TRINITY ACADEMY

SOUTH BEND

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2025-26

Cultivating an environment that is decent, cultured, peaceful, and safe for our community of learners.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Trinity Academy is to impart ordered knowledge about the world and to train students in intellectual skills and qualities of mind so that they might serve God in building his kingdom. We achieve this by establishing a culture and community marked by the pursuit of truth, beauty, and goodness. Trinity Academy is dedicated to the rigorous exploration of reality, the free and disciplined exchange of ideas, and the creation of beauty in the fine arts.

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

HONOR CODE

Our educational approach depends on establishing a culture marked by truth-seeking, goodness, the creation of beauty, and developing intellectual and aesthetic thinking. The faculty guide students by example and coaching to help build this culture together.

We believe students are capable of responding to this high standard. We resist societal trends of expecting too little from young people or relating to them solely through rules. Instead, we recognize students as free, responsible individuals capable of contributing to our shared community.

A key aspect of this culture is each student's voluntary commitment to uphold our honor pledge principles. By committing to this pledge, students promise the school and their peers to operate according to these principles and abide by the handbook guidelines.

Trinity Academy Honor Code: *I recognize that Trinity Academy is a Christian school and agree to conduct myself accordingly, helping others to do the same. I understand that Trinity Academy is a community of learners. As a community member, I will respect my school, myself, and fellow community members. My work will be my own, my word truthful, and my actions accountable to myself and the community.*

DAILY LIFE AT TRINITY ACADEMY

Campus opens: 7:30 a.m.

Arrival	7:30-8:05
Morning prayer	8:05-8:20
Period 1	8:25-9:20
Period 2	9:25-10:20
Break	10:20-10:30
Period 3	10:30-11:25
Period 4	11:30-12:25
Lunch/Recess	12:30-1:00
Period 5	1:05-2:00
Period 6	2:05-3:00
Passing time	3:00-3:30
Study Hall MWTH	3:30-5:00
Start Time	8:05
End Time	3:00

Students may arrive on campus starting at 7:30 a.m. Morning prayer begins at 8:05 a.m., and classes start at 8:25 a.m. The school day concludes at 3:00 p.m., with pick-up between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m.

After 3:30 p.m., students should only remain on campus if participating in an organized activity or attending study hall. Students are not permitted to remain unsupervised on school grounds after 3:30 p.m.

PRAYER

As a Christian school, we begin daily with communal prayer, including Scripture readings, Psalm recitations, reflections from faculty or seniors, and personal intentions. Classes also begin with prayer. All students are expected to demonstrate respectful behavior during prayer times.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Regular attendance is vital for academic success. Absences should be minimized whenever possible. For foreseeable absences, please notify the front office in advance. Students are responsible for completing missed work and scheduling make-up exams.

Parents must contact the front office before 8:10 a.m. to report student absences. This communication is legally required. If parents do not contact the school, staff will reach out to verify the absence.

The school may withhold credit for those classes if a student misses more than ten class periods in any subject during a semester. When a student accumulates five or more absences in any course during a semester, the appropriate dean will notify parents.

Truancy (missing school without parental permission) constitutes a serious violation of school rules and may result in suspension or expulsion.

Students absent for more than half the school day may not participate in athletic practices or games that day.

When students need to leave during school hours, parents must come to reception to sign them out. Student drivers need parental verification (email, note or phone call to the front office) to leave campus early.

The official school year extends through oral examinations. All students will be scheduled for final oral examinations, and grades 9-12 will also have final science or math projects. Students must be available on any school day designated for these exams, which are considered part of the school year for attendance purposes.

LUNCH PROCEDURES

Lunch is eaten in designated indoor or outdoor areas, and all students should be present during mealtime unless meeting with a club or faculty member.

CAMPUS BOUNDARIES

The campus includes the entire facility grounds, from the basketball courts south to include the entire fenced area, including the perimeter areas on Greenlawn Ave, Jefferson Blvd, and Esther St. Certain campus zones are off-limits to students unless assigned there by a teacher.

