

CHAT

Christian Homeschool Academy of Tutoring

Code of Conduct

Note: eCHAT falls under the umbrella of CHAT, so any reference to CHAT includes eCHAT unless otherwise noted.

We desire that CHAT be a safe, positive environment where students can learn, grow, be challenged, and develop friendships.

The culture we live in today provides many opportunities for irresponsible and godless behavior. As Christians we want to celebrate being "counter-cultural" and to stand for goodness, love, righteousness and virtue. We want our students at CHAT to be conscious of the responsibility that they have to hold themselves to a higher standard and to build each other up. The way we dress and act says a lot about our character.

Our Code of Conduct is based on respect and care for others and their property. Any list that we come up with is always going to be incomplete, but we expect our students to keep in mind the spirit behind these guidelines as we all strive to imitate Jesus, to know Him, and to make Him known.

CODE OF CONDUCT

(The areas of conduct are arranged alphabetically)

ARRIVALS

Students should:

1. Arrive no earlier than **8:45** a.m. for the 1st period. For earlier arrivals, contact Laura.

BEVERAGES and FOOD

Food is not allowed during class unless it's part of a class activity. Students are free to have beverages and snacks when not in class.

BODILY CONTACT

Our goal is to keep all students free from physical harassment of any kind. Therefore:

1. No inappropriate physical displays of affection (kissing, holding hands, etc.)
2. Rough housing, wrestling, lifting, punching, kicking, etc. are prohibited.

Consequences: See Major Infractions Procedure.

BUILDING USAGE

Students must remain in the building unless they are leaving/arriving for classes. When not in class, they can be in the following areas only:

- Grade K-2: Students must be with their parent or a designated adult.
- Grades 3-6: Students must be with their parent or a designated adult. Students do not need to be with their parents during the supervised lunch period.
- Grades 7-8: Students who will be remaining on church property between classes must remain in the student lounge or gym foyer.
- Grades 9-12: Students who will be remaining on church property between classes must remain in the student lounge, gym foyer, or Terrace. Students may visit the Grace Café or vending machines to make a purchase but must promptly return to the areas designated above.

Consequences:

- 1st offense – A warning to the student and the parent is contacted
- 2nd offense – The student must remain in the student lounge during any free periods for the remainder of the semester. Parents will be contacted.
- 3rd offense – A conference with the student, parent, and administrators. The student is not allowed at CHAT during free periods unless they are with their parent.

CELL PHONES

1. Phones are not to be used during class time and must be put away.
2. Phones may be used between classes and during lunch.

Consequences:

- 1st offense – The student's phone is taken away for the rest of the day and the parent is contacted.
- 2nd offense – The student is not allowed to bring a phone to CHAT for the rest of the semester. The parent is contacted.
- 3rd offense – A conference with the student, parent, and administrators and possible expulsion (no refund).

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Students must attend all classes they are enrolled in if they are on campus. If there is a reason that a student cannot attend class (sickness, travel, etc.) the parent simply needs to notify the tutors. Students who choose to skip classes will be subject to the following consequences:

Consequences:

- 1st skip - A conference with the student, parents, and directors
- 2nd skip - A second conference with the student, parents, and directors and possible expulsion (no refund)

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Each tutor has the responsibility and authority to set behavioral expectations in order to maintain an educational setting that provides for effective learning without inappropriate disruption. In these individual settings, each student is to comply with each tutor's requirements with the understanding that there will be variances between classes.

Consequences: See Classroom Behavior Discipline Procedure.

DEPARTURES

1. **Final pick-up time is 3:30 p.m.** Thank you for your promptness.
2. The Directors will be leaving the building at 3:45 and any students still onsite at that time will need to stay by the doors until their ride arrives. Contact Laura's cell (952-484-6273) with questions.
3. Students must enter and exit only through Door 4 at Grace Church. They can wait inside or just outside the door for pick-up.
4. On Make-Up Days there is NO student lounge. Students must be picked up immediately after their class ends.

DRESS CODE

Upper body:

1. Any tank top for girls must be at least 2 adult fingers wide on the top of the shoulder. No muscle shirts for guys.
2. Tops and bottoms must overlap so midriff skin is not exposed.
3. Girls must wear bras; no straps showing.
4. Necklines should not be revealing.

Provision for infractions: Students will be offered an XL t-shirt by the on-site administrator upon entering the building that they will need to wear. This will make it possible for students to still attend class.

Consequence for not wearing T-shirt when requested by on-site administrator: Student may not attend class or sit in the study hall. See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

Lower body:

1. All shorts must meet the fingertip rule: When students stand with their arms at their sides, their fingertips cannot extend lower than their shorts. (This is about a 6-inch inseam.)
2. The minimum length of skirts allowed is 3 inches above the knees.
3. No underwear showing. (This includes but is not limited to boxers).

