

# Saint Bridget Catholic School



## Academic and Behavior Expectations, At a Glance...

Saint Bridget Catholic School, in partnership with parents, staff and students, provides a strong academic curriculum in a Catholic, Christ-centered environment that fosters spiritual growth, moral development, and the pursuit of excellence in the whole person. This is a place where students can enhance their self-esteem, become more self-aware, and learn responsible decision-making. ***We are committed to creating a positive environment that sets high expectations and promotes safety, respect, and responsibility for self and others.***

Research confirms active parent participation in education and school life makes a critical difference in how children learn and achieve. We are asking you to join us as partners in your child's education and send your child to school ready to learn by following the guidelines below:

### Partners in Education

1. Ensure your child reads daily for pleasure, in addition to other homework.
2. Attend Parent-Teacher conferences in the fall and reach out to teachers if a question arises.
3. Monitor and limit the amount and type of electronic platforms to which your child has access.
4. Review all school work and information your child brings to you.

### “Ready to Learn”

Be sure...

...your child is at school each day, all day, on-time, well-rested, and with all necessary school materials.

...your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast and a healthy learning attitude.

...your child has a home study space, with all necessary materials, to complete assignments.



We want all students to be successful and happy at school and believe parents play a key role in this endeavor. We ask that parents continue to show an interest in and support for their child. We also ask parents to allow for their child's developing independence. We have high academic and behavior expectations that encourage students to be accountable for themselves and their actions. We ask that parents join in partnership with us and work positively to find solutions if problems arise. At Saint Bridget Catholic School, we look forward to providing the excellent education all children are entitled to receive and working with families to maximize student success.



## HOMEWORK POLICY

The school community at Saint Bridget desires that all students become self-directed, lifelong learners who assume responsibility for their choices. Homework provides the opportunity for practice and application of academic skills. It is also an exercise in accepting responsibility, reinforcement, perseverance, and independent accomplishment.

We feel it is important that students are involved in some form of homework daily. **It is our expectation that students do the following:**

1. Complete all assignments to the best of their ability.
2. Return all assignments to school on time.
3. Turn in work that is neatly done and has a “look of literacy.”
4. Be responsible for work missed when absent from class for any reason.

Our goal is no more than 20 minutes per subject per day.

If your child is taking longer than the recommended amount of time, please stop working and send a note to the teacher explaining the situation.

### **What kinds of homework might your child have?**

1. Practice of skills taught in class.
2. Complete work not finished during class time.
3. Long-term projects.
4. Review for assessments.

### **To help your child develop strong homework habits, we ask that parents please:**

1. Establish homework as a top priority.
2. Provide a quiet place for homework completion.
3. Establish a daily homework time.
4. Hold your child accountable for completing all assignments.
5. Talk to your child’s teachers about any problems surrounding homework.

## BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Saint Bridget Catholic School is committed to sustaining a Christ-centered environment that teaches Gospel values and integrates them into daily life. Sustaining a Christ-centered environment in the school has many elements. One of the most important is that students are expected to follow Jesus Christ in their actions, exercising self-control, and conducting themselves properly at all times. Behavior must reflect the values of the Catholic faith with high standards of courtesy, decency, respect, honesty, and wholesome relationships. Acceptable behavior is expected at all school activities, whether on or off the premises of Saint Bridget Catholic School.

At all grade-levels, our goal is to teach–practice–reteach behavior expectations. However, if a student chooses to continue inappropriate behavior, consequences will be given appropriate to the misconduct. Saint Bridget Catholic School provides a safe, caring learning environment and there is no place for disruptive behavior. We ask for your support and request that you review these expectations with your child.

Our discipline policy attempts to set clear limits on what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable behavior. Throughout the buildings and on school grounds, we expect students to follow three basic rules:

- ***Be Safe:***

Actions ensure the safety of others and self; the safe use of equipment; a concern for the physical and emotional well-being of others.

- ***Be Respectful:***

Saying a kind word to another; caring for school and grounds; respecting personal property of classmates and staff; being polite and courteous to others.

- ***Be Responsible:***

Cooperating with others; following directions; managing self appropriately thus not interfering with the ability of others to teach or learn; being accountable for behaviors.

At the beginning of the school year, classroom teachers and students will establish class covenants that identify classroom rules, procedures, and student responsibilities to ensure an atmosphere of learning. Every teacher will communicate these expectations to families.

The classroom teacher is the first to reinforce student responsibilities and manage class disruptions, providing reflection and consequences as needed. If intervention from the office is required, it will be handled in a progressive manner. Disciplinary action may include Gospel-centered reflection, parent conference, detention, suspension, or expulsion. A detailed explanations of each of these consequences may be found in the Parent/Student Handbook.

### PRAISE AND APPRECIATION TICKETS (PATs)

When students demonstrate our CORE Values, they may be recognized through the receipt of PATs. Students put their names on the PATs and place them in the jars located in both school main offices. Once a week, one PAT will be drawn from the jars. The selected student will be recognized to the larger school community and receive a gift card to one of our local area businesses.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL MERIT SYSTEM

At Saint Bridget Middle School, we honor and celebrate students who demonstrate the values and virtues of Christ through a merit point system. Every student begins each semester with 100 merit points. Students who maintain at least 91 of the points at the end of the semester will be invited to participate in a merit celebration. Students who choose to lose 10 or more points will not participate in the reward. Students lose points through receipt of demerits and/or office referrals.

Parents will be informed about behavior concerns by either written notice or a phone call on the day an infraction occurs or is discovered. Notices are to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to school the next day. A copy of all notices is retained by the school and a copy is given to parents. Failure to return the notice will result in detention.

Students will start the school year and the second semester with 100 points. Consequences for the violation of Saint Bridget School's Code of Conduct in the Student/Parent Handbook will result in a loss of points and other appropriate measures up to and including suspension or removal from school, at the discretion of the school administrators. Please review the Parent/Student Handbook for a more detailed explanation of our system.

Several common examples are:

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| <u>Demerit</u><br><i>(1 point)</i>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dress Code Violation</li><li>• Tardy to Class</li><li>• Unauthorized Gum/Food/Beverages</li><li>• Cell Phone Violation</li><li>• Disruptive Behavior</li><li>• Forgotten Device, Charger, or Ear Buds</li></ul> |

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| <u>Office Referral</u><br><i>(5points)</i>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aggressive Behavior/Physical Contact</li><li>• Academic Misconduct</li><li>• Dishonesty</li><li>• Disrespect</li><li>• Repeated Behaviors</li><li>• Technology Misuse</li></ul> |

Middle School offers a great opportunity for students to grow and develop independence, in tandem with continued guidance. Working together, we make Saint Bridget Middle School an outstanding learning environment. Your participation and support of our program is greatly appreciated.