The Trinity Athletic Center also constitutes campus grounds.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

HOMEWORK RESPONSIBILITIES

Homework is a crucial component of education at Trinity Academy. It prepares students for upcoming instruction and reinforces skills. Homework assignments significantly impact student progress and course instruction.

Students are expected to approach homework diligently and intelligently, as it aids in preparation for the next day’s work.

Students are responsible for obtaining assignments, notes, papers, and materials missed during absences.

STUDY OF PRIMARY SOURCES

The original texts in our reading curriculum represent some of humanity's most outstanding achievements

and should be treated with appropriate respect. They represent pinnacles of human culture and essential components of our shared heritage.

The educational experience at Trinity Academy depends on students forming their own understanding about each text's meaning and truth. Therefore, using study aids like commentaries, online summaries, or reading introductions before engaging with the text itself undermines this process. Approaching texts with preconceived interpretations from critics or commentators prevents authentic engagement with the material.

Using outside resources resembles asking another student for answers before attempting work independently—it constitutes cheating. More importantly, this practice prevents the development of the habits necessary for intelligent reading and inquiry. For this reason, students must not consult outside sources unless instructed explicitly by teachers.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

A peaceful, orderly environment is essential for learning. Practicing virtue and civilized Christian behavior forms the foundation of our learning community. Trinity Academy promotes a moral way of life.

In classrooms, students must behave in ways conducive to serious learning. Respect, order, politeness, and obedience create the necessary conditions for effective classroom function. Teachers have the freedom to enforce classroom management consistent with school discipline policies and culture.

CODE OF CONDUCT

These fundamental rules are essential for smooth school operation:

- Students must be in the classrooms when the bell rings.
- Students must be in study hall or off campus by 3:30 p.m. daily.
- Gum chewing is prohibited at school, on school grounds, and during school field trips.
- Running in hallways is not permitted.
- Weapons are never allowed at school, on grounds, or at school-sponsored events.
- Personal electronic devices, including smart watches, cameras, video cameras, pagers, and media players, are prohibited at school, on school grounds, and during field trips. The dean has final authority regarding any other devices. Cell phones are generally exempted (see COMMUNICATIONS section).
- Due to fire risk and potential property damage, students bringing lighters or matches to school may face suspension.
- Covered water bottles are allowed in all classrooms.
- Eating and drinking (except water) are only permitted during breaks, lunch, in designated areas, or with faculty permission.
- Students may not leave campus or enter restricted areas without appropriate authorization. This includes not leaving between regular school hours and study hall.

- Announcements may not be posted on walls or bulletin boards without approval from the appropriate dean.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Detentions: Minor infractions of school rules are addressed through detentions and privilege restrictions. Detentions may be assigned for 15, 30, or 45 minutes. Teachers determine detention length and notify students with a detention slip. Detentions are served after school on specific days designated by the deans.

Students must serve detentions on the designated day after they are issued. In rare circumstances, deans may postpone detention service (examples include scheduled athletic competitions or medical appointments). Postponement is not automatic. Missing detention may result in additional penalties.

Students wishing to appeal a detention should speak with the appropriate dean on the day it is received. Detention reversals are extremely rare.

Accumulating four hours of detention time during the academic year may trigger a disciplinary board hearing, potentially resulting in a sanction or suspension. Parents will be notified when students accumulate three or more hours of detention time.

Major Infractions: Serious violations of school order (such as cheating, gross disrespect, bullying, harassment, fighting, theft, truancy, weapon possession, property destruction, or repeated minor offenses) may result in sanctions, suspension, or expulsion.

- **Sanction:** Required absence from school for 1-3 days. Sanctions are removed from student records when they become seniors and need not be reported to outside agencies.
- **Suspension:** Required absence from school for 1-5 days. Suspensions remain on student records and should be reported when students are asked to disclose such information.
- **Expulsion:** Permanent removal from school.

The Discipline Board determines appropriate consequences for serious matters according to established guidelines. These guidelines provide starting points for the board's consideration but do not represent automatic disciplinary actions.

Since academics form the core of Trinity Academy, students must approach their work thoughtfully and deliberately under teacher guidance. Any form of academic dishonesty—including sharing work, discussing individual essays before writing, copying, using unauthorized commentaries (including AI systems, internet sources, or study guides), plagiarism, etc.—will be treated as a disciplinary matter.

Student pranks of any kind are neither permitted nor condoned and may result in serious disciplinary consequences.

Discipline at Trinity Academy serves our educational mission. Establishing a moral culture creates the necessary conditions for successful teaching and learning. Sexual misconduct and illegal substance use, whether on or off campus, undermine this culture. Students who knowingly attend events where illegal substances are used or where sexual misconduct or other major violations occur may face disciplinary action. Participation in such activities may result in disciplinary action.

Bullying, harassment, violence, or threats directed at other students, faculty, or staff may result in expulsion. Trinity Academy defines "bullying" or "harassment" as unwanted behavior intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate, repeated over time, and causing serious emotional trauma.

Sexual misconduct or harassment directed at faculty, staff, or other students may result in expulsion.

Appeals Process: Faculty disciplinary actions may be appealed to the appropriate dean.
Dean-issued disciplinary actions may be appealed to the head of school. Head of school expulsions or suspensions may be appealed to the school's governing body.

TECHNOLOGY POLICIES

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

We consider using electronic or internet-based communications (email, texts, chat rooms, social networks, etc.) for the following activities a serious breach of school culture and potentially illegal:

- Communicating abusive, obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, disrespectful, or threatening electronic messages and images
- Making personal attacks, including prejudicial, discriminatory, or harassing attacks, or knowingly/recklessly communicating false information about school community members or the institution

Such activities constitute a serious disciplinary matter. This behavior may also violate laws protecting against hate speech, harassment, and slander, potentially resulting in criminal or civil penalties.

Additionally, students may not create social media accounts using the school name or likeness, even if no official affiliation is specified.

LAPTOP COMPUTER USE

Students may use laptops on campus for specific academic purposes only. While on campus, students must not:

1. Use laptops for illegal purposes, including obtaining, storing, exchanging, or distributing unauthorized copies of software, music, photographs, movies, or other audiovisual/multimedia works
2. Obtain, store, exchange, or distribute content that is indecent, pornographic, racist, vulgar, defamatory, illegal, or promotes self-harm or harm to others
3. Use computers to hack or gain unauthorized access to computers, networks, files, or data
4. Access another individual's personal account or files without permission
5. Attempt to use, possess, or create computer viruses or software intended to damage computers, networks, or files
6. Disrupt another student's or staff member's work
7. Use computers as personal entertainment devices for social media, gaming, etc.
8. Communicate via email, text messaging, or other computer-based methods unless requested by a teacher or staff member

Violating these principles may result in losing laptop use privileges on campus.

TELEPHONES AND CELL PHONES

Students may use the designated student phone when necessary.

Cell phones may not be used or visible on campus or school buses without faculty, coach, or administrator permission. While on campus, cell phones must remain powered off and stored in backpacks or lockers. Violations will result in disciplinary action. Cell phones should also remain out of sight during school-sponsored social events.

STUDENT LIFE

AUTOMOBILES

Junior and senior students (and others by exception) may receive permission to drive motorized vehicles to school. Parents must complete the Student Driver/Passenger Permission Form and submit it to the school office. A parking tag will be issued and must be displayed on any vehicle driven to school.

Students may park their vehicles on the street assigned to them at the beginning of the school year. Students are not permitted to access their vehicles during school hours without faculty permission.

BICYCLES

Students may ride bicycles to school. Bicycles must be parked and locked at designated bike racks.

LOCKERS

Most students receive locker assignments. Locker areas must remain free of clothing, books, and debris.

Boys and girls should not enter each other's locker areas. Lockers are school property, and both lockers and their contents may be inspected by school personnel. All locker content must align with school culture standards.

LOST AND FOUND

Deans maintain lost and found collections. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity each semester.

SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Friendship and strong interpersonal relationships are essential aspects of human development. Trinity Academy encourages positive relationships among students: boys with boys, girls with girls, and boys and girls together.

