



Parent Student Handbook

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Coram Deo Classical School Parent/Student Handbook

PURPOSE

The purpose of this handbook is to inform parents and students of our mission, vision, expectations, policies, and protocols. If you have questions, please reach out to a administrative staff member.

MISSION

We believe that true education culminates in wise and virtuous students who are being conformed in the image of Christ. The mission of Coram Deo Classical School is to educate children by cultivating truth, goodness, and beauty through a distinctly Christ-centered, classical, and collaborative education. To uphold families and the church as God's primary means for the discipleship of His people.

VISION

Coram Deo Classical School is dedicated to teaching and learning with excellence unto the Lord. We want to pass on the art of teaching students how to think, engage, understand and articulate what they have learned. To enculturate students with what is good, beautiful, and true with the Bible as our authority.

LEADERSHIP

Coram Deo Classical School is a non-profit 501©3 organization in the State of Georgia. The Board of Directors governs our school under the Word of God and its statements of faith, mission, vision, and goals. We operate under the oversight of the Officers of the Board, the Head of School, and an exemplary administrative team.

ACCREDITATION AND ACCS MEMBERSHIP

Coram Deo Classical School is fully accredited by the Georgia Accrediting Commission. We are also members of the ACCS (Association of Classical Christian Schools). The ACCS membership affords us access to time-tested classical training and classical resources for staff, teachers, and parents. We are listed on their website at classicalchristain.org.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired and the only infallible authoritative Word of God. (*II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21*)
- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (*Gen. 1:1; John 10:30; John 10:37-38*)
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. (*Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:35; Heb. 4:15; Heb. 7:25; John 2:11; Heb. 9:12; Col. 1:14; John 11:25; Acts 1:11; Rev. 10:11-16*)
- We believe that man is sinful by nature and that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential for his salvation. (*Rom. 3:10, 23; John 3:16-19; John 5:24; Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 3:5, 6*)
- We believe in the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit, by who's indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life. (*Eph. 5:18; Eph. 4:30; I Cor. 3:16; I Cor. 6:19-20*)
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Rom. 8:9; I Cor. 12:12-13; Gal. 3:26-28*)
- We believe in the creation of man by the direct act of God. (*Gen. 1:26-28, Gen. 5:1-2*). That God immutably creates each person to reflect His image as male or female.
- We believe the term 'marriage' has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in an exclusive union as described in *Genesis 2:18-25*.

ETHNIC HARMONY AND BIBLICAL GENDERISM

In the present day, ethnic hatred and gender confusion have become contentious cultural and moral challenges. It is important for us to address these issues with wisdom and biblical clarity.

We affirm that God created every human in His image with equal worth in His sight. We deny that humans can treat other humans unjustly without offending the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Gen 1:26-27, 5:1-2, 9:6, James 3:9).

We affirm that we share one race, the human race. Therefore, we reject the modern category of race. We deny that any self-defining characteristic is more significant than our identity in Christ. Phil. 2:1-5, Col. 3:12-15.

We affirm Genesis 1:27 and 2:18-25. 'God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them.' Therefore, we deny the acceptance of multiple genders. God created two genders, male and female.

We affirm that sexual sin (like all sin) is an affront to the gospel. Therefore, we reject the acceptance of sexual identities that oppose the biblical design for sexual conduct. Gen 2:24, 4:1.

SCHOOL LOGISTICS

SICKNESS PROTOCOL

- If you have had a covid exposure, you must quarantine in compliance with the current GA guidelines.
- If you are covid positive or symptomatic, then you must quarantine in compliance with the current GA guidelines before returning to school and events.
- If someone in your home is sick or has symptoms and is awaiting test results, please do not send your students to school or events.
- If anyone in your home has experienced flu-like symptoms or vomiting, please do not send your students to school until the home has been 48 hours symptom-free.
- Allergy medicine can be given before classes, but no fever reducers should be given before attending school or events.
- The staff will work with the families on a case-by-case basis when illness occurs to make up work.
- Please contact Krissy Bush or Jan Storey to discuss when your student should attend.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

We will notify you by email at 6:00 am on class days if classes are to be canceled for weather. We do not always follow the local school district's decisions.

UNIFORMS

Parents and students are to comply with the CDCS uniform policy. Modest and classic style uniforms can be ordered at Land's End. <https://www.landsend.com/co/account/school-uniforms?selectedSchoolNum=900190661>. You can also read the uniform specifics on our website. <https://coramdeoclassical.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/CDCS-Dress-Code-2022-2023-UPDATED-3.pdf>

LUNCHESES

Students must provide their own lunches and water bottles. We have CFA and pizza lunches on assigned days. Students will have access to a microwave during the lunch period. Each teacher has a small supply of bottled water in their classrooms when needed. Students are expected to respect and obey the lunch supervisor and parent volunteers.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We require the help of our dedicated parents. Lunch helpers are needed to serve with the lunch monitor or in study hall each week. Parents will also be asked to help with field trips, elementary and high school events, desk lobby help, graduation reception, and fair competitions. There are many opportunities to be involved.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

- Please drop your students off at school no more than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- Please do not allow a student to be present at CDCS without staff present.
- Please notify a staff member if you will be more than 10 minutes late to pick up a child, or if there are any unusual carpool changes.
- Please be considerate of the teacher and staff.

ATTENDANCE

A student enrolled in CDCS is expected to be present and on time in school, every day school is in session. Students are also expected to attend and complete all requirements for every course in which they are enrolled. It is vitally important to each student's progress to attend each class day and period. Please use the time on the non-class days to schedule personal activities (work, appts, etc.).

1. Short-term absences: If a student needs to be absent from school for any reason, the parents will contact the teachers affected as soon as possible (prior to the absence). Absences will be excused due to student illness or family travel or an emergency, but the teacher must be contacted BY THE PARENT prior to the absence for it to be considered excused. Even though an absence may be excused, the work assigned is not, and is due immediately upon return with no penalty.
2. Long-Term Absences: If a student needs to be absent for two or more consecutive weeks, the parents should notify the teachers and administrative staff members in writing (email) explaining the circumstances. This will allow the teachers to compile the necessary schoolwork, which the student would otherwise miss. Notification should be made as soon as possible to limit the amount of missed schoolwork.
3. Maximum Absences: If the total number of absences (excused or unexcused) totals six class days for the semester, the student may not receive credit for that semester. These cases will be decided by the administrative staff and head of school.

BEHAVIOR

Coram Deo Classical School students are expected to honor God, their parents, their teachers, and their fellow students, according to biblical principles of conduct. Students are expected to act respectfully toward all facility staff and property.

COMMUNICATION ETIQUETTE

God-honoring and clear communication between the teachers and parents of Coram Deo is vitally important to the children's education. We must maintain humility and open avenues of communication. While Coram Deo is not a church, we are a group of Christians seeking to honor God in all that we do.

SCHOLASTIC PROTOCOLS AND EXPECTATIONS

SMART DEVICE USAGE

Cell phones, smartwatches, and laptops are not allowed to be used on campus unless students have expressed permission from the teacher or administrative staff. Students are allowed to use laptops for homework assignments while in the study hall. Cell phone usage details can be found on our website [here](#).

LATE WORK POLICY

Assignments will be turned in at the appropriate time during class. Incomplete assignments will not be accepted.

1. Excused Late Work: Work will be turned in on the NEXT class day attended after an excused absence with no penalty. It is the responsibility of the student to coordinate with the teacher concerning in-class tests that were missed due to an excused absence.

Unexcused Late Work: Refer to the teacher's syllabus for individual teacher policies. Teachers set individual policies regarding late work.

CHEATING POLICY

Every student who cheats on an assignment or test should know that he has been "caught" by God whether his parents/teachers find out or not.

- For a first offense, the student will be given a zero. The zero will be averaged into his grade. For most students, this will cause failure of the class. If he has a chance of still passing class, he may stay in class.
- For a second offense, the student will be removed from class with a failing grade.
- For a third offense, the student will be removed from the school with the understanding that the parent is still responsible to pay for classes until the end of that semester.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Scholastic probation means that students are subject to academic review for a stated length of time, for a semester, or in some cases for an entire year. Their progress or lack thereof will be monitored and reviewed by the appropriate teacher (s) and administrative staff member. Policies concerning late work will be strictly followed.