Provision for infractions: Students will be offered a pair of sweatpants by the on-site administrator upon entering the building that they will need to wear. This will make it possible for students to still attend class.

Consequence for not wearing sweatpants when requested by on-site administrator: Student may not attend class or sit in the study hall. See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

LUNCH TIME EXPECTATIONS

1. Good stewardship: Students will clean up messes and act respectfully.
2. Students are not allowed to bring their backpacks into the café area.
3. Students must eat their lunches in the café/commons area on the first floor.
4. The CHAT lunch period ends at 12:30. Students who do not have a 3rd period class have until 12:45 to return upstairs.

Consequence: See **Major Infractions Procedure**. In addition, students who do not clean up their lunch mess will be required to be on lunch cleanup duty the following week.

MUSIC, VIDEO, and INTERNET USE DURING FREE PERIODS

1. Music may be played on phones and mp3 players if headphones are worn (not hanging around neck) and the volume is low enough that it cannot be heard by anyone else.
2. Students may not watch videos on their phones and laptops with other students.
3. Internet access is available on the wireless network called Grace Public.

Consequence: See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

OPEN CAMPUS

It is important that everyone understand what CHAT means when it says it is an “open campus.” Because students arrive and depart for different classes during the day, there is not a system to maintain constant knowledge of each student’s whereabouts.

Open Campus at CHAT is for students in grades 9-12 only. They are allowed to leave campus any time they are not in class. Middle school and elementary students are not allowed to leave the church grounds except with their parents.

Consequence: See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

PETS

Pets/animals are not allowed at CHAT without prior permission from the onsite overseer.

Consequence: See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES & THREATS OF HARM

No warning will be given in this category.

1. Tobacco, drugs, alcohol, weapons, and fireworks are not allowed on the premises.

Anyone discovered with possession of any of these items during the hours of 8:30 to 3:45 on Wednesdays or Thursdays (whether on site or off site) will be immediately expelled from CHAT for the semester WITHOUT REFUND.

2. Threats of harm to a student’s self or others are taken very seriously. Anyone making verbal or physical threats will be referred immediately to Grace Security.

TARDY POLICY

Students should make every effort to be in their classes on time. This means that they should be in their classrooms within a couple minutes of the scheduled start time. Students who choose to be late or are careless with their time will be subject to the following tardy policy:

Consequences:

- 1st tardy – A warning for the student and an email sent to parents
- 2nd tardy – A conference with one of the directors and an email sent to parents
- 3rd tardy – A conference with the student, parents, and directors
- 4th tardy – The student is expelled for the remainder of the semester (no refund)

Grace will be extended for weather-related tardies and students who have been kept late in a previous class.

VERBAL EXPECTATIONS

ANYTHING communicated verbally or nonverbally that is deemed inappropriate will be disciplined.

Consequence: See **Major Infractions Procedure**.

(See next pages the CHAT Discipline Policy)

CHAT Discipline Policy

The basis for discipline at CHAT is that we are all working towards instruction in behavior that honors the Lord and respects other people and their possessions.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR INFRACTIONS DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

- 1st offense:** The tutor will notify the parent of the inappropriate behavior.
- 2nd offense:** The tutor or director will notify the parent of the inappropriate behavior. The parent needs to respond by e-mail or by phone to the tutor or director that they are aware of the concern and have discussed appropriate behavior with their student and are willing to make restitution or apologies if requested. The student will not be allowed back in class until this connection is made.
- 3rd offense:** The tutor or director will notify the parent of the inappropriate behavior. A conference will be required with the parent, student, and CHAT directors to determine the intentions of the student and whether or not that student will be allowed to continue attending CHAT. (Students who do not continue with a class due to behavioral infractions receive no refunds.)

MAJOR INFRACTION PROCEDURE

- 1st offense:** The director will notify the parent of the inappropriate behavior. The parent needs to respond by e-mail or by phone to the director that they are aware of the concern and have discussed appropriate behavior with their student and are willing to make restitution or apologies if requested. The student will not be allowed back at CHAT until this connection is made.
- 2nd offense:** The director will notify the parent of the inappropriate behavior. A conference will be required with the parent, student, and CHAT directors to determine the intentions of the student and whether or not that student will be allowed to continue attending CHAT. (Students who do not continue at CHAT due to behavioral infractions receive no refunds.)

The directors retain the right to address any situation that has not been previously mentioned in the Handbook or Code of Conduct, or any serious offense in which a student's behavior is distracting or disruptive. The discipline procedure used will depend on the perceived severity of the offense and handled on a case-by-case basis.