

Middle School Expectations of Students

Purpose of Expectations:

- To make sure that our Middle School meetings, activities, and events are enjoyable, safe, and pleasing to God.
 - We gather each week to learn and grow in faith. Our words and actions represent Jesus to those around us, and it's important to have an environment where others feel safe and therefore can learn and grow in their faith.
1. **SHOW LOVE FOR OTHERS AT ALL TIMES.** This means: Put the rights and needs of others ahead of your own. We don't put others down, make fun of people, hurt, or pick on others. **Matthew 22:39** *"Love your neighbor as yourself."*
 2. **LET OTHERS SEE JESUS THROUGH YOU** Show respect for everyone you come in contact with, by your actions and your words.
 - Language should be respectful, avoiding profanity and gossip.
 - Clothing should be modest and appropriate for a youth setting
 - Any form of bullying, harassment, discrimination or racism will not be tolerated.
 - Violence, threats, disruptive behaviour, or physical/verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
 - Fighting, pushing, or any physical aggression is prohibited.

Philippians 4:8-9 NIV *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

1. **RESPECT & TAKE CARE OF OUR CHURCH (facility and equipment) & THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.** Whether we are gathered at a Northview campus or at another venue, we need to be respectful and appreciative of the provided facilities.
2. **PLAY SAFELY.** You are very important to God, to our church, to our youth group, and to your family. Please follow all safety rules and leaders' instructions. Remember that your actions affect others as well as yourself.
3. **DISTRACTIONS:** Do your best not to be a distraction to others during worship, lessons, or small group time. We don't want anyone to miss out on what God may be trying to say to them, and that includes you. To help achieve this goal, we ask that students not be on their cell phones during worship, the large group teaching, and small group time.

4-step process when expectations are not met.

**** Restoring relationships and encouraging growth is central to our mission. Meaning that, when possible, we will guide the youth toward understanding and making amends, but we also recognize the need for accountability (Proverbs 3:11-12).*

- 1) Student infraction occurs. Leaders address the student and clearly point out how they've broken the ministry expectation. Inform students that if they continue, the next step (2) will be a conversation with either Dan or Natalie.
- 2) 2nd student infraction occurs. Dan or Natalie will speak to the student along with the attending leaders. It will be explained to the student that if the situation persists, that their parent/guardian will be contacted.
- 3) If the situation persists, the parent/guardian is notified and both student and parent/guardian are made aware that unless the situation is resolved, that the next step will be a suspension from attendance (period of time to be determined at the discretion of the pastor).
- 4) Infraction continues. Students and parents are notified of suspension protocol verbally and in writing. The written part should clearly indicate what expectations are not being met, why those expectations are in place, and include an invitation to return in the future (at a date determined case by case).