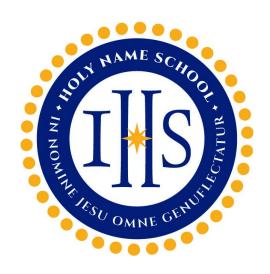
Holy Name School

Student/Parent Handbook 2023-2024



850 Pearce St. Fall River, MA 02720 tel. 508.674.9131 fax 508.679.0571 www.hnsfr.org

Handbook of Policies and Regulation

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with important information about Holy Name School. It also serves to delineate the school's regulations and guidelines which are contracted by the school, the students, and their parents.

The regulations and guidelines in the Student/Parent Handbook exist to promote a safe, orderly environment so that each student can proceed with the serious business of learning with as few interruptions and problems as possible.

Please note the "Contract" which parent(s) must sign and date as an indication that they understand the contents and are willing to comply with the regulations and guidelines as set forth in this handbook. The contract page must be returned to the school within one week of the opening date for school.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. The school Administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the Administration determines the partnership is irretrievably broken.

Holy Name School reserves the right to change/amend the handbook for just cause and parents will be notified of such immediately. Changes to the school's regulations and guidelines will be published in weekly newsletters or mailings and posted on www.hnsfr.org. Please be aware that it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to monitor these forms of communication.

Holy Name School does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, religion or national origin in its educational program, activities or admissions policies.

"All Schools in the Diocese of Fall River are subject to the policies of the Diocese of Fall River. The **policy manuals of the Diocese of Fall River replace and supersede any contrary statement of policy, procedures, programs, or practices, including but not limited to, any such statement contained in any handbook or manual prepared by any school in the Diocese of Fall River."

**These manuals are available to be read at the Catholic Schools Office, 373 Elsbree St, Fall River, MA 02720.

Mission Statement

Holy Name School provides a Catholic education within an atmosphere of academic excellence. While providing Catholic values, we challenge our students to do their best, to nurture their gifts and talents, and to develop curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking.

Holy Name School strives to produce confident, competent, and caring individuals who can work cooperatively, who show respect for one another, and who demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of Catholic values.

Our Philosophy

Holy Name School is a Catholic educational community in which we share knowledge in an atmosphere of gospel values. It is a community whose members freely choose to share their special gifts as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Holy Name School creates an environment that affords many opportunities for children to accept one another as members of the Body of Christ, and where learning experiences are greatly enriched by the uniqueness and giftedness of each individual. These experiences should always be a true and genuine reflection of the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church to which this school is dedicated.

We acknowledge that the support and cooperation of parents and members of the Holy Name Parish family are essential to the life and growth of our school. We are all united in a common goal to provide for the religious, intellectual, physical, and social development of each child.

Our Goals

- To provide a Catholic education which prepares our students to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ in today's culture;
- To promote a sense of unity by creating a learning environment that models and reflects an understanding, acceptance, and appreciation of all cultures;
- To promote practices that foster fairness, mutual respect, and honesty in all our lives;
- To develop and strengthen civic, patriotic, and social responsibilities;
- To promote positive health and safety practices, develop self-esteem, and foster lifelong well-being;
- To provide a safe and healthy environment acknowledging students for outstanding achievements;
- To promote active learning experiences which stimulate curiosity, develop critical thinking, and promote lifelong accomplishment;
- To promote a lifelong enthusiasm for learning fostered through the partnership of home, school, and community.

School Policies and Procedures

School Hours: The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. and dismissal is at 2:20 p.m. School ends at 11:30 on early dismissal days. Lunch is not provided and there is no after school extended care offered. Necessary arrangements should be made for pick up on those days.

Arrival and Dismissal: While our staff is present to monitor drop off, parents are responsible for their children until they get to the sidewalk. Please be very attentive around drop off and pick up time. It is important to be aware of other children during this time.

Arrival: Drop off in the morning begins at 7:45. Students are not allowed to gather on school property prior to this time. Any students who arrive early will be directed to extended care and parents will be responsible for paying the fees for this care.

- Pre-Kindergarten: Parents should walk students up to the doors on Pearce St. where teachers will meet students to bring them to their classroom.
- Kindergarten through Grade 5: Parents should drive into the parking lot off of President Ave and on the Stenson St. entrance. Cars should pull up to the orange cones. Once the car has stopped and the lot is clear of moving traffic, students should exit the vehicle on the driver's side of the car whenever possible. Staff will monitor this arrival procedure but it is essential that parents help keep all children safe. Please do not park your car in the lot and walk your child to the entrance.
- Grades 6-8: Parents should pull up to the sidewalk between Stetson St and Read St along the building. Parents are responsible for ensuring that children safely exit the car. The school cannot be responsible for students who exit the car down the street or on the other side of the road.

Dismissal: Students will exit the building through the same side of the building that they entered. Students will be dismissed by grade and will be escorted outside, weather permitting. Teachers will monitor students until they are able to see a parent/guardian or other individual identified as having permission to pick up the student. Parents should meet students in the parking lot or door entrance on Pearce Street. Students will not be handed off to anyone parked in the middle of the street. ID may be required if a staff member is unable to identify the individual picking up the student. Parking is allowed in the lot during dismissal. Any student who is not picked up by 2:40 will be brought to extended care and parents will be responsible for fees.

Attendance: Beginning on the very first day of school, punctual, regular attendance is of the utmost importance to the development of a conscientious and prepared student. It is strongly recommended that parents emphasize this importance by keeping children home for serious reasons only and by training children to be punctual.

Absences: Parents must call the school office (508) 674-9131 by 8:30 am to report a student absence. If the office is not notified, a parent/guardian will be contacted to verify the absence. If no verbal contact is made, the child must bring a note from home stating the cause of the absence.