Students may be placed on scholastic probation for a variety of reasons:

- Incoming 8th graders may be placed on probation because of their 7th of grade teacher(s) suggestion. This suggestion would be due to 7th grade work indicating they are not completely ready for high school preparation level work.
- Students will be placed on probation in the 8th-12th school years if a subject average drops below 71 in a semester.
- Students will be placed on probation for excessive absences.

Parents will be notified via email if their student has been placed on probation. Clear communication will help define parental efforts to improve the student's performance in the class. A parent may be required to observe their student's class.

At the end of the probationary period, the administration will review the student's performance and take one of three possible courses of action:

- Remove the student from probation.
- Extend the period of probation.
- Discharge the student from CDCS.

Remember that if the student is removed from the school, the parent is still responsible for paying tuition for that semester according to the tuition contract.

DISCHARGE FROM SCHOOL

CDCS reserves the right to ask a student to leave the school at the end of a semester if there have been repeated violations in areas of attendance, academics, and discipline issues.

HIGH SCHOOL AND SENIOR LOGISTICS

SENIOR STUDENTS

Seniors at CDCS with consistent academic achievement and good attitudes will be recognized. If a student has a 93 or above final average in a class, you MAY have the opportunity to omit your final exam. Your teacher will let you know by May 1st if you are eligible for this privilege. The teachers will consider grades, absences, tardiness, and overall attitudes. You may only omit a maximum of two final exams. Certain classes may not be able to omit a final because of accreditation requirements.

TESTING

Coram Deo offers PSAT testing for high school students. This test is offered in October.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN QUALIFICATIONS

The student must be a Full-Time Diploma student at Coram Deo and must have complied with the Coram Deo Code of Honor throughout high school.

Students must be on track to complete at least 18 credits at CDCS. Students are required to complete at least 23 credits to graduate. **Only students who meet this qualification are eligible to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian; however, they may be considered for honor graduate - see below.**

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined based on the following:

- 1) Number of CDCS Rigor classes
- 2) GPA of CDCS Rigor classes
- 3) GPA in all CDCS Core classes
- 4) Cumulative Average, 100-point scale, of all CDCS Core classes

Courses of Rigor offered at CDCS are Chemistry, Chemistry 2, Physics, Anatomy, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics, and any second, third or fourth year of Foreign Language. Core classes include all courses in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Foreign Language (HOPE GPA). Only courses taken in 9th-12th grades at CDCS will be included in the Rigor or GPA calculations.

The board reserves the right to adjust these qualifications if unexpected circumstances arise.

Honor Graduate Qualifications:

Students do not have to be a diploma student at CDCS, but they must be eligible to participate in CDCS graduation exercises. In general, a student who takes classes at CDCS regularly through high school is invited to participate in graduation. The final determination is made by the head of school.

Students who are eligible to participate in CDCS graduation and have complied with the CDCS Code of Honor can be recognized as honor graduates. The awards with High Honors and with Highest Honors are reserved for Diploma students of Coram Deo.

Students with a 3.5 Overall GPA or higher will be recognized as graduates **with Honor**.
Students with a 3.75 overall GPA or higher will be recognized as graduates **with High Honor**.
Students with a 3.9 overall GPA or higher will be recognized as graduates **with Highest Honor**.

Other Honors:

Students who complete three or more classes in World Lit, Latin, Logic, Physics, Rhetoric, Philosophy, Greek, and Astronomy will receive a Classical Studies certificate upon graduation.

Students who complete two CDCS Bible classes will receive a Biblical Studies certificate upon graduation.

We understand every student and situation is unique, but this is a list of what is generally required for CDCS to affirm that the diploma student took the highest-level classes available to them. English- all 4 levels are taken at CDCS; History- 3 classes taken at CDCS; Math- 4 years taken at CDCS or until CDCS classes have been exhausted; Science- Biology, Chemistry, Physics or AP taken at CDCS, and all elective requirements have been met.

- **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Please note that students intending to graduate from Coram Deo Classical School must meet the graduation requirements set forth by the Georgia Accrediting Commission. It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure that the student has met all of these course requirements. CDCS high school instructors can assist you in determining your student's graduation requirements.

- **TRANSCRIPTS**

Coram Deo Classical School offers students official school transcripts.*. The following are some general guidelines that may apply. Please seek further advice

from our head of school and designated staff in charge of transcription and proctoring.

In general, a student who has a transcript with CDCS will be taking classes offered by Coram Deo Classical School. There are some instances when a student can get credit for a class not taken at Coram Deo. To obtain credit for a subject that is/was not taught at Coram Deo Classical School or at another accredited school:

1. The student must be currently enrolled in a minimum of 2 core classes at CDCS. Please contact adviser for current policies.
2. The parent or tutor must submit the following credentials:
 - Years of post-High School Education
 - Major Area of study in college
3. The parent or tutor must submit the following information regarding the subject being taught:
 - The name of the textbook
 - The publisher of the textbook
 - The specific material studied
4. Each semester, two tests (the mid-term and final exams) must be proctored by a faculty member from CDCS. These tests will be graded by the parent or tutor, and the grade will be submitted at the time of the test. The parent or tutor will determine the final grade given.**
5. A student, either through class time or homework, must accumulate 75 hours per semester.
6. In the case of an elective, for example, music or piano, and Physical Education, 75 hours must be logged by the student and verified by a music teacher or coach. The student must show improvement verified by the coach and must have participated in a competition (tournament, race, or recital) in lieu of a skills test.

** If you choose to enter public high school with a CDCS transcript, you might be required to take End of Course exams for the transcribed classes.*

*** When a student desires to obtain credit for a core class not taken at CDCS, but that is offered by CDCS, the final will be provided by CDCS staff.*

Coram Deo Classical School admits students of any nationality or ethnic origin and does not discriminate based on socioeconomic status or standing.



CORAM DEO CLASSICAL SCHOOL MODESTY STATEMENT

Coram Deo Classical School desires to operate our school 'in the presence of God.' Meaning, all that we do or say is under His authority and for His glory. This includes modesty of words, deeds and appearances.

MODESTY (defined): An inner attitude of the heart motivated by love for God that seeks His glory through purity and humility in external words, actions, and appearances.

Romans 12: 1-2 states: "I urge you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

We recognize the 'world' we live in rejects godly modesty. There is tremendous pressure to dress as the world dictates, to fit in and be accepted. But we challenge you to think about modesty as it is defined above. What does that look like? Additionally, ask yourself these types of questions when thinking about your words, deeds and appearance: Will I cause my fellow classmates to stumble if I do/say or wear this? Does my beauty or acceptance depend solely on my appearance, or does it include good deeds that show a love for God and service to others?

My pledge:

It is my desire to abide by the Coram Deo Classical School uniform policy with all diligence and integrity. I will seek to be modest in my words, actions, and in my appearance while on campus and at all school functions. Coram Deo Classical School functions include Parent and Student Orientations, Preview Nights, fundraising activities, school plays and rehearsals, school field trips, chill events, and any time I am on the FBC campus.



CORAM DEO CLASSICAL SCHOOL CODE OF HONOR

The name of our school is Coram Deo. This name is Latin for ‘before the face of God’. To live Coram Deo is to live one’s entire life in the presence of God, under the authority of God, and to the honor and glory of God.

This life reflects the following:

- A life of integrity
- A life that is open before God
- A life in which all that is done is done as to the Lord
- A life lived on principle, not expediency, by humility before God
- A life that is held captive by the Word of God

My pledge:

It is my desire, as a Coram Deo Classical School participant, to complete my assignments with diligence and honesty. On my honor, I will not lie, cheat, steal or tolerate those who do. I will always remember this pledge, including each time I submit a paper, a test, or other assignments.

Proverbs 2:7 - “He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity.”



Signature Form

I have read the *Parent/Student Handbook* in its entirety, and I agree with and will comply with its contents.

Signature of Father _____

Signature of Mother _____

Signature of Student _____

I have read the *Code of Honor* in its entirety, and I agree with and will comply with its contents.

Signature of Father _____

Signature of Mother _____

Signature of Student _____

I have read the *Modesty Policy* in its entirety, and I agree with and will comply with its contents.

Signature of Father _____

Signature of Mother _____

Signature of Student _____

Date _____