We believe relationships between opposite-sex members should demonstrate the highest qualities of human friendship and Christian charity. Boys and girls should relate as brothers and sisters in Christ, friends, and colleagues.

Students may not interact as couples at school or school-sponsored events.

We strongly encourage active social life for students and rely on parents to provide guidance in this area of student development.

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

Trinity Academy offers interscholastic sports for both boys and girls, with policies outlined in the Parent Handbook.

The Parent Handbook details exceptions for student-drivers and passengers, which require completed permission forms.

Athletic events are considered extensions of the school environment, and students should behave appropriately to reflect positively on the school. Students who miss more than half of a school day may not participate in practices or games scheduled for that day.

STUDY HALL

We offer supervised study hall on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 p.m. The study hall phone number appears in the school directory and is available to students after the administrative offices close.

Study Hall Policies:

1. All students remaining after 3:30 p.m. (except those in school-sponsored activities) must sign in at study hall and sign out when leaving.
2. Students must work quietly.
3. Students taking make-up exams must wait for the supervising teacher's arrival at 3:30 p.m. and sit near the monitor's station.
4. Snacks and beverages are permitted at tables, but areas must be cleaned and chairs properly arranged before departure.
5. Study hall is a free service provided by the school. Attendance is a privilege. Students receiving three formal behavior warnings in one semester will lose study hall privileges for the remainder of that semester.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND UNIFORMS

All students are expected to be neat in appearance and to wear the school uniform in the way it is intended to be worn. The following are our guidelines for boys' and girls' uniforms and personal appearance during the regular school day, with separate sections further down for special events and choir concerts.

Students may wear uniform pieces from previous school years during the 2025-2026 school year. You can also purchase new items at our online uniform store here: https://www.globalschoolwear.com/school/TRIN25

BOYS' APPEARANCE STANDARDS

Please reference the following guidelines for boys' uniforms and personal appearance. If and when questions

arise regarding the application of these guidelines for boys, our policy at Trinity School is to defer to the final judgment of the dean of boys.

Approved Uniform Pieces

Embroidered shirts, sweaters, polar fleeces, and sweatshirts should be purchased at www.globalschoolwear.com. Be sure to use the sizing guide offered through the website before ordering. Sizes run small. To find our school store use the code TRIN25. When you click through to the website, you must fill in all of the search fields (i.e., school, grade, gender, and program) and click "update" to bring up the right selection of Trinity Academy's uniform pieces for your child.

We understand the challenge of finding a good fit for all body types and sizes. While we encourage parents to try the uniform pants and shorts from the uniform store, similar styles can be purchased through other vendors. Denim and cargo pants are not permitted.

Hair

Hair must be cut short and neat. Hair cannot extend over the shirt collar in the back, over the ears, or over the eyes. Shaved heads are not permitted, nor is shaggy hair. Sideburns can come to the bottom of the ear (or shorter). Boys must be clean-shaven every day.

Accessories and personal appearance

Bracelets, earrings, and other jewelry are not allowed, with the exception of a wristwatch and a religious medal if approved by the dean. Visible tattoos or body piercings are not allowed. Uniform shirts must be tucked in. A plain black or brown belt must be worn.

Shorts

Approved uniform shorts may be worn until Fall Break and after Spring Break each calendar year.

Undershirts

T-shirts worn under the uniform polo must be a plain white crew neck or v-neck.

Socks

Socks must be plain navy, black, or white socks without a logo. Crew or ankle length is acceptable.

Sweatshirts

Trinity Academy crew and hoodie-style sweatshirts are available for purchase at our online uniform store. Non-uniform sweatshirts are not allowed.

Shoes

Shoes must be plain, dark brown, or black dress-casual shoes (tie or slip-on) with a black or dark brown sole. All-black athletic shoes with a black sole may also be worn. Sandals, slippers, and shoes with visible logos are not acceptable. If you are uncertain about a particular shoe style, talk to the dean of boys before purchasing.

