies

- Ladies should aim for a simple elegance that is appropriate for these years. Uniforms should always be clean and blouses always tucked in. Additionally:
- Makeup for ladies must be light, simple, and natural-looking. Foundation, light mascara, and light blush may be worn, but no eyeliner or eye shadow. Chapstick or clear or light lip-gloss is allowed. No colored lipstick or colored lip-gloss are allowed.
- Nail polish is allowed but should be muted, tasteful, and professional. Nails should be clean and of moderate length.
- Hair accessories should be tasteful and professional. No athletic headbands, no bandana headbands, no bright distracting colors. Color of hair accessories should complement the uniform.
- Ladies' hair should be neatly groomed and clean at all times. Hair color should be natural hues. No streaks of unnatural colors (reds, pinks, greens, etc.) on any part of hair. No extreme haircuts.
- Girls may wear one stud in each earlobe (matching).
- A simple chain necklace with religious significance and/or a scapular may be worn under the shirt for girls and boys.
- One bracelet and one watch may be worn. (No smart watches allowed, including fitbits).
- No lapel pins.
- All jewelry should be tasteful, professional, and not excessive in size or number.
- No perfumes are allowed.
- No head gear may be worn inside the building (winter hats, baseball caps, etc.).

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	SCHOOLBELLES STYLE #
Blazer	Navy w/ logo	Required at certain school events and daily from October 15 to May 1.	#5820
Skirt	Navy	Length required is <u>mid-knee</u> to below knee. If full kneecap is exposed while standing straight, the skirt is too short. The skirt is to be no shorter than the crease of the back of the knee. This usually requires ordering a size long . The skirt should be worn on the waist and not on the hip.	#3521 Two Kick Pleated Skirt Color: 4204
Oxford Shirt	White	Basic white Oxford. Collar buttons must be buttoned at all times. The shirt must not gap in front, and there should be no pulling on the buttons. The sleeves may not be rolled at any time.	#1770 Short Sleeve #1771 Long Sleeve Color: White - 17
Modesty Shorts	Navy or Black	Navy or black bike shorts should be worn under the skirt at all times.	
Knee Socks	Navy	Knee highs must reach knee. Opaque, not cable.	#1640
Dress Shoes	Solid Black	Must be a dress shoe with closed toe and full back; may be a lace-up dress shoe or include simple ornaments (e.g. bow, tassel). No Keds,	

		Sperrys, Vans, Toms or Converse or similarly-styled shoe. No tags/labels/symbols on outside of shoe. No moccasins, canvas, or suede.	
Sweater/Ves t	Navy with Logo	The sweater is a finishing item, like the blazer. Vest is required at some school events and from October 15 – May 1. Long sleeve is optional, and would be wearable until October 15 and after May 1.	#1964 #1983
Ladies' Choir Attire	Black	Black, floor-length formal dress. Solid black dress flats. Dress should be hemmed to touch front toe of shoe. Purchase from <u>www.stageaccents.com</u> . #5269 Dahlia girls or #8864 Dahlia Ladies	N/A
PE Attire		 -Plain, loose-fitting gray T-shirt. It should not have any large graphics or branding. Small brands are OK. The shirt should not be longer than the bottom of the shorts. -Plain mesh shorts, Navy or black. At least 4" inseam. Shorts should not go past bottom of the knee. No graphics, writing, or large branding. Small brands are OK. -Simple Athletic sneakers: no converse, vans, etc. No words or images. 	Multiple vendors
Accessories	Backpa ck, lunchb ox, etc.	Simple designs. No neon colors, words, or graphic images. Small brand logos are OK	Multiple vendors



Acceptable shoes for the ladies.

Uniform Standards for the Gentlemen

Gentlemen should likewise aim for a simplicity that is appropriate for these years. Uniforms should always be clean and shirts always tucked in. Additionally:

- Only solid white tee shirts may be worn under the white oxford. No wording or pictures on the tee shirt should be visible.
- Simple chains and medals should be tucked under the shirt. No visible piercings or tattoos are allowed.
- One bracelet and one watch may be worn. (No smart watches allowed, including Fitbits).
- Gentlemen's hair should be neatly groomed and clean at all times, with no highlights or dyeing. Hair must be trimmed above the eyebrows, ears, and collar. No extreme or novelty haircuts; e.g., designs shaved into the hair, mullets, etc.

- All young men should be clean-shaven with sideburns not extending beyond the middle of the ear. Facial hair is not permitted.
- No lapel pins.
- Gentlemen may not wear cologne.
- No head gear may be worn inside the building (winter hats, baseball caps, etc.).

