

# Axis Academy

Policy Manual

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Student Handbook

2020 - 2021

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## **Guidelines**

Axis Academy exists to provide encouragement and guidance to families who choose to take a direct interest in and responsibility for the education of their children. The foundation and motivation for encouraging such participation is found in the mandates of the Scriptures.

*Train up a child in the way he should go, And even when he is old he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6 (ASV)*

We believe that the education of our children requires a full investment in the heart, mind, soul, and body.

*And Jesus increased in wisdom, and in stature, and in favor with God and men. Luke 2:52*

As we work to assist you in the wonderful process of educating your students, we strive to embrace biblical principals in all we do.

## **Accreditation**

Axis Academy is classified by the Tennessee Department of Education as a "Category IV Church-Related School" and is exempt from accreditation requirements per TCA 49-50-801.

## **Qualifications of Teachers**

Teachers should be of good moral character, and should be able to demonstrate both a general competence in the subjects they teach and an attitude of patience and compassion towards their students. Parents who choose to take direct responsibility for any part of their children's education are presumed to be competent and aware of their own gifts and limitations. Parents are encouraged to seek assistance and guidance from teachers and administrators whenever they wish. Educational diplomas and professional certifications neither qualify nor disqualify any individual or teacher for delivering instruction.

## **Academic Curriculum**

### **Academy Program**

Axis Academy is currently not enrolling students in an on-campus program. Various tutorial classes may be offered based on availability.

### **Umbrella Program**

Members of our umbrella program (independent study program) may select any suitable curriculum. Members are encouraged to carefully consider the many options available to them from a variety of academic publishers and organizations and to be innovative in considering the varied needs of students.

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## Academic Evaluation

As a satellite campus of the Axis Academy Umbrella Program and a teacher of said school we delegate academic evaluation to you. It is important for your students to master the subjects set forth by you to the best of their ability. For High School level students grades should be submitted using the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point Average (GPA)
A	90%-100%	4.0
B	80%-89%	3.0
C	70%-79%	2.0
D	60%-69%	1.0
F	0%-59%	0.0

Grades must be submitted semi-annually per the Record Keeping policy. In cases where students are not making adequate academic progress we recommend seeking wise counsel. The Axis Academy administration offers many years of experience in homeschool instruction and is here to help you. The responsibility for the success of your child rests with you alone. However, there are many services and resources available to assist you if you find a particular subject or level more challenging to teach than expected. Please reach out to us if you find yourself in this circumstance.

## Portfolio

All families are encouraged to keep a portfolio of the work and achievements of each enrolled student. It will be most helpful for you to keep additional documentation during the high school years. Ask for our example portfolio for requirements and other ideas on what to keep.

## Transferring

As a Category IV school, students transferring to public or accredited private schools may be subject to testing for grade level placement [or to determine which credits will be accepted in the case of a high school student].

Most colleges require entrance exams, such as the ACT or SAT, regardless of the type of school from which a student has graduated.

## Attendance

By statute, Tennessee requires that "Church-related schools shall be conducted for the same length of term as public schools." (TCA 49-50-801 (C)). Axis Academy recommends that 180 days and 4 hours per day be followed as a guideline for your students. You are encouraged to evaluate the appropriate amount of time necessary to cover the material in your chosen academic program and we can work together with you to

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establish a reasonable calendar which accomplishes your academic goals. The number of hours per day may vary depending on the same academic program and the varying needs of your student. Students should master certain subject matter. It is not necessary that they be required to spend an arbitrary number of hours doing so.

## **Standards of Behavior**

All Axis families are expected to demonstrate a morally sound standard of behavior. We understand that we are a witness to everyone around us and are encouraged to set a good example for others to follow. You, as the parent-teacher, are to set the standards of behavior and any disciplinary actions in your school. Please remember that we are all a reflection of other home school families when we are in the community and we have a responsibility to endeavor to be humble, demonstrate love, and be above reproach in all we do.

## **Record Keeping**

Axis Academy will keep permanent records on each student enrolled, in order to document their educational program accomplishments and to facilitate your student's pursuit of future educational opportunities. We take care to maintain the confidentiality of your student records and they will not be disclosed to any third party without the permission of the student's parents or guardians. Axis Academy requires that you send each student's courses, grades, and attendance twice per school year; June 1<sup>st</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. An extension may be requested if your family follows a year-round program.

## **Achievement Testing**

Testing is a way of measuring progress toward a predetermined goal. The goals of your homeschool may or may not conform with the goals being measured by national standardized achievement tests. Axis Academy neither requires nor prohibits the use of achievement tests. Achievement test scores may be a useful aid as part of an overall assessment of the progress of an individual student if used appropriately. If a member family elects not to participate in standardized testing, a portfolio must be kept and be made available for review by an advisor.

## **Revocation of Membership**

Axis Academy reserves the right to revoke a membership at any time before the annual expiration date. A sixty day notice will be given, advising that the membership status is being revoked with the reason duly stated. Said member may appeal the decision to an Axis Academy committee if such appeal is made in writing within thirty days of notice.