A student who is absent five or more consecutive school days is required, by state law, to have a doctor's note. Students are required to make up all class work and homework missed in all subjects because of the absence. Make-up work needs to be completed within a time equal to that of the absence. (i.e. 1 day absent – 1 day to complete, and etc.) Please be sure to check your specific teacher's homework guidelines.

Students who are absent may not attend any extra-curricular activity, including school dances or sporting events scheduled on the day of the absence. The principal should be notified for extenuating circumstances.

Vacations: Family vacations should be scheduled during designated vacation times noted on the school calendar. Vacation time taken during school time interferes with the progression of learning and the student's understanding/mastery of subject matter being taught. It is very difficult for teachers to determine what material will be covered or assigned as homework in any subject a week in advance. Teachers cannot provide class work and homework for vacation time taken during scheduled school time. Please refer to your specific teacher's classroom homework/grading policy.

Tardiness: Students who arrive at school by 8:00 am.. Students will be allowed one tardy per month without consequence. The main office will monitor the lateness of students. After 3 or more tardies, students will be required to stay after school or part of their recess to complete missed work. The main office will notify parents in these cases. If tardiness persists, the administration will request a meeting to discuss these concerns.

Medical/Dental Appointments: Parents are asked to schedule medical, dental, or orthodontic appointments outside school hours. When there are no other alternatives and appointments must be scheduled during school hours, parents need to give written notification to the classroom teacher, a day before the scheduled appointment, when possible. You may pick up your child at the school office.

For safety and liability reasons, the school will not permit students to walk to medical or dental appointments during school hours. All students leaving for an appointment, and/or returning to school after an appointment, during school hours must be signed in/out by a parent, guardian or an authorized adult listed in the student's file.

Visitors: All visitors must ring the doorbell on the Stetson St./President Ave side of the building. They will be met at the door by staff. Anyone visiting the building will be asked to sign in and wear a badge that identifies them as a visitor.

Before School Care: Before school care begins at 6:45. Parents should escort their children to the school entrance in the parking lot on Read St. Please knock on the door and school staff will meet you. Before school care will take place in the Library. Any student that arrives at school before 7:40 will be brought to extended care and parents will be responsible for the fees.

After School Extended Care: Extended care begins at 2:30 and ends at 5:30. There are no provisions for staying in the building after 5:30. After school care will take place in the cafeteria. Parents

should ring the bell on the entrance in the parking lot on Stetson St. Parents may not enter the building. Individuals picking up students from extended care must have permission from parents/guardians and may be asked to show ID. Parents should notify the school if they have advanced plans for students to stay after school so that we can accommodate all students safely.

Emergency Information: At the beginning of the school year, all families will receive a Google Form to fill out to provide the school with important information. It is vital for parents/guardians to complete the information on the Family Emergency Information Form and the Authorized Pick Up List Form. This information is kept on file for the administration, faculty, Extended Care personnel, and other school staff to ensure the safety of every child. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to update this information if it changes during the school year. This includes medical information, change of address or phone number, and/or any other changes.

Student Safety and Health: A registered sex offender who is the parent/guardian of a student may come onto his/her child's diocesan school campus in order to transport his/her own child to and/or from school; attend Open House Nights/Back to School Nights; attend Parent-Teacher Conferences; attend school sporting events; attend school performances (i.e., school drama or musical performances) or any other school events that are listed specifically on the school's calendar of events. If a registered sex offender who is the parent/guardian of a student receives a notification from a school teacher or school administrator to attend a meeting regarding his or her child, he/she must follow the protocol set forth in the next paragraph concerning, in general, the presence of registered sex offenders on a diocesan school campus.

In general, a registered sex offender who is the parent/guardian of a student is not allowed to come to campus for any other reason unless they have scheduled a specific appointment directly with the school's administrator/head of school. When an appointment is scheduled with and confirmed by the school's administrator, the parent/guardian must report directly to the Main Office of the school for that appointment and will be escorted by the administrator or his/her designee to the location of the meeting. The parent will be escorted back to the Main Office at the conclusion of the scheduled meeting and must leave the school premises immediately after the scheduled meeting. (Inserted by request of the Diocese of Fall River Catholic Schools Alliance)

Medications: If it is necessary for a student to receive medication at school, a parent/guardian must fill out the appropriate school health form distributed at the start of the school year. This must be done before the child enters school with any medication — no medication will be administered prior to compliance. The medication must be brought to the school office in the original bottle and with clear orders from the doctor. No over-the-counter medication is allowed unless a doctor's written authorization is submitted. Students who require any orthopedic apparatus (ex. crutches, sling, etc.) should have a note from a doctor to verify the injury.

Dismissal for Illness: When a student is being dismissed for illness, parents should come to the Pearce Street entrance and press the door button. The child will be guided to the door from the nurse's office to meet the parent/guardian.

Recess Policy for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8: Students in Pre-K through Gr. 4 will have a morning and afternoon outdoor recess. Students in Grades 5-8 will have an afternoon outdoor

recess. Students will not have an outdoor recess on days when there is precipitation or when the temperature is below 32 °F. They will have free time indoor activity in the auditorium or classroom if weather does not permit outdoor recess. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. Children should have a warm winter coat, hat, and gloves during winter months. At the discretion of the faculty member on recess duty, students without the proper dress for the weather will be required to remain indoors during recess time.

Emergency Drills: Emergency drills are conducted throughout the year in order to prepare students, faculty, and staff for emergency situations. Various drills take place throughout the year:

- Fire Drills: The Fall River Fire Department performs unannounced fire drills at least twice a year to evaluate the school's performance. All persons in the building must evacuate the building during a fire drill. A log of each drill is kept in the Principal's office. Additional drills may be conducted by the school throughout the year.
- Evacuation Drills: The City of Fall River has prepared an evacuation plan for each school in the city private, parochial, and public. The Evacuation Plan is practiced twice each year; notification of this practice is given to both parents and students prior to the occurrence of the drill.
- Lock Down Drills: Each year the Principal or Administrative Assistant initiates a minimum of two Lock Down drills. This drill requires all students and personnel to follow a set of "lock down" procedures. The Lock Down Drills are announced at least one week in advance.

School Calendar: The school calendar is posted on the school website and distributed at the start of the school year. Major changes to the calendar will be announced in the Monday Memo. The school calendar should be used to assist you when arranging special appointments, family vacations, and necessary child care arrangements. The calendar will also post the dates for scheduled school pictures. Individual student pictures are taken in October, and students are allowed their choice of clothing. (Please refer to the Birthday Dress-Up restrictions).

Lunch Program: Rogers Coney Island provides the school lunch program. An email concerning school lunches will be forwarded to all families at the start of the school year. Students may bring their own lunch as well.

Inclement Weather/No School Days: Our school follows the decisions of the Fall River Public School Department regarding "No School" or "Early Dismissal" days. There may be instances where school is canceled when Fall River Public Schools are still in session. Notification of "No School" will be placed, emailed, posted on Facebook, and school messenger through a phone call.

School Advisory Council: The School Advisory Council is established by the Pastor, in accordance with Diocesan policy, to assist him and the Principal in school matters. The School Advisory Council meets monthly unless otherwise agreed upon or is necessary.

School Life Committee: Holy Name School sponsors a parent group to foster family/school relationships and allows families to contribute to the life of the school. The SLC meets at least once monthly. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

School Property: Holy Name School belongs to Holy Name Parish and it is the responsibility of all students to maintain all property and materials (including desks, chairs, books, etc.) in good condition. Any abuse of school property/materials will require restitution by the student and/or family. School property includes all land within the perimeter of the school site and all school buildings, structures, facilities, computer networks and systems, and school vehicles, whether owned or leased by the diocese, and the site of any school-sponsored activity. Students should not gather at or climb the trees or fence on the perimeter of the grounds.

Electronic Devices: All students in Pre-K – Gr. 8 are not allowed to bring electronics to school. Valuable audio/visual equipment such as, but not limited to; iPods, iPads, MP3 players, electronic handheld game players, portable DVD players, electronic book readers, and any other electronic devices must be left at home, unless specifically permitted by the teacher or principal.

Cellphones and Smartwatches: Cell phones/smartwatches are not allowed in Pre-K through Grade 4. Exceptions to this rule may only be approved by the Principal. Students in Grade 5 through Grade 8 are allowed to have cell phones. Students with a cell phone need to turn the cell phone off prior to entering the school, and it must be placed in the appropriate spot during school hours. Each classroom has an organizer for phones/smart watches. Each child will be given a number that corresponds to the slot in the organizer where said items will be kept during the day. Holy Name School is not responsible for any lost or damaged devices, phones, or smartwatches.

Field Trip Policy: Field trips are privileges, and students may be denied participation if they fail to meet academic or behavioral requirements. Students who fail to submit the proper permission form filled out and signed will not be allowed to participate in the field trip. Parents and students must understand that telephone calls will not be accepted in lieu of the proper written permission form. Please note that parents are asked for medical information for the field trip in order to properly treat your son/daughter in case of an emergency.

School/Home Communication

The education of students is a partnership between home and school. Holy Name School recognizes the importance of ongoing communication between both parties. We strive to keep parents informed and up to date on student progress, school events, and other issues or concerns about their children.

Principal's Newsletter: The primary form of communication home from the school administration will be a weekly electronic newsletter emailed each week on Friday. This communication will contain information about school notices, upcoming events, calendar updates, policy changes, extended care bills, lunch and milk menu, and general school news. It is expected that families read the newsletter as all information will be sent through this letter.

Student Reports/Progress: All student assignment/subject grades and progress will be available to parents on Gradelink. This is a "live" gradebook and allows parents to monitor students progress. This should be viewed as a teacher's primary way of regular communication with home. Parents will be given specific log-in information at the beginning of the school year which will enable access to their child's progress at any time throughout the year. It is expected that parents access and monitor this site.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Two special parent/teacher conference days are scheduled during the school year to discuss your child's progress. On these days students are dismissed at 11:30 a.m. and teachers and staff will arrange in-person meetings according to a published schedule. Parents should not hesitate to contact a specific teacher, via phone or email with any questions or concerns about their child's progress at any time during the year.

Email/Phone Calls: Unless it is an emergency, administration, faculty, and staff will return emails and/or calls within 24 hours. Keep in mind that teachers are not able to immediately respond to parent communication due to their responsibilities in the classroom. In the case of an emergency, contact the school office.

Grievances: It is hoped that conferences, informal discussions, and working relationships between parents and school staff will resolve any questions, concerns, or differences that may arise. The following formal procedure has been established to ensure that action is taken on a particular matter, problem, or complaint, in a timely manner:

- Parents should contact their child's teacher to address the concerns. Teachers will respond
 within 24 hours to provide a response to the parent's concerns. A phone call or conference may
 be requested by either party. This should be scheduled within three school days of the request.
 It is always best to resolve the issue between the parent and teacher, allowing for both parties
 to come to solutions that will foster a strong relationship between home and school.
- 2. If the problem cannot be solved satisfactorily by the parent and teacher, both parties should contact the principal. The Principal will contact the parent and teacher for further details and then respond with a call, email, or conference, depending on the circumstances.
- 3. If the parent is not able to obtain a satisfactory solution through the Principal, the Pastor of Holy Name Parish should be notified in writing with a copy to the Principal. All pertinent facts should be provided to avoid delay and confusion. The Pastor is the ultimate authority on all matters in the Parish and will make the final decision after hearing all sides of a particular issue.

Academic Policies

Retention: Retention is the decision of the Principal based on academic records/grades and the recommendation of the classroom teacher. A student in grade 6-8 who is failing and retained and chooses to remain at Holy Name School will be placed on Academic Probation for the first trimester of the following year. If the student does not maintain passing grades in at least five (5) major subjects

during that time, the student and his/her parents/guardians will have a conference with the Principal and teachers to determine whether or not Holy Name School is meeting their child's academic needs. If it is decided that Holy Name is not the best placement or if the student exhibits an attitude of non-compliance with the school's policies, the school will begin the student's transfer process to another school.

Homework: The purpose of homework is for the students to review, enrich, and develop a greater understanding of subject matter and practice skills introduced in the classroom. Each classroom/subject teacher provides students with his/her own homework policy. Students and parents should familiarize themselves with the classroom homework policy. Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 may expect a minimum of 1 ½ hours of homework each day. Grades 4 and 5 may expect 45 minutes to an hour of homework per day. Homework allotted to students in the lower grades varies depending on age and ability.

School Supplies: Every student is required to have a school bag/backpack. Textbooks must be covered at all times. They must be kept clean and carried in the school bag/backpack. Lost or damaged books (including library books) must be replaced and paid for by the student. Each teacher has requirements for supplies. A list will be provided before the start of the school year. Art supplies list may be provided as well.

Assignment books are mandatory for Grades 2 through Grade 8. We ask that you purchase the required assignment book through the school. The approximate cost for the assignment book is \$5.00. Students will receive the assignment books during the first week of school and payment needs to be returned via online payment system. Students in grades 2 through 8 are expected to write in the assignment book each day recording homework, tests, quizzes and projects.

School Uniform Policies

All students are expected to wear the required uniform for their grade level. The uniform requirement is intended to release the students from the societal influence of fashion; offering them the opportunity to focus on academic objectives and to emphasize the importance of their education. The school uniform and the student's personal appearance should always be neat and clean reflecting personal and school pride.

At the end of the 2022-2023 school year, a new company was identified and chosen to be the new provider of uniforms. The daily and gym uniforms must be purchased through Global School Wear at www.globalschoolwear.com. Uniforms from previous vendors and retailers that were purchased prior to this can continue to be used throughout the 2023-2024 school. However, all new uniform pieces that are ordered must be purchased through Global Schoolwear.

Daily Uniform

Grades	Girls		
Grades	GITIS	Boys	
Pre-K	Gym uniform - everyday	Gym uniform - everyday	
K-5	Jumper/Pants School plaid jumper Tights must be worn if the jumper falls 2 inches above the knee It may not be more than 2 inches above the knee OR Navy blue dress pants No jean, "skinny", legging, or cargo styles are allowed	Pants Navy blue dress pants No jean style or cargo with pockets are allowed	
	Shirts Short or long-sleeved light yellow polo shirt OR White Oxford shirt All shirts must be tucked in Shoes/Tights/Socks	Shirts Short or long-sleeved light yellow polo shirt OR White Oxford shirt All shirts must be tucked in and only solid white t-shirts can be worn underneath Shoes/Socks	
	Solid navy blue or black knee socks or ankle socks no white socks no socks below the ankle	Solid navy blue or black knee socks or ankle socks one white socks no socks below the ankle	

	navy blue/black tights	Solid black, brown, navy or tan shoes/athletic shoes must be secured with a strap or laces no patterns or designs no slip-on style shoes such as ballet flats
	Optional Long sleeve v-neck sweater Cardigan sweater Fleece jacket	Optional Long sleeve v-neck sweater Long sleeve full zip sweater Fleece jacket
	must be purchased through Global School Wear	V-neck sweater vest must be purchased through Global School Wear
	Warm Weather Option (Aug-Oct & May-Jun) Navy blue shorts in place of jumper on higher than 2 inches above the knee, with	Warm Weather Option (Aug-Oct & May-Jun) Navy blue shorts in place of pants
6-8	 with knee or ankle socks Jumper/Pants School plaid skirt Tights must be worn if the skirt falls 2 inches above the knee It may not be more than 2 inches above the knee	Pants Navy blue dress pants No jean style or cargo with pockets are allowed
	Shirts Short or long-sleeved light yellow polo shirt OR White Oxford shirt	Shirts Short or long-sleeved light yellow polo shirt OR White Oxford shirt Navy blue or yellow/navy blue striped straight

All shirts must be tucked in

or bow tie from Global School Wear

All shirts must be tucked in and only solid white t-shirts can be worn underneath

Shoes/Tights/Socks

Solid navy blue or black knee socks or ankle socks

- no white socks
- no socks below the ankle

navy blue/black tights

not sheer

Solid black, brown, navy or tan shoes/athletic shoes

- must be secured with a strap or laces
- slip-on style shoes such as ballet flats
- no high heels

Shoes/Socks

Solid navy blue or black knee socks or ankle socks

- no white socks
- no socks below the ankle

Solid black, brown, navy or tan shoes/athletic shoes

- must be secured with a strap or laces
- no patterns or designs

Optional

Long sleeve v-neck sweater Cardigan sweater Fleece jacket

must be purchased through Global
School Wear

Warm Weather Option

(Aug-Oct & May-Jun)

Navy blue shorts in place of skirt

- no higher than 2 inches above the knee, with
- with knee or ankle socks

Optional

Long sleeve v-neck sweater Long sleeve full zip sweater Fleece jacket V-neck sweater vest

must be purchased through Global School
Wear

Warm Weather Option

(Aug-Oct & May-Jun)

Navy blue shorts in place of pants

- no higher than 2 inches above the knee, with
- with knee or ankle socks

No tie required

Gym Uniform

A gym uniform requirement is implemented on scheduled gym days. Different grades will have different gym days. Students will be informed of their grade's scheduled gym day at the beginning of the school year. All Holy Name school students, male or female, have the same gym uniform requirement:

- Navy blue short or long sleeved crewneck tee shirt with the school emblem
- Navy blue sweat shorts or long sweat pants with the school emblem
 - o Pants should not hang down and drag under the sneaker
 - Sneakers and solid white, navy, or black socks are worn on gym days
- Optional: Navy blue crewneck sweatshirt with school emblem
- Optional: Other school spirit wear can be worn in place of the gym uniform shirt and sweatshirt.

