

EVERGREEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# Family Packet



# Evergreen Christian School Vision Statement

Evergreen Christian School is founded on the principles of sound Christian theology as revealed by the eternal, triune God in His inerrant Word (the Bible) (see Statement of Faith). All decisions and relationships involving Evergreen Christian School, both professional and personal, should be guided as such – welcoming all professing Christian parents and their children of all grade levels.

Our highest priority is to see our children independently make a genuine commitment to receive God's free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ and therefore growing in, worshiping, and joyfully following Him for the rest of their lives. We believe that this model – private, family-centered Christian homeschool education – is one of the key ways to cultivate our children's faith.

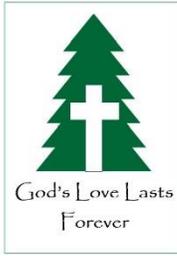
Evergreen Christian School believes that our faith and the exclusivity of Christianity should not be compartmentalized, and therefore should be living, breathing essence of all walks of life: educational, professional, personal, financial, and relational. Therefore, there will be no compromise or hindrance of profession of faith and/or integration of Christian principles directly or indirectly into curriculum taught through Evergreen Christian School.

Evergreen Christian School is not only dedicated to developing our student's walk with Christ but also to their academic success, through appropriately rigorous, objective-based instruction and assessment.

Evergreen Christian School is a professional organization as well as a ministry. We are dedicated to respectful, constructive protocol as well as deliberately fostering meaningful relationships between parents and their students, in and out of the classroom. Evergreen families are encouraged – as the Lord leads them – to use their time, talents, treasures, and prayers to support the school and each other.

Evergreen Christian School will remain an entirely private Christian school in its financial support. This will help ensure autonomy on all levels of administration.

(Drafted and approved December 9, 2017)



# Evergreen Christian Home School

## Statement of Beliefs

It is Evergreen's intention to be as inclusive as possible for all Christian families. However, it is essential that the following certain doctrines are articulated and affirmed in order to ensure unity and protection for the entire school membership. These truths are fundamental in why, what, and how we educate and raise our children as Christian families.

### 1) The Bible

God has spoken in the Scriptures, through the 66 books that comprise both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. The Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises. We see the Scriptures as unchanging, constant, relevant, and applicable in addressing all questions and setting all standards about truth, righteousness, faith, and morality.

2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Ps. 119:9-11; 105:16

### 2) God

There is one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, omniscient, omnipresent, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

Gen. 1:1, 26; Ps. 90:2; 2 Cor. 13:14; Matt. 28:19

### 3) Jesus Christ and His Return

Jesus Christ is the Son of God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death, ascended into heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate. We believe in the personal, bodily, unmistakably, and globally visible return of our Lord Jesus Christ at a time known only to God, and He will reign eternally as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Matt. 1:22-23; Isa. 9:6; Heb. 1:2-4; 4:15; 1 Cor. 15:3, 4; Titus 2:13; Acts 4:12

### 4) The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is eternal and co-equal with the Father and the Son. He is present in the world to make people aware of their need for salvation through Christ. The Holy Spirit's ministry is to fill every believer and provide Christians with power for godly living, understanding of spiritual

truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Holy Spirit is evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit. He gives spiritual gifts for the purpose of serving the body of Christ and glorifying God.

2 Cor. 3:17; John 14:16-17; 16:7-13; 1 Cor. 2:12; 3:16; 12:13; Eph. 1:13; Gal. 5:16, 22-23, 25; Eph. 5:18

### **5) The Human Condition and Sin**

God created Adam and Eve in His image as the supreme object of God's creation, but they sinned when tempted by Satan. In union with Adam, all human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, alienated from God, and under His wrath.

Gen. 1:27; Ps. 8:3-6; Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:23; Isa. 59:1-2

### **6) Salvation**

Jesus Christ, as our representative and substitute, shed His blood on the cross as the perfect, all-sufficient sacrifice for our sins. His atoning death and victorious resurrection constitute the only ground for salvation. Salvation is God's free gift to us but we must accept it. Only through God's saving work in Jesus Christ can we be rescued, reconciled and renewed. We can never be saved by self-improvement or good works. Eternal life begins the moment one puts genuine and complete faith in Jesus Christ.

John 1:12; 14:6; Rom. 5:1; 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9

### **7) Eternity**

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or we will exist eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell; to be eternally with God is eternal life or Heaven. Heaven and Hell are real places of conscious, eternal existence.

John 3:16; 14:17; