



**NCS**  
**Handbook**  
**2005-2006**



## I. INTRODUCTION

Northumberland Christian School was founded in 1972 to provide a God-centered education that stimulates in the student a passion for excellence in learning, service, and worship. The school offers a full educational program for students from preschool through high school. We are thankful to our Lord for the privilege of training our students in a Christian school where we may follow His directives and look to Him to grant our students spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional, and physical growth.

## II. NCS DISTINCTIVES

**NCS is committed to...**

- **a God-centered approach to education.** We embrace a Biblical world and life view and seek to teach students to think about all of life based on the truth which God has revealed.
- **discipleship as an essential part of the Christian life.** We teach Jesus Christ as Lord and seek to lift the vision of each student to bow to His authority in every aspect of life.
- **worship as central to all of life.** We teach students that the most important thing in life is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. Music is used extensively in worship and to fix God's Word in our hearts and minds.
- **a broad education that embraces ideas and truths as well as skills.** We offer courses in history, science, literature, languages, and the arts in order to develop students of character who think deeply about life.
- **pursuing excellence in acquiring skills for continued learning and service in God's world.** We challenge students to develop math, science, language and computer skills that equip them to be used by God in the world in which they live.

**We seek to stimulate students to develop their God-given abilities to the fullest for the glory of God.**

### III. PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

The purpose of Northumberland Christian School is not merely to add a biblical curriculum and Christian atmosphere to the basic curriculum of a secular school, but rather, our purpose is to teach *every* subject from a Biblical perspective and to help the student to see *all* of life from God's point of view. The underlying philosophy of secular education teaches the child that we live in a world of chance, and whatever order is seen in the world is attributed to the laws of "nature"; however, our school continually teaches the child that all is ordered and controlled by God. For example, in order to have a proper understanding of history, one must know the God Who controls history. Likewise, in order to understand science, one must know the God Who created all things and Who continues to uphold the world by the Word of His power. It is the Creator alone Who can tell us the purpose and proper use of all those things which He has created.

Our philosophy also differs from that of secular schools in terms of our view of man. The secular schools view the mind of man to be supreme and believe that man is in a normal state. The Bible teaches us, however, that man is in an abnormal state, for his entire being has been permeated by sin. His will is enslaved to his own desires, his affections are perverse and turned from that which is pleasing to God, and his mind is darkened to truth. He is in need of the grace of God to give him a new heart and to bring his will into subjection to God. Contrary to popular belief, man's mind is not supreme, and man cannot solve all of his problems by using his mind. Rather, his mind must also be subject to the Word of God, for man can know *nothing* rightly apart from God. God must be *central* to true education, for the fear of the Lord is the *beginning* of knowledge (Proverbs 1:7).

The basic sphere of our concern is eternity and the world to come, not merely time and this present world. We must remember that we are pilgrims and sojourners in this world. Therefore, a man must have his eyes fixed on the world to come, if he is to have a proper perspective to guide his life in this present world.

Lastly, our goal is also different from that of the secular school. The ultimate goal of our entire educational process is the glory of God, and not only man's good and man's development. Man has not rightly learned, until he has learned to take his place at the feet of his Creator in worship, praise, and submission, and has learned to live to His glory in every detail of life (I Corinthians 10:31).

## IV. CURRICULUM

### A. BIBLE

Proverbs 1:7 – The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

The Bible curriculum forms the foundation of the school. It is not merely an extra course which is added because we are a Christian school. Students must be familiar with the contents of the Bible because its revelation is absolutely essential for life and godliness. Regular devotions include the singing of scripture songs and some teaching from God’s Word. The entire school meets together for devotions twice each week. On the other days, students are divided into various age groups.

Bible memorization is required of all students. The Bible memory program is contained in the *Word for Word* book, which also contains many songs which are used to aid in scripture memorization. Students in grades K–3 are required to recite their verses each week. Students in grades 4–12 take a written Bible memory test each week. The Bible memory tests count as one-half the Bible grade for students in grades 4–8. In the high school, the tests count as a separate half-credit course entitled “Bible Fundamentals.”

In addition to devotions and Bible memory, students have regular Bible classes each week. Grades K-3 receive Bible instruction from their classroom teacher. They also have a weekly Bible class which emphasizes the stories of the Bible. Grades 4-6 have Bible classes which are based upon the *Bible Guide* workbooks published by C.S.I.; grades 7-8 have Bible classes which are based upon *The Ministry of Christ* by Francis Breisch. The high school Bible classes are based on a four-year survey of scripture. The Old Testament survey course uses *The Kingdom of God* by Francis Breisch (C.S.I.), while the survey course of the gospels and the two years of survey of the epistles do not use any text other than the Bible.

Instruction from the Bible is also incorporated in **all** subject areas.

### B. ELEMENTARY

The elementary program is founded on a strong phonics program which begins in kindergarten. Students are reading words with short vowels by the middle of kindergarten. This provides a solid basis for their reading skills. Reading is important because God has given us His written Word which we are to read and study. Reading opens the door to many other areas of learning. Not only is the **skill** of reading important to acquire, but the **content** of what is read is

of the utmost importance. Students read stories which seek to stress godly character qualities. They learn about people who do what is right, and people who have eternal values. They learn to appreciate, love, and understand other people. As their reading skills grow from year to year, their writing skills are strengthened as well. They learn the importance of good grammar, because God is a God of order and precision who communicates carefully and accurately. They learn the importance of writing and speaking the right way, because we are to reflect the image of God. They gradually learn to develop their thoughts in an intelligent and orderly manner, and to use the creative abilities God has given to them. Students follow a grammar and writing curriculum by Brenda Shurley. Their language skills are also strengthened by the study of Latin from third through sixth grade.

The elementary history curriculum provides a strong Christian foundation for the students. Materials are chosen from various publishers to aid the teachers in building a Christian worldview. First and second grade history texts from Bob Jones University Press give the students a solid background in understanding the early years of the United States of America. Beginning in third grade we broaden their perspective to include the basics of World History by using materials from Veritas Press. Third grade studies the New Testament Era, Greece, and Rome; fourth grade covers the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation, fifth and sixth grade continue to integrate U.S. and World History through 1815, and 1815 to the present. Tests are cumulative, so that students retain a framework for subsequent historical studies.

While some would suppose that math is the same, whether the perspective is Christian or secular, we believe that the study of mathematics is founded on the very character of God, who is a God of order and precision. Students learn the importance of working carefully and come to see the absolutes and the order that God has built into this world. They also learn important skills that will help them live responsibly and will enable them to be good stewards. Our elementary math program follows a curriculum published by John Saxon.

Science classes also begin in the lower elementary grades and help the students develop a God-centered view of creation and providence. Textbooks come from A Beka Books, a publisher connected with Pensacola Christian School.

### C. HISTORY

Beginning in seventh grade, history and science classes are taught with two grade levels combined in one class, and the subject material alternates from year to year. The textbooks are all from Bob Jones University Press. Seventh and eighth grade students alternate between *World Studies* and *The American Republic*. High school students take four years of social studies: *World History*, *Geography*; *United States History*, and *American Government and Economics*. Students also receive instruction in Pennsylvania History one day each week for one year of their high school studies.

The study of history is a wonderful opportunity to teach the students about God's sovereign control of this world and the eternal purposes which He is accomplishing. They come to see how **all** of history is indeed **His** story, as He continues to build His church and call out a

people from every nation to be His very own. They learn that Jesus Christ is **central** to all of history, and that history is not cyclical, but is steadily moving from creation to the second coming of Christ. They learn that this world can only be rightly understood in light of the spiritual world which is unseen. They learn that living in the **real** world means living with a consciousness of the spiritual and not just the material. They see abundant examples of both positive and negative character lessons from the perspective of God's Word. They also learn a biblical view of government and the proper Christian relationship to those in authority over us.

#### D. SCIENCE

The major science courses from grades 7-12 also include textbooks from Bob Jones University Press. Seventh and eighth graders study *Life Science* and *Earth Science*. Ninth and tenth graders study *Basic Science* (an introduction to Chemistry and Physics) and *Biology* (including lab). Most eleventh and twelfth graders study *Chemistry* (including lab) and *Physics* (Saxon text). Some eleventh and twelfth graders take a course in Anatomy and Physiology using the text *Structure & Function of the Body*, either instead of or in addition to Chemistry or Physics.

Like history, science is a wonderfully God-centered discipline. It is **God** who has made us and all creation, and as we study the wonders of creatures and creation, we praise a **wise** and **gracious** and **artistic** Creator! (We don't pretend that time and chance could bring about such intricacies!) We learn to use the minds that He has given us to classify and analyze and quantify and explore the wonders of the world He has made.

#### E. MATHEMATICS

The study of mathematics continues from elementary school, as we marvel more and more at the intricacies of this precise and orderly science. John Saxon's approach to upper mathematics is based upon the principle that skills are best learned by constant repetition. The student is required not only to learn new skills, but also to **retain** them. Eighth grade students begin with Algebra ½, although students who excelled in sixth or seventh grade math are allowed to begin Algebra ½ in seventh grade or Algebra I in eighth grade. After Algebra I and II, students proceed to one or two years of Advanced Mathematics, which is a combination of Algebra III, Geometry, and Trigonometry. Advanced students take Calculus during their senior year. Courses in General Mathematics and Consumer Mathematics are also taught as high school electives.

#### F. ENGLISH

Students in grades 7-12 continue to work on their language skills in grammar, spelling, vocabulary, writing, and speaking. Seventh through tenth grade students continue with the Shurley Grammar curriculum or an A Beka Book Grammar text; they also *Vocabulary from*

*Classical Roots* by Fifer & Flowers. Grades 11–12 use *Vocabulary from Classical Roots* as well and use *The Bedford Handbook* for grammar and writing.

Secondary students begin a much more thorough study of literature, learning to analyze both Christian and non-Christian authors from a Biblical perspective. Several literature anthologies are used, as well as many individual books. (7-8 use Bob Jones *Explorations in Literature*; 9-10 use Bob Jones *American Literature to 1865* and *1865 to Present*, alternating with HBJ *Adventures in Appreciation*; 11-12 use HBJ *Adventures in English Literature* and *Adventures in American Literature*).

Students are required to read at least two works of literature each marking period. One of these will require a written book report, and the other will require a computerized test through the Accelerated Reader program, which evaluates familiarity with the content of the book. A reading list is provided with works categorized into three sections: College-bound Reading List, Valuable Literature, and Too Good to Miss. Each high school student will be given a Writing Syllabus to follow during the school year in conjunction with literature assignments. Reading and Writing grades will be included in English grades.

#### G. FOREIGN LANGUAGE

It is by God's design at the tower of Babel that mankind was divided into different cultural and language groups. The study of other languages helps to expand the Christian's worldview and his appreciation for peoples of other cultures.

Students in grades 3–6 receive two classes of instruction each week in basic Latin vocabulary and grammar. This gives students an excellent foundation for later language study and for more advanced English vocabulary.

An introduction to New Testament Greek is taught to our students in seventh grade. This gives them a basic familiarity with the language of the New Testament, it gives them a solid introduction to the grammatical structures which are vital to language study, it strengthens their grasp of English grammar, and it builds their English vocabulary by teaching many Greek words from which English words are derived.

All students take Spanish I in eighth grade. In our present culture, this is probably the most valuable modern foreign language to learn. Students who do well in eighth grade Spanish I are given a high-school credit and go on to Spanish II in ninth grade. Others repeat Spanish I in ninth grade and take Spanish II in tenth. Elective courses in Spanish III and IV are also offered.

#### H. BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

All seventh graders receive keyboarding instruction in the computer lab. Students use a computerized keyboarding program to challenge and sharpen their keyboarding skills. Eighth graders and high school students that have not yet taken the course complete a course in Microsoft Word.

Students are encouraged to take at least one year of Introduction to Computers in which they learn the basics of computer hardware and structured programming. Students who do well in the introductory course may go on to take advanced programming courses. The languages used in these three years are C++, Visual Basic and Java. Students in the advanced courses also learn HTML and ASP, as well as an introduction to Linux.

Students may also elect to take one or several half-credit courses in computer applications. These courses allow the student to learn how to use the popular application package Microsoft Office. In addition to learning Word, Excel and Access, students may also take an introduction to Web Development using FrontPage.

Electives are also offered to juniors and seniors is Accounting I and II. These are full credit courses that teach the basic principles of business financial management.

## I. MUSIC

Music at N.C.S. is a daily part of worship. All Christians are called upon to sing the praises of God, and so music is a vital part of Christian education. All students from Kindergarten through twelfth grade participate in regular choir classes. Specific instruction in Music Theory is given in grades 1-6. Students in fourth and fifth grades are also taught to play the recorder. A concert of worship is presented each spring by the entire student body. The preparation for this spring program is an integral part of the educational process, teaching an understanding of many types of music, an appreciation for the great composers of the past, and an experience of pursuing excellence in worship in order to “make His praise glorious.”

## J. ART

Art is also an important part of coming to appreciate more and more the creative and artistic qualities of our God, and of man as he reflects those qualities. Elementary teachers often make use of art projects in the classroom, and specific art classes are taught each week to students in grades 2-8.

## K. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

God has called us to be good stewards of the bodies He has given to us. Physical education classes are a part of the weekly schedule at N.C.S. Generally, second, fourth, fifth and sixth grade have gym on Mondays; first grade, third grade, and seventh and eighth grade girls on Tuesdays; kindergarten and ninth through twelfth grade girls on Wednesdays; and seventh through twelfth grade boys have gym on Thursdays. Gym classes during the winter (November through March) are taught at the Winfield Baptist Church gym, the Sunbury YMCA

or other inside locations depending on the subject matter or activity. A gym schedule is posted so students can be prepared to dress appropriately for the class. Health and safety instruction is a part of the regular curriculum in the early grades. Health and First Aid are taught weekly in grades 7–12 and as a part of the science curriculum in grades 3–6.

## V. GRADUATION & PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

High school students must complete a minimum of 26 credits in order to graduate. All students must complete credits in the following areas:

SUBJECT	CREDITS NEEDED
Bible	4
English	4
Social Studies	3
Math	3
Science	3
Health and P.E.	2
Electives	7

The requirements for promotion in the high school are as follows:

GRADE	CREDITS NEEDED
To grade 10	6
To grade 11	12
To grade 12	19
To graduate	26

Students are given percentage grades on a scale as follows:

PERCENTAGE	LETTER GRADE
93-100	A
85-92	B
78-84	C
70-77	D
Below 70	F

Any grade that is below 70 is failing, and the student is not given credit for the course. However, failing grades are included in computing the yearly and cumulative averages of the student. In determining averages, all grades are weighted on the basis of the number of credits which the course is worth. Grades are not weighted based on the difficulty of the course.

Class rank is based on all high school courses the student has taken, and all students, both college preparatory and non-college preparatory, are included in determining class rank. It should be recognized that class rank is not always a good indicator of academic achievement because of the small class size. A student who ranks fifth in his class might rank second in the class a year ahead or behind him. For this reason, our transcripts include an “alumni rank”, which indicates the rank of the student compared with the final cumulative averages of all former graduates combined with the current cumulative averages of the senior class.

Northumberland Christian School has graduated 263 students since 1978. 70% of our graduates have gone on to attend four-year colleges, including state universities, independent liberal arts colleges, and four-year Christian colleges; 12% of our graduates attended two-year college programs or two-year nursing schools; and 4% have entered the armed forces. We have had five National Merit Scholars, and ten additional students commended by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation for being in the top 5% of the nation.

## **VI. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

God’s desire for each of us is that we seek to please Him above everyone else, and that we seek to grow in our knowledge of Him. He has graciously given us commands to obey, and the Christian is someone who has come to realize that God’s laws are for our good; a mark of the true Christian is a desire to obey God’s commands (I John 2:4). Unbelievers will not submit to God (Romans 8:7); but true Christians have learned that it is for their good to submit to God, to the authorities He has placed over them, and to the circumstances He brings into their lives (Psalms 1:1-2; Hebrews 13:17; Philippians 2:14; 4:11-13).

The following standards and responsibilities have been established for the good of the student body and the school. (A more detailed list is given in the annual handbook supplement.) Students must be kind to everyone and show proper respect for people and property. We pray that students’ attitudes and actions will reflect a heart that wants to honor God in every situation.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES IN GENERAL**

Show respect for God and His Word. Participate in worship, devotions, and classroom activities.

Come to class prepared to learn. Leave electronic games, radios, and CD players at home.

Leave comic books and magazines at home.

Behave in a manner that helps other students pay attention and learn.

Keep your textbooks covered with a cover that does not stick to the book surface.

Students are not permitted to eat or drink other than during lunch in the assigned room.

Students may bring a water bottle to class if they do not abuse this privilege.

Students may not chew gum between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:15 p.m., whether in the building, at recess, or at gym.

Students may not have in their possession any medication. This includes pain reliever and cough drops. If medication must be taken during the school day, the appropriate form must be completed. The medicine will be administered by the school nurse or another designated person.

Honesty and integrity are important qualities for every student to learn. Students found cheating on any assignment or test will receive a zero on that assignment or test. Any student who allows a student to copy his work will also receive a zero on the assignment or test.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES UPON ARRIVAL**

Come inside as soon as you arrive and stay in. If you arrive late, report first to the office. Repeated unexcused tardiness will result in the assignment of a detention. Tardiness caused by sickness, medical appointments, or emergencies will be excused. Emergencies are urgent situations that are not foreseeable. Excuses such as overslept, got caught in traffic, had to stop for gas, could not find a parking space, or needed to finish an assignment clearly arise from foreseeable situations and will be considered unexcused.