School Dress Uniform Restrictions: The following are not allowed for any students: fad hairstyles, non-natural colored hair or streaks, buzzed designs, hair covering eyes, and boots. Students should bring a change of shoes when boots are worn for inclement weather.

Excessive adornments are not permitted. Girls may wear stud ears, one bracelet or necklace, and headbands. Face piercing are not allowed

**Medical and cultural exceptions are made where appropriate.

*The Administration reserves the right to restrict any fad or fashion trend that will potentially distract from the learning environment, deviate from our school uniform requirement, or pose a safety risk. In such a case, parents will be notified to rectify the situation.

Dress Down Day Restrictions: The Administration may designate certain days as dress down days. Students may dress down on their actual birthday. The following are restricted on these days: clothing with offensive language and/or pictures, tank or halter tops, clothing or shorts that are too tight, shorts, skirts, or dresses that are too short, oversized, baggy clothing, clothing with holes or rips, shirts that expose any part of the stomach, and low riding pants.

Dress Code Violations: Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will have their uniforms checked by their homeroom teachers. If a student is in violation of the school uniform dress code, a written notification will be sent home so that the necessary corrections can be made; this notification needs to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to school the next school day. If the required adjustments are not corrected, additional consequences will follow as needed.

If the dress code violation is not addressed, it will be brought to the attention of the administration. Consequences for the violations include but are not limited to loss of dress down day privileges, loss of recess, detention, or being sent home. Parents will be contacted in these cases. The severity of the action will be assessed by the administration to determine the best course of action to rectify the matter.

Student Behavior and Conduct

Each child is a student of Holy Name School at all times. A student, who engages in conduct, whether inside or outside the school, including online, that is detrimental to the reputation of the school or harms other members of the school community, may be disciplined by school officials. The school's harassment regulations are grounded in the belief that all persons have a right to be treated with dignity. This shall include sexual harassment, which can be defined as "conduct containing sexual suggestions that would be offensive to a reasonable person." All allegations of sexual harassment will be taken seriously and promptly investigated while maintaining the confidentiality of both the alleged victim and the alleged perpetrator.

Teachers are required to uphold all school policies but are permitted to create and enforce rules for their classrooms. A copy of this policy may be obtained from the teacher at the Open House in the beginning of the school year. Minor classroom offenses, which are handled by the classroom teachers, will have consequences. Repeated classroom offenses may result in a student being assigned after school detention and/or referred to the Principal. Parents will be contacted as deemed necessary by the teacher or Principal.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. The school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the administration determines the partnership is irretrievably broken.

Inappropriate Behavior: The following behaviors do not align with expectations for students and will result in disciplinary action:

- anything that seriously impedes the learning of others
- disrespect of teachers, staff, or volunteers
- foul or abusive language or gestures
- dishonesty of a serious nature
- disruptive or immoral behavior
- cheating on homework, quizzes and tests. This will also result in a failing grade.
- serious and/or continued disrespect to persons of authority: faculty, staff, volunteers

Consequences include but are not limited to detention, community service to the school, in school or out of school suspension, or expulsion. A conference with parents, the principal and/or pastor will be required for any incident where suspension or expulsion is considered.

Serious Behavioral Offenses: The following are serious matters will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action:

- destruction of school property-there will need to be full restitution
- any physical fighting or extreme inappropriate behavior toward a teacher, staff member or other student
- Bringing a weapon to school and/or using it

 Students in possession of any weapons or simulated weapon, including all types of, but not limited to, knives, guns, chains, mace, pepper spray, toy and water guns, whether on their persons or in their lockers, threaten the safety of the school.
 Administrative action may result in a student's suspension or expulsion.

drug and/or alcohol use

Students are not permitted to use alcohol, marijuana and/or any illegal substance, nor be under their influence while on school property. Failure to abide by this policy will result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal. Additionally, the use of alcohol, marijuana, non-prescribed controlled substances, and/or illegal drugs off school grounds that affects the regard or reputation of the school in the community will lead to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

sexting and Inappropriate use of technology/social media

Sexting is defined by the State of Massachusetts as "sending, receiving, or forwarding sexually explicit messages, photos, or images via cell phone, computer, or other digital devices." This can include sending intimate pictures or video via text message or through apps such as Snapchat and Instagram. The electronic transmission or receipt from one minor to another of any photograph or video that depicts nudity may constitute illegal sexting. Students engaged in sexting will be subject to serious disciplinary consequences which may include expulsion from school. In addition, the school Administration may report instances of sexting to the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF) or local law enforcement for appropriate investigation as to violations of law.

smoking or vaping on school grounds or at school-sponsored events

Massachusetts State Law prohibits smoking or vaping in a school building and on school property. Smoking or vaping is prohibited at all times in the school building, in its parking lot, playing fields and other property. This prohibition applies to faculty, staff, parents, and all visitors to the school. Smoking or vaping on the sidewalk in front of the school building is not allowed. This policy includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe or any other matter or substance containing tobacco, as well as the use of electronic cigarettes (e cigarettes), personal vaporizers, vape pens, e-cigars, e-hookah, vaping devices, mod systems, pod systems or any similar systems. It is a violation of Massachusetts law for any minor to knowingly possess any tobacco product, nicotine product, or nicotine dispensing device. In addition, the use of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and vaping carry known health risks that can be very serious. The use of any tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and/or vaping in any form is prohibited on school property and at any school events. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary consequences which may include expulsion from school.

threats to school safety

- Any threat to school safety will be immediately reported to local authorities. Disciplinary action will be taken, which may include suspension or expulsion.
- any other infractions deemed serious by the teacher, principal, or pastor

Consequences include but are not limited to detention, in school or out of school suspension, or expulsion. A conference with parents, the principal and/or pastor will be required for any incident where suspension or expulsion is considered.