GIRLS' APPEARANCE STANDARDS

Please reference the following guidelines for girls' uniforms and personal appearance. If and when questions arise regarding the application of these guidelines for girls, our policy at Trinity Academy is to defer to the final judgment of the dean of girls.

Approved Uniform Pieces

Approved pants*, skirts*, shorts, shirts, sweaters, polar fleeces, and sweatshirts should be purchased at www.globalschoolwear.com. Be sure to use the sizing guide offered through the website before ordering. Sizes run small. To find our school store use the code TRIN25. When you click through to the website, you must fill in all of the search fields (i.e., school, grade, gender, and program) and click "update" to bring up the right selection of Trinity Academy's uniform pieces for your child.

*We do understand the challenge of finding a good fit for all body types and sizes. While we encourage parents to try the uniform pants and skirts from the uniform store, here are a set of pre-approved alternatives from Amazon.com.

Girls' Pants Option 1 (navy)
Girls' Pants Option 2 (navy)
Girls' Skirt Option (navy)

If you would like to use an alternative supplier, please reach out to the dean of girls for approval.

Hair

Hair color must be natural. Hairstyles should be worn in a manner that is appropriate for school.

Accessories and personal appearance

Jewelry and makeup should be worn in a manner that is appropriate for school. Visible tattoos or body piercings are not allowed. Students may wear one earring in each ear, one bracelet, and one necklace. A plain white camisole is permissible under the uniform.

Hemlines

The hemline of skirts may be no more than two inches above the top of the knee.

Shorts and Leggings

Approved uniform shorts may be worn until Fall Break and after Spring Break each calendar year. Shorts and leggings worn under skirts must be fitted navy blue or black and without logos.

Socks

Socks must be plain navy, black, grey, or white without logos or patterns of any kind. Ankle, crew, or no-show lengths are acceptable. No knee-high socks may be worn. Plain, unpatterned navy or black tights or nude nylons may be worn as well.

Belts

Belts are optional. If a belt is worn, it must be dark brown or black.

Sweatshirts

Trinity Academy crew and hoodie-style sweatshirts are now available for purchase at our online uniform store. Non-uniform sweatshirts are not allowed.

Shoes

Shoes must be black or dark brown leather shoes with a black or dark brown sole in Oxford, flats, Mary Jane, or lace-up style. Slip-on leather loafers and all-black athletic shoes with black soles are also acceptable. High-top, combat-style boots, bootie, Birkenstock, moccasin, sandal, clog, and slipper-style shoes are not acceptable, nor are light brown shoes. The laces must be the same color as the shoes. If you are uncertain about a particular shoe style, talk to the dean of girls before purchasing.

MEDICAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Parents may request temporary uniform exceptions due to injury with a parental note, valid for one week. Longer exceptions require a doctor's note.

CHANGING CLOTHES

Students may not change out of uniforms at school unless participating in athletic practices or games immediately after school.

SPECIAL EVENT DRESS CODES

Field Day: Casual dress permitted. Blue jeans, shorts, and t-shirts are acceptable. Dress must be tasteful and modest: no torn clothing, tank tops, inappropriate messages/images, spandex, leggings, or biker shorts without loose shorts over them. No yoga or pajama pants are permitted. All uniform rules regarding hairstyles and jewelry apply.

Junior/Senior Evaluations, Senior Dinner, and Graduation:

- Girls: Dresses or skirts with dress blouses; blouses may be sleeveless but no tanks, halters, or spaghetti straps; hemlines no more than two inches above the knee; dress shoes
- Boys: Suit or sports jacket with dress slacks, dress shirt, tie, dress shoes

Fine Arts Night Performers:

- Girls: Solid black dress or black skirt with black blouse; blouses may be sleeveless but no tanks, halters, or spaghetti straps; hemlines no more than two inches above the knee; closed-toe or peep-toe black shoes; minimal jewelry
- Boys: Black dress shirt, tie, dress shoes

HEALTH AND SAFETY

MEDICATION PROCEDURES

Students may take medications at school with written authorization from parents/guardians and/or physicians on file in the office. All medication, prescription, and non-prescription medications must arrive in original containers and remain in the front office.