If you must leave early, secure an early dismissal pass from the office.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CLASSROOM**

You are responsible to supply your OWN pencils, pens and paper; do not ask the teacher or other students for supplies. Bring them from home or buy them in the office.

You are to take your OWN notes and may NOT copy the notes from another student. The copier is not to be used for copying student notes except with teacher permission.

Be neat; take care of the building; keep your feet off the pews and hymnal racks; keep lockers neat, gym bags must be in or on top of your locker, do not sit on or put feet on tables; do not lean back or to the side in chairs.

If you need to go to the office, go first to your ASSIGNED CLASS and ask the teacher of that class for permission to go to the office.

If you are sick, tell your TEACHER, and the teacher will send you to the office with a pass to call your parents.

During fire drills, no one is to talk except the teacher; the last person out of the room should close the door. Walk in single file; know the primary and secondary exits for each of your rooms.

Seek to have attitudes that will please the Lord. Don't complain! If you have a problem, talk to your teacher or to the Principal. Be an encouragement and positive influence on those around you.

### **DRESS CODE**

Our dress should always be modest and appropriate to the situation. We must be sensitive to the cultural customs of the society around us, but we must also recognize the need for guidelines concerning dress and that the way we dress makes a statement about us. These are the standards of dress for Northumberland Christian School. Students are expected to respect the dress code and rectify their appearance as quickly as possible when it is determined that the dress code has been violated. Not respecting the dress code will be considered disobedience and handled according to the discipline procedure.

Students must always be neat and modest. No clothing with holes or tears, belts hanging below the waist, inappropriately sized clothing, or other sloppy dress will be permitted.

Boys may not have long hair and may not wear earrings.

Students may not wear jewelry in pierced body parts other than ears for females.

Students may not wear immodest or suggestive clothing—clothing that is too short or too tight, clothing which exposes the midriff or underwear, or clothing which suggests behavior contrary to Biblical principles. Tattoos are not allowed.

Students may not wear shorts to class. Girls may wear split skirts, skorts, or culottes, only if they are clearly full enough not to be considered shorts.

Students in grades K-6 may come to school on gym days wearing their gym clothes, so they will not need to change at school. However, students who want to wear shorts for gym, must either wear sweatpants over them, or change at their lunch time.

Students may not wear clothing representing rock groups or offensive philosophies.

Students in all grades through the winter months (December - March) are not allowed to wear shorts on the bus to gym without wearing sweatpants over them. Students are also required to wear a coat on the bus to gym during the winter months.

### **ATTENDANCE**

The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. for all grades. A written excuse by a parent or guardian must be presented to the teacher when a student returns to school after an absence. Excuses must be presented within 3 days of the student's return or the absence will be considered unexcused. If an absence is foreseeable, a note should be sent in advance. Absences other than sickness and emergency will be excused only if arrangements are made in advance with the principal. Students who choose to participate in athletics are responsible to arrive at school at 8:00 a.m., even if they have arrived home late the night before from an away game. Tiredness is no excuse for tardiness or absence. Doctor, dental, and other such

appointments are to be after school whenever possible. Students with excessive unexcused absences or unexcused tardies will be assigned detention as a consequence. Repeated detentions will result in a suspension.

From time to time parents may wish to take their children along on a family trip. Because of the importance of school attendance and the relationship between attendance and academic performance, we encourage families to take trips when school is not in session. If these trips must occur while school is in session the following guidelines must be followed.

Excuses for these trips must be approved in advance of the trip. Trips must be for a limited number of days and must have educational merit. The student's attendance and academic progress must be satisfactory for the trip to be approved. Absences for unapproved trips will be considered unexcused.

### **DISCIPLINE**

Most behavior problems are dealt with by a conference with the teacher or principal and an appropriate loss of privileges within the school day. Repeated offenses or more serious infractions may result in a detention after school at the discretion of the principal. Parents will be notified of a detention at least one day in advance. Detention is automatically assigned for chewing gum during school hours, eating or drinking other than assigned times and areas, failure to come to an assigned class, cheating, throwing snow or ice, inappropriate physical contact between male and female students – kissing, embracing, holding hands, etc., circulating CD's or magazines with objectionable content, or threatening another student.

We are thankful that the Lord has blessed us with cooperative students through the many years of NCS, and the need for more serious disciplinary action has been rare. However, students may be suspended from school or expelled if the administration deems such action to be necessary. Leaving the school without permission, flagrant disobedience, the use and/or possession of tobacco, alcohol or drugs, the use of matches or lighters, open or aggressive sexual behavior or language, physical violence such as punching, hitting, or fighting, the possession of knives or weapons of any kind, or any behavior which the administration judges to be a serious detrimental influence to the student body or the ministry of the school will not be tolerated.