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	SCHOOLBELLES STYLE #
Blazer	Navy w/logo	Required for some events and from October 15 – May 1. Do not leave overnight on campus.	#5825
V-Neck Sweater/Vest	Navy with Logo	The sweater is a finishing item, like the blazer. Vest is required at some school events and from October 15 – May 1. Long sleeve optional.	#1993 Long sleeve pullover #1994 Vest
Oxford Shirt	White w/logo	Long sleeve required October 15 – May 1. Collar buttons must be buttoned at all times.	#5760 – Short Sleeve #5761 – Long Sleeve
Socks	Solid charcoal	May be purchased from any vendor as long as they are solid charcoal dress socks that match the pant color and are at least calf-length.	Purchase from any vendor
Leather Dress Shoes	Solid Black	Must be a dress shoe and able to take a shine. Must be solid black, including soles.	N/A
Leather Belt	Solid Black	Non-woven, leather belt with simple buckle. Can be purchased from Schoolbelles or another vendor.	#6307 – 1.25" Smooth Leather
Striped Tie	Blue and Gold	9 th -10 th grade tie	#2905 - Color: Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope Stripe – Navy/Gold
Pants	Grey		#5202
Choir Attire	White and black	Black dress pants and Suit Coat Solid black bow tie White dress shirt (not Oxford) Solid black dress socks to mid-calf Black dress shoes – polished and in good condition Gentlemen may purchase a tuxedo from Stage Accents (www.stageaccents.com), the Premier Tuxedo Ensemble #ENSB	
PE Attire -		-Plain, loose-fitting gray T-shirt. It should not have any large graphics or branding. Small brands are OK. The shirt should not be longer than the bottom of the shorts. -Plain mesh shorts, Navy or black. At least 4" inseam. Shorts should not go past bottom of the knee. No graphics, writing, or large branding.	Multiple vendors

		Small brands are OK. -Simple Athletic sneakers: no converse, vans, etc. No words or images.	
Accessories	Backpac k, lunchbo x, etc.	Simple designs. No neon colors, words, or graphic images. Small brand logos are OK.	Multiple vendors







Acceptable shoes for the gentlemen.

Appendix C: Out of Uniform Dress Code

On special occasions, we will invite students to attend school or school-sponsored events (e.g., dances, field trips, retreats, etc.) out of their uniforms. If students choose to attend an out-of-uniform event in their uniforms, they must meet all standards of being fully in uniform (e.g., shirt tucked in, modest accessories, proper shoes, correct sweater/blazer/apparel, etc.).

For certain events, the out-of-uniform expectations are event-specific and will be announced before the event. However, at all times, including sporting events, out-of-uniform expectations include:

- No ripped or dirty clothing.
- Clean, well-groomed, and neat in appearance.
- No pajama pants at any school event or practice.
- No overly revealing clothing. For example, there should be no cut-outs in clothing (e.g., shoulder or midriff cutouts), overly tight clothing (including leggings and bicycle shorts), short skirts (that hit above the knee), and shorts, when permitted, should not be more than 3" above the knee.
- No pop-culture text or imagery.
- No text or imagery that does not align with our mission.
- No use of cell-phones or other electronic devices, unless the student has received explicit permission from a faculty member to briefly call the person responsible for their transportation.

Please be aware that the final interpretation of dress policies resides with the Headmaster.

1. SCHOOL DANCES AND "MORE FORMAL THAN NORMAL" SCHOOL DAYS

LADIES

- Semi-formal dress required (dress, dress pants and tops, skirts)
- Dress and skirt length should match uniform skirt length, which is mid-knee
- If leggings are worn, they must be worn underneath a skirt or dress that reaches to the knee
- When sitting with feet flat on floor, skirt or dress should cover top part of knee
- Necklines of modest cut, and no exposed back, shoulder or midriff
- Dress shoes (no Keds, Vans, Sperry, Toms or Converse-type shoes)
- Sleeveless tops or dresses should have at least 2" of fabric on top of shoulder
- No visible undergarments

GENTLEMEN

- Semi-formal dress required (khakis or better slacks, dress shirt)
- No jeans, shorts, sleeveless shirts, t-shirts, athletic shoes or Sperry, Vans, Toms, Converse-type shoes
- Pants and shirts should be loose-fitting
- No visible undergarments

NOTE: At times our school dances have themes that allow for students to dress in costume. Costume guidelines will be given prior to the dance.

2. CHOIR CONCERT PERFORMANCES, COMMENCEMENT, AND THE CHESTERTON GALA

Choir concert attire (see full choir uniform guidelines for complete description):

- Ladies black choir gown, black heels or flats
- Gentlemen black suit, white button-down shirt, black bow tie, black leather belt, dress shoes