School staff cannot administer any medication, including over-the-counter pain relievers, without written parent/guardian or healthcare provider authorization.

For ongoing medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc.), the school requires written physician instructions. Medication for these conditions must arrive in original containers and be given to the reception staff. Students with asthma who need inhalers should have this noted on their emergency forms and take responsibility for carrying their medication.

All medications must be distributed through the front desk with appropriate parental consent. Students may not share medications or supplements.

VISITORS

All visitors must report to reception. The school is private property, and non-school visitors need permission to be on campus or in buildings. All visitors must be accompanied by faculty or administrators. We restrict classroom visitors to prospective parents, students, and faculty. We cannot accommodate friends or relatives.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Destruction of school property is treated very seriously. In cases of willful vandalism or property destruction, students will face disciplinary action, and parents will be financially responsible for repair or replacement costs.

WEATHER-RELATED CLOSINGS

Trinity Academy will communicate closings through local media as well as contacting families through email.

SCHOOL OFFICES AND RESOURCES

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Most school business is conducted at the receptionist's desk. Office hours are 7:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m. daily. All visitors must check in with reception.

When seeking assistance from teachers in the faculty room, students should knock on the door and make requests from the doorway.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: MAJOR DISCIPLINARY INFRACTIONS GUIDELINES

While most discipline is handled through reminders, correction, and detentions when necessary, some behaviors constitute serious honor code violations. These cases involve formal disciplinary investigations.

The disciplinary board follows established guidelines that provide starting points for consideration but do not represent automatic actions. A sanction involves a student staying home for the specified number of days without documentation on their permanent record. A suspension appears on the student's official record.

Drug, Alcohol, or Tobacco Use

No illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco may be used or distributed. Violations involve any use or distribution of controlled substances, including but not limited to alcohol, nicotine in any form, illegal drugs, or prescription drugs acquired/distributed illegally.

6th-8th Grades:

- First Offense: 1-3 Day Sanction or Suspension
- Second Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

9th-12th Grades:

- First Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

Selling drugs, alcohol, or tobacco on/off campus typically results in expulsion.

Students may be held accountable for attending events where controlled substances are used if they fail to report this to appropriate adults (dean, head of school, or parents).

Plagiarism and Cheating

This includes copying another student's work, accessing information during tests, copying unattributed sources, and consulting unauthorized resources.

6th-8th Grades:

- First Offense: Series of 45-minute Detentions
- Second Offense: 1-3 Day Sanction
- Third Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

9th-12th Grades:

- First Offense: 1-3 Day Sanction
- Second Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

Bullying, Harassment, or Fighting

Bullying, harassment, or fighting is defined as unwanted behavior intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate, repeated over time, and causing serious emotional trauma. Bullying includes cyberbullying but excludes ordinary teasing, horseplay, or peer conflict. "Fighting" describes activity causing or potentially causing serious physical harm, even as a one-time incident.

6th-8th Grades:

- First Offense: 1-3 Day Sanction
- Second Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

9th-12th Grades:

- First Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

Sexual Misconduct

Sexual misconduct is defined as sexual behavior that seriously violates our understanding of marriage and sexuality, including serious vulgarity/sexual talk, possessing/sharing pornography, solicitation, "sexting," and inappropriate relationships.

6th-8th Grades:

- First Offense: 1-3 Day Sanction
- Second Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

9th-12th Grades:

- First Offense: 3-5 day Suspension or Expulsion
- Subsequent Offense: Expulsion

These penalties assume consensual behavior. Non-consensual sexual misconduct or actions rising to

harassment levels may result in immediate expulsion. Such activities may also violate criminal codes and result in legal charges. The school cooperates with authorities in prosecuting such cases.

APPENDIX 2: OUR EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND CHRISTIAN CULTURE

Education as Human Awakening

We aim to provide more than just good education—we create an environment for genuine human awakening. Our goal is for students to develop intellectual and aesthetic thinking patterns: wonder about the world, love of truth, desire for good, moral/spiritual seriousness, beauty appreciation, intellectual honesty, respect for others, and recognition of human dignity.