## **VII. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Not only do the Scriptures teach that a child must be trained according to the Word of God in every area, but they also teach that the training of a child in the totality of what that child is, is the responsibility of the parent. Therefore, it is vitally important that every parent be actively involved in his child's schooling. Parents should attend the quarterly parent meetings, at which time report cards are distributed and parents meet with the teachers to discuss the student's progress. Parents should also be aware of their child's day-to-day progress, so that

they can properly encourage the child, praise him for his successes, help him in his weak areas (e.g. drill spelling words, encourage neatness, review memory work, etc.), and be alert to any problems that arise. It is essential that parents be consistently supportive of the school. Therefore, if there are ever any problems, questions, or suggestions about school policy, student progress or assignments, matters of discipline, or any other matter, the teacher or principal must be promptly contacted. We are never too busy to hear from parents, because we believe that good communication between parents and staff is vital if we are to minister to the specific needs of each child.

Test folders for K-3 are sent home by the classroom teacher, generally once a week; and test folders for 4-6 are sent home by the office every few weeks (teachers send all tests to the office to be filed). Parents should look at the tests, sign the papers and return the folder promptly. Mid-quarter progress reports are sent home for 7-12 grade major subjects on the dates indicated on the school calendar. Parents are always welcome to come to the office to review their child's test file.

Field trips are planned at various times during the school year to enhance the educational program. Lower elementary grades often take short outings at various times and call on parents for assistance with transportation. Parents are asked to help with the cost of these special trips. Because these trips are a part of the educational program, all students are expected to participate unless there is a definite schedule conflict or extenuating circumstances.

The support of parents is essential to the maintaining of the safety of our students. Our security policy requires that all parents and visitors to the school must first report to the office. If they need to go elsewhere in the building, they will be given a pass. This is important, so that students can be assured that any adult in the halls who is not a staff member will be wearing a visitor pass. While many staff and students would recognize many parents, it is not possible to expect all of them to recognize all parents. All students need to know that anyone who is without a pass and not a staff member is to be reported to their teacher immediately.

Another essential part of parental involvement is that of prayer. Please pray regularly for the total ministry of our school, for apart from Him we can do nothing. We also encourage you to pray with your children about their school life and their individual needs. This will help to teach them to depend upon God in every area.

Parents can also find much helpful information and school news on the school's website at [www.norrychristian.net](http://www.norrychristian.net). The school may also be contacted by e-mail at [ncs@norrychristian.net](mailto:ncs@norrychristian.net).

### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The following is a summary of the fees for the 2005-2006 school year:

<b>2005-2006 Tuition</b>	<b>Grades 7-12</b>	<b>Grades 1-6</b>	<b>Kindergarten</b>
First child from family	\$3,540 (295x12)	\$3,360 (280x12)	\$1,980 (165x12)
Second child from family	\$2,820 (235x12)	\$2,640 (220x12)	\$1,620 (135x12)
Third child from family	\$2,160 (180x12)	\$1,980 (165x12)	\$1,260 (105x12)
Fourth child from family	\$1,500 (125x12)	\$1,320 (110x12)	\$ 900 ( 75x12)
Fifth child or more	\$ 120 ( 10x12)	\$ 120 ( 10x12)	\$ 120 ( 10x12)

<b>2005-2006 Preschool Tuition</b>		
<b>Days per week</b>	<b>Yearly Tuition</b>	<b>10 Monthly Payments</b>
5	\$950	\$95
4	\$850	\$85
3	\$750	\$75
2	\$650	\$65

- Tuition payments are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, beginning June 15 and ending May 15 (August 15<sup>th</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup> for preschool).
- Any student whose account is past due more than 60 days will not be allowed to attend school until the account is paid in full. If the account is not paid within one week, the student's records will be transferred to the public school district in which the student resides.
- A registration fee of \$15 is charged for new students.
- Parents are charged a \$45.00 Athletic Fee for a student who participates in soccer and/or basketball. This annual fee is billed in September for those who participate in soccer and in November for those who participate in basketball only. The athletic fees are used to purchase athletic equipment and uniforms, and to cover traveling expenses. Uniforms must be returned to the coach or Athletic Director one week after the last game. A weekly late fee will be charged for uniforms which are not promptly returned to the school. There is no fee for participating in the track meet.
- The school is also dependent upon contributions of families and friends to meet its operating expenses.

### **NCS AUXILIARY**

The NCS Auxiliary is a group of parents and friends of the school who co-ordinate the various support activities which are essential to the health of the school. Parents are encouraged to contact the Auxiliary to learn of needs and to offer their gifts and time to the ministry of the school.

## PROBLEM SOLVING

Recognizing that even a Christian organization is made up of sinful people, we expect that problems will arise between students, parents, teachers, and administration. The commitment to deal with problems in a Biblical manner is essential for parents and for staff, and it is a vital part of the training of our children as well. Children need to be taught by example and by instruction to deal with difficulties in a God-honoring manner. The culture in which we live promotes a disrespect for authority, a complaining spirit, and a selfish “stand up for your rights” mentality. As parents and staff, we must model and teach a respect for all God-ordained authority, a thankful spirit, and a Christ-like servant outlook on life. Our students memorize Philippians 2:14-16: “Do everything without complaining and arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe, as you hold out the word of life....”

While we must teach our children by example and by word to respect authority, to give thanks instead of complaining, and to focus on serving and not on being served, this does not mean that problems must be ignored. We must teach and help our children to deal with problems in a Biblical manner. Love covers a multitude of sins, but when a matter cannot be covered, the approach is to be that of talking with the person who has caused the offense (not talking with others). If a student has a problem related to a particular staff member, the student and/or parent(s) should arrange a time to talk privately with that staff member. A student may also seek the help and advice of the principal in approaching a staff member about a problem. If the matter is not able to be resolved to the parent’s satisfaction, the parent should seek the help of the principal. Problems of a more general nature which do not have to do with a particular individual should be brought to the attention of the principal.

If any matter cannot be resolved with the principal, the parent may approach the coordinator of the NCS Auxiliary or the Dean of Students for assistance. If any serious situation should arise where a conflict with the administration cannot be resolved after discussion with the principal and the Auxiliary Coordinator or the Dean of Students, the matter will be brought to the School Board.

The School Board alone has the authority to approve the addition or removal of staff, the school budget, and any major policy changes. Matters concerning the daily operation of the school will generally be handled by the administration.

In all interpersonal contacts between students, parents, and staff, it is important to cultivate the graces of Biblical communication. “He who answers before listening - that is his folly and his shame.” (Prov.18:13) “Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down.” (Prov.26:20) “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their need, that it may benefit those who listen.” (Eph.4:29)

## LUNCH

There is a school lunch program which is staffed by parents and friends of the school who volunteer their time to provide different lunch items for students to purchase at the school. Students receive a lunch slip on which they may order for the coming month. Students or parents should keep the left side of the slip for a record of what they ordered. The right side must be turned into the office by the date indicated on the bottom of the order sheet. Lunches are billed through the computer system, and the lunch bill for each child will appear on your monthly invoice. Students may bring their own lunches from home. No food is to be left at the school overnight.

## MEDICAL GUIDELINES

Northumberland Christian School follows the medical guidelines set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Students entering kindergarten or first grade must present their birth certificate and must complete a medical history form including a record of immunizations. The State requires all students to have the following:

- 4 or more doses of DTP
- 3 or more doses of Oral Polio Vaccine
- 2 Measles Vaccine or Measles Serology
- 2 Rubella Vaccine (German Measles) or Rubella Serology
- 2 Mumps vaccine or Mumps diagnosed by a physician
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine required for students entering school for the first time and for 7<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccination or written statement of having had the disease for new school enterers (K or 1) and 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Students entering kindergarten or first grade must also have a physical examination, and a dental examination,. The school provides forms for these examinations to be completed by your family doctor and dentist. Physical examinations must be repeated in sixth and eleventh grade, and dental examinations in third and seventh grade. Forms for all examinations are available in the school office. Any questions should be directed to the school nurse.

N.C.S. has a responsibility to cooperate with parents and physicians when it is necessary for students to take medication during the time they are involved in school activities. In accordance with the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, students will be given medication only with the direct written order of a physician. The student, a parent,

guardian, or responsible adult who is acting on behalf of the student, should bring the medication and the properly completed forms to the school office. The school nurse or an individual designated by the principal will give the medicine to the student. At the end of the designated time period, which shall be set by the physician, all unused medication will be destroyed after notifying the parents or guardians. The parent or guardian must complete a medication/treatment form before any medicine will be administered.

Students requiring the use of inhalers must complete the necessary forms in the office and have written parental permission to carry the inhaler with them for self-use. It is anticipated that administering medicine during school hours will be the exception rather than the rule. It is imperative that parents keep the school informed of any allergies, medications, or medical conditions, so that proper emergency care can be administered to the student if the need should arise. It is important that parents keep current the Emergency Information Card and the Health History forms on file in the office.

Northumberland Christian School follows the following guidelines from the Department of Health regarding sickness and communicable diseases:

1. Children with a fever will be sent home from school and should not return to school until fever free for 24 hours.
2. Chicken pox – Students may not return until five days from the appearance of the first crop of vesicles, or when all the lesions have dried and crusted, whichever is sooner.
3. Respiratory streptococcal infections (strep throat) including scarlet fever – Students may not return until 24 hours after appropriate treatment is started.
4. Acute Contagious Conjunctivitis (pink eye) – Students may not return until the pink eye is judged not infective; that is without a discharge.
5. Ringworm (all types) – Students shall be allowed to return to school immediately after the first treatment, if body lesions are covered. Lesions that are dried do not need to be covered.
6. Impetigo – Students may return 24 hours after start of appropriate treatment.
7. Pediculosis (head lice) – Students may return after treatment when free of lice and nits.
8. Scabies – Students may return after completion of appropriate treatment.

## VIII. ATHLETICS

Students in junior and senior high school have the opportunity to participate in athletics. N.C.S. is a member of the Allegheny Christian Athletic Association (ACAA). The ACAA is comprised of fourteen schools that are divided into two divisions. The league offers competition in soccer, basketball, baseball, and a one-time track meet held the third Friday in May.

<b>EASTERN DIVISION</b>	<b>WESTERN DIVISION</b>
Columbia County Christian School	Blair County Christian School
Meadowbrook Christian School	Centre County Christian Academy
New Covenant Academy	Clearfield Alliance Christian School
Northumberland Christian School	Dubious Christian School
Sunbury Christian Academy	Great Commission Schools
Walnut Street Christian School	Huntington Christian Academy
Watsonstown Christian Academy	Cambria County Christian school

In soccer and basketball each team must play the other teams in its division twice during the regular season. The top three teams in each division advance to compete in the ACAA championship tournament to determine the overall league champion in that sport.

The ACAA also recognizes all-stars in soccer and basketball during the regular season. All-stars are selected during the regular season by opposing coaches (coaches are not allowed to select their own players). An MVP is also selected at the ACAA championship tournament.

The ACAA track meet allows students in grades 6-12 an opportunity to acquire several track and field skills. It is a unique athletic event in that the entire school, both girls and boys, and junior and senior high, work together to win the championship trophy.

Parents are charged \$45.00 for a student who participates in soccer and/or basketball. This annual fee is billed in September for those who participate in soccer and in November for those who participate in basketball only. The athletic fees are used to purchase athletic equipment and uniforms, and to cover traveling expenses. Uniforms must be returned to the coach or Athletic Director one week after the last game. A weekly late fee will be charged for uniforms which are not promptly returned to the school. There is no fee for participating in the track meet.

Students who participate in athletics are expected to keep up with their academic responsibilities. Participation in athletics does not provide an excuse for incomplete assignments or tardy arrivals at school. Students must maintain a 78 overall average to participate in athletics. Averages will be checked for compliance with the minimum average requirement at mid-quarter and at the end of the quarter.

## IX. STATEMENT OF FAITH

Northumberland Christian School is a ministry of the First Regular Baptist Church of Northumberland, Pennsylvania. We hold to the London Confession of Faith of 1689 as the fullest expression of our faith. The following is a brief statement of our faith:

1. We believe the whole Bible to be the verbally inspired and infallible Word of God, the only sufficient rule of faith and practice.
2. We believe that the chief end of man is to glorify his Creator, Who exists in three persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - and these three persons are one God.
3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, vicariously placed Himself under the law and became obedient even unto the death of the cross, fulfilling the law for His people and atoning for their sin. He thereby purchased His church that they should be a holy people. He arose from the dead and ascended into heaven, where He continues to minister to His people as their prophet, priest and king.
4. We believe that man is by nature dead in sin and must be born again by the Holy Spirit. Salvation is by grace through faith. Saving faith is the embracing of Christ as Lord and Savior, turning from sin to serve the living God, and this faith is the gift of God.
5. We believe that Christ will come again, that all men will be bodily resurrected, and that Christ will judge all men. Those that have not obeyed the gospel shall be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord, while those who by grace have obeyed the gospel shall inherit the kingdom prepared for them from the foundation of the world and shall ever be with the Lord. Until the day of His appearing, it is incumbent upon us to live in all purity as strangers and pilgrims in this world, holding forth the Word of life, that others may be brought to a saving knowledge of our God.