Detention: Students are expected to serve detention on the date assigned. Parents will receive a minimum of a 24-hour notice prior to the after school detention date. Students who exhibit repeated offensive behavior will be required to have a parent conference with the teacher and Principal to address the issue and come to a resolution.

Students in Grades 6, 7, or 8 who have been sent from class due to unacceptable behavior are to report to the Principal or Administrative Assistant. Teachers need to send a written statement to the office giving the reason (s) why the student was sent from class. Should a student be sent from class a second time, detention will be assigned and the parent will be notified.

Search and Seizure: A search may be conducted when the administration has a reasonable concern that a student is in possession of an illegal or harmful item that violates school policy. A search of the student's belongings may be done in the presence of a third party. Parents/guardians will be notified of all searches that are conducted. Disciplinary actions will be taken if the student is found in possession of illegal or harmful items and disciplinary action will be taken.

Harassment: Holy Name School is a community in which all members have the right to feel both safe and respected, and to live, work and learn in an environment that is free from harassment. Behavior that undermines these rights will not be tolerated. It is this school's policy that no member of the school community may harass another member. In all cases of harassment the school will maintain confidentiality to the extent possible.

Some examples of harassment may include:

Physical: bumping into someone, unwelcome or unnecessary touching, pushing or shoving, patting or hugging, standing in someone's way, pinching, grabbing, standing too close, hitting, punching

Verbal: threats, insults, sexual stories, jokes, or rumors, notes, letters, graffiti, inappropriate email or texting, pressure for sexual activity or date

Non-Verbal: obscene gestures, staring at someone's body, pictures or drawings, pantomiming in an insulting way, hazing, intimidation (bullying), gestures or looks

Students and/or parents should report any incidents of harassment to a school administrator, pastor, school counselor, teacher, staff, or nurse. Parents will be notified if a complaint has been made against their child. Administration will conduct a thorough investigation and take appropriate corrective actions, including consequences for the students who are responsible for the harassment. While respecting the privacy of both students, The administration will notify both parties of the decision as much as possible while respecting the privacy and rights of both students.

Parent Behavior and Harassment: Parents are expected to work cooperatively with teachers and administrators in an environment of mutual respect. Physical aggression or threatening behavior by

parents or guardians is not acceptable and will be grounds for dismissal of the student or students.

Bully and Cyberbullying

Holy Name School has a no tolerance policy for incidents of bullying and cyberbullying. The person or persons inflicting such distress will be subject to disciplinary action ranging from warnings and detentions to, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion. The Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan for the Diocese of Fall River and Holy Name School is located in Appendix S6 of this handbook. Please familiarize your child with the information stated in Appendix S6. Holy Name School and Diocese of Fall River policies regarding Sexting, Drug and Alcohol Use, and Smoking/Vaping are also delineated in Appendix S6 of this Handbook.

Specific Rules and Consequences for Bullying and Cyberbullying: This section is for a student who engages in behavior that is more serious than the above infractions. The following outline explains some of these behaviors, and the consequences that may result:

- Verbal or written threats of violence
- Serious physical fighting
- Possession of firearms, any weapons or instruments that could be used as weapons
- Self injurious behaviors or threats of suicide
- Possession of illegal substances
- Harassment of another person-sexual or otherwise
- Any other infractions deemed serious by a teacher or Principal

Consequences/Actions Taken for Early Signs of Inappropriate Behaviors:

- Warning
- Inform Principal
- Contact and inform parent/guardian
- Seek assistance from appropriate services/crisis counselor
- Contract signed by student/parent/guardian/witness
- Consequences/Actions for Continued Inappropriate Behavior
- Contact parent/guardian, Catholic Education Office, Pastor and Crisis Counselor
- Suspension
- Expulsion

Consequences/Actions for Urgent/Dangerous Situations and Serious Violations

- Contact Catholic Education Center and Crisis Counselor
- Contact law enforcement personnel
- Notify parent/guardian
- Expulsion

Appendix S6 Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan for the Diocese of Fall River

"Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family.

The body of Catholic social teaching opens with the human person, but it does not close there. Individuals have dignity; individualism has no place in Catholic social thought. The principle of human

dignity gives the human person a claim on membership in a community, the human family." (Taken from Byron, William J. S.J., *Ten Building Blocks of Catholic Social Teaching*. (2010). America: The National Catholic Weekly. American Press Inc.)

This plan is to be an addendum to the parent/student handbook, and it will immediately become part of the policy book of the Diocese of Fall River. The plan will be available on the diocesan website as well as each school's website.

The Diocese of Fall River will review and/or update the plan at least biennially. The school will give notice to and provide a comment period for families that have a child attending the school. The plan shall apply to students and members of the school staff, including but not limited to educators, administrators, school nurses.

Parents/guardians and students shall receive annual written notice of the relevant student-related sections of the plan.

All school staff shall receive annual written notice of the plan. The faculty and staff at each school shall be trained annually on the plan applicable to the school. Relevant sections of the plan relating to the duties of faculty and staff shall be included in the school employee handbook.

I. Definitions

The Diocese of Fall River and Name of School prohibits bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation as defined below. Bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation can occur on or off school property, and during or outside of school hours.

"Bullying" is the repeated use by one or more students or by a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional of a written, verbal, or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a victim that: causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim's property; places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to himself or of damage to his property; creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of the school. For the purposes of this section, bullying shall include cyber-bullying. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

"Cyber-bullying" is bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyber-bullying shall also include: the creation of a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages, if the creation or impersonation creates any of the conditions enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyber-bullying shall also include the

distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons, if the distribution or posting creates any of the conditions included in the definition of bullying. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

"Retaliation" against a person who reports bullying, provides information during an investigation of bullying, or witnesses or has reliable information about bullying shall be prohibited. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

"Hostile Environment" is a situation in which bullying causes the school environment to be permeated with intimidation, ridicule, or insult that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the conditions of a student's education. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

"Aggressor" is a student, or a member of a school staff including, but not limited to, an educator, administrator, school nurse, cafeteria worker, custodian, bus driver, athletic coach, advisor to an extracurricular activity or paraprofessional, who engages in bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation.

"Target" is a student against whom bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation has been perpetrated.

"Staff" includes, but is not limited to, educators, administrators, counselors, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, athletic coaches, advisors to extracurricular activities, support staff, or paraprofessionals. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

Bullying shall be prohibited: (i) on school grounds, property immediately adjacent to school grounds, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, function or program whether on or off school grounds, at a school bus stop, on a school bus or other vehicle owned, leased or used by a school district or school, or through the use of technology or an electronic device owned, leased or used by a school and (ii) at a location, activity, function or program that is not school related, or through the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased or used by a school, if the bullying creates a hostile environment at school for the victim, infringes on the rights of the victim at school or materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. Nothing contained herein shall require schools to staff any non-school related activities, functions or programs. (Massachusetts General Laws c. 71 § 370)

II. Formal Procedure for Reporting

Students are to report any and all bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation to teachers or staff.

Staff and teachers are to report any and all bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation to the principal or his or her designee.

Parents, guardians, and others are to report all bullying, cyber-bullying, and retaliation to the principal or his or her designee.

This reporting may be done verbally or in writing. This reporting of bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation may be made anonymously; however, no disciplinary action shall be taken against a student solely on the basis of an anonymous report. The principal and his or her designee will respond to and investigate all credible reports of bullying, and ensure proper documentation. This investigation will provide for the following:

Safety of the target

The principal or designee will take steps to assess the need to restore a sense of safety to the alleged target and/or to protect the alleged target from possible further incidences. Responses to promote safety may include but are not limited to: predetermining seating arrangements in the classroom, at lunch, or on the bus; identifying a staff member who will act as a "safe person" for the target; and altering the classroom schedule to reduce that aggressor's access to the target. The principal or designee will take additional steps to promote safety during or after the investigation, as necessary.

• Protection of the reporter, witness, or provider of information during the investigation

The principal or designee will implement appropriate strategies for protecting a student who has reported/witnessed or provided information during an investigation of a bullying situation. These responses may include but are not limited to the same responses noted for the safety of the target.

- Notification, including the parents of both the target and the aggressor, as well as notification of law enforcement
- a. Parents/Guardians: Upon determining that bullying or retaliation has occurred, the principal or designee will promptly notify the parents or guardians of the target and the aggressor of this, and of the procedures for responding to it. There may be circumstances in which the principal or designee contacts parents or guardians prior to any investigation. Notice will be consistent with state regulations at 603 CMR 49.00.
- b. Notice to another school: If the incident involves students from more than one school, the principal or designee will notify by phone any and all schools so that each may take appropriate action.
- c. Notice to Catholic Education Center: After determining that bullying has taken place, notice should be given immediately to the superintendent or his or her designee.
- d. Notice to law enforcement: At any point after receiving a report of bullying or retaliation, if the principal or designee has a reasonable basis to believe that criminal charges may be pursued against the aggressor, the principal or designee will notify the local law enforcement agency. Notice will be consistent with the law and locally established agreements with the local law enforcement agency.

III. Investigation

The principal or designee will investigate promptly all reports of bullying or retaliation and, in doing so, will consider all available information known, including the nature of the allegation(s) and the ages of the students involved.

During the investigation the principal or designee will, among other things, interview students, staff, witnesses, parents or guardians, and others as necessary. The principal or designee (or whoever is conducting the investigation) will remind the alleged aggressor, target, and witnesses that retaliation is strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.

Interviews may be conducted by the principal or designee, other staff members as determined by the principal or designee, and in consultation with the school counselor, as appropriate. To the extent practicable, and given his/her obligation to investigate and address the matter, the principal or designee will maintain confidentiality during the investigative process. The principal or designee will maintain a written record of the investigation.

IV. Determinations

The principal or designee will make a determination based upon all of the facts and circumstances. If, after investigation, bullying or retaliation is substantiated, the principal or designee will take steps reasonably calculated to prevent recurrence and to ensure that the target is not restricted in participating in school or in benefitting from school activities. The principal or designee will: 1) determine what remedial action is required, if any, and 2) determine what responsive actions and/or disciplinary action is necessary. Depending upon the circumstances, the principal or designee may choose to consult with the students' teacher(s) and/or school counselor, and the target's or aggressor's parents or guardians, to identify any underlying social or emotional issue(s) that may have contributed to the bullying behavior and to assess the level of need for additional social skills development.

The principal or designee will promptly notify the parents or guardians of the target and the aggressor about the results of the investigation and, if bullying or retaliation is found, what action is being taken to prevent further acts of bullying or retaliation. All notice to parents must comply with applicable state and federal privacy laws and regulations. Because of the legal requirements regarding the confidentiality of student records, the principal or designee cannot report specific information to the target's parent or guardian about the disciplinary action taken unless it involves a "stay away" order or other directive that the target must be aware of in order to report violations.