Faculty model these qualities as a community of lifelong learners. We resist grade-focused approaches that connect learning to external rewards rather than authentic wonder and inquiry. Parents support this by reinforcing these values at home and engaging children in meaningful discussions about their studies.

Truth, Goodness, and Beauty

The best educational models direct students toward higher human aspirations. We create a culture conducive to the pursuit of truth, practice of goodness, and creation of beauty. Our curriculum draws from humanity's finest cultural achievements throughout history, reflecting our commitment to excellence.

We encourage students to embrace these values as a way of life, not just school activities. We resist negative influences from youth and popular culture. Family benefits often include thoughtful dinner conversations and one-on-one discussions with teenagers. We encourage parents to extend learning beyond classrooms into family life.

Human Freedom and Responsibility

For proper development, children need genuine freedom and increasing responsibility. We recognize students as agents of their own learning and fundamentally free and responsible for their choices. Students agree to follow conduct codes but are treated with respect for their fundamental freedom, even in disciplinary matters.

Free and Disciplined Exchange of Ideas

Genuine conversation is challenging but deeply rewarding. We teach students this art through dialogue with peers and teachers. We promote cultured, free, disciplined idea exchange. Students should discuss ideas without a partisan spirit. We discourage political partisanship in the classroom and expect faculty to model respectful engagement with diverse opinions. Disciplined discussion requires students to articulate their perspectives, ask questions, and engage in rational discourse about topics at hand.

Faith Formation Approach

While moral and spiritual education is important to both parents and school, each plays a distinct role. Parents, churches, and faith communities bear primary responsibility for children's moral and spiritual development. Our faculty provide positive Christian role models and personal engagement but avoid proselytizing or explicit faith formation.

We provide authentically Christian education within a culture supporting parents' efforts to nurture Christian faith. Classes begin with prayer; curriculum includes Christian Scripture or doctrine study; and daily morning prayer features faculty faith witnesses. All faculty affirm the Nicene Creed, maintain good standing in their denominations, and follow Christian conduct standards.

We don't require parents or students to be practicing Christians or sign faith statements for enrollment.

Personal Support

Adolescence can present personal challenges, sometimes involving anxiety, depression, or other mental health concerns. Our dean of boys and dean of girls monitor student well-being, identify struggling students, and collaborate with parents to provide appropriate care. While Trinity Academy does not offer professional counseling, parents concerned about their child's well-being can contact the appropriate dean or head of school for assistance in finding suitable services.

Christian Unity and Diversity.

We demonstrate Christian unity wherever possible. Our Scripture approach enables students to study together regardless of denomination. Most courses present general Christian frameworks rather than specific denominational perspectives. Faculty and students from various denominations pray together each morning.

We also value educating students about their specific church traditions. Ninth grade offers separate Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox doctrine courses. During morning prayer, faculty may speak from their traditions while acknowledging the diverse perspectives that are present.

We respect students from other religious backgrounds or no faith tradition.

Community Relationships

Maintaining positive relationships is essential since we aim to create a genuine learning community. We believe every person, created in God's image, deserves respect and honor. Community members should build a culture characterized by love for God and neighbor, demonstrating joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, purity, truthfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

We explicitly reject harassment, bullying, verbal abuse, and intimidation among community members for any reason, including discrimination based on sex, race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, or perceived sexuality. Such behaviors contradict Christian relationship principles and our commitment to human dignity. These actions constitute major conduct code violations for students and faculty.

We take abuse reports very seriously. Anyone suspecting child abuse should immediately contact the appropriate authorities.

Single-Sex Education

We operate as a coeducational institution offering separate-sex education for practical reasons. Students typically learn best in single-sex classrooms at this age. We understand men and women as created by God with equal dignity but meaningful distinctions. We uphold both equality and appropriate distinction in our culture.

In younger grades, we encourage same-sex friendship development. As students mature, we promote healthy cross-gender relationships. Parents play essential roles in guiding these relationships and should communicate with each other and the school about any concerns.