V. Range of disciplinary actions that may be taken against an aggressor for bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation

Each school in the Diocese of Fall River will include bullying, cyber-bulling and retaliation into the age appropriate disciplinary code that is included in the student/parent handbook. These disciplinary codes may include, but are not limited to, suspension and expulsion.

- VI. Any student who knowingly makes a false accusation of bullying, cyber-bullying, or retaliation shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.
- VII. At the discretion of the principal or his or her designee, counseling or referrals to Catholic Social Services will be made available to targets, aggressors, and/or family members.

Tuition

Tuition payment arrangements are made through FACTS Tuition Management. There are payment options available for 10, 11, and 12 month cycles.

	Tuition	Scholastic/Technology Fee	Total
Pre-Kindergarten Half Day	\$4,350	\$250	\$4,600
Pre-Kindergarten Full Day	\$5,350	\$250	\$5,600
Kindergarten - Grade 8	\$4,650	\$250	\$4,900

Appendix S8 Tuition & Fees – Delinquent Collections Policy

3009 - Tuition & Fees - Delinquent Collections Policy

It is part of the Diocese of Fall River Catholic Schools Alliance Mission to have the administrators, teachers, staff, parents and clergy joined in partnership to educate the children of the Diocese in Catholic faith and values. Part of that partnership is to have full transparency with Diocesan policies. In an effort to be fully transparent, The Diocese of Fall River is requesting that schools include a policy to manage collections of delinquent tuition payments. While it is unfortunate that situations arise that create challenges for families to make timely tuition payments, it is important for families to maintain communication with the school(s) to ensure there is a complete understanding of each family's financial circumstances. By keeping communication open and working together, the Diocesan and Parish schools should be able to work together to provide a Catholic education to every student that desires one.

The policy outlined below is the Diocesan best practices. We strongly recommend that each school adopt this policy to assist with delinquent tuition payments.

^{**}Nothing in this policy is intended to prevent the school administration from taking disciplinary action against a student for conduct that does not meet the definition of bullying, as defined above, but nevertheless is inappropriate for the school environment.

- 1. It is policy that the school determine who the guarantor of the account is, and the Diocesan Collection Policy should be communicated to the family and the guarantor of the account through one of the following methods:
 - Include the policy in the Tuition Payment Preference Form.
 - Include the policy in student handbooks.
 - If possible, have the policy added as a form in FACTS (or another third party tuition management service of the schools choosing), and make it a requirement that parents acknowledge receipt of the form when completing their FACTS enrollment.
- 2. Schools should use a third party tuition management service. The Diocese recommends FACTS, but schools may use a service of their choosing. Through FACTS, families can choose to pay all of their tuition up front, or pay in 10 monthly installments. It is the responsibility of the family to pay their tuition bills by the due date(s). In most cases families will set up auto payment with FACTS to have the tuition drafted from their account.
- 3. If FACTS attempts to draft a payment, and the funds are not available then FACTS will send a notice to the family that the funds are not available, and a second attempt and a third attempt (if necessary) will be made within 30 days to draft the funds. If the funds are not available by the third attempt, then the account will be marked unresolved, and the school will be notified. There is a \$30 processing fee from FACTS for insufficient funds.
- 4. If a school is notified by the tuition management service that a family missed a scheduled payment, the school president or principal will make a first attempt to contact the family by sending the proposed Diocesan form letter to the family notifying the family that the account is 30 days past due and asking them to contact the school. It is the responsibility of the family to contact the school to make arrangements to correct the situation, or work out an alternative payment plan.
- 5. If there is no response from the family to the first attempt at communication, then a second attempt to contact the family will be made by phone. If the family cannot be contacted by phone, then a second letter should be mailed to the family, or sent home with the student.
- 6. If the family has not contacted the school after the second attempt, then the school will turn the account over to collections. If the family has contacted the school, and a plan to resolve the past due account is either being worked on, or is in effect, the account will not be turned over to a third party collections agency, but will continue to be monitored by the school.
- 7. If all attempts by the school president or principal and/or the collection agency to address the issue are unsuccessful, then the responsible party will receive a written notice (by certified mail) explaining the commitment, and that immediate attention is required to resolve/address the matter. Although we do not want it to come to this, families will also be informed that there could be consequences if no attempt has been made to bring the account into good standing. Consequences for delinquent Tuition and Fee payments include:
 - a. students may not be allowed to take final exams
 - b. report cards may be withheld

- c. students may not be allowed to register, or return for the following year until the account is in good standing
- d. students may not be allowed to participate in extended school, club, or organized trips
- e. students may not be allowed to participate in athletic competitions or practices
- f. students may not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities
- 8. Secondary schools should verify that none of their applicants have an unpaid balance at any of the primary schools in the Diocese. Secondary schools should also verify that students transferring in from another Catholic high school do not have an unpaid balance at their previous school. An applicant or transferring student with an unpaid balance should have their balances rectified with any Catholic Schools Alliance school prior to enrollment at any Diocesan high school.
- 9. Primary schools should verify that any student transferring from another parish or Diocesan primary school does not have an unpaid balance that has not been resolved; if an unpaid/unresolved balance exists, the applicant should not be accepted into that school until the balance has been satisfactorily addressed.

Student/Parent Handbook Contract

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read and understand the guidelines set forth in this school handbook appendix and in the school plan referenced herein and agree to abide by them. I also acknowledge that certain remote learning or other sessions may be recorded for security purposes and agree that the school may do so.

Student Name (please print):		
Grade Level:		
Parent/Guardian (please print):		
Signature of Parent/Guardian:		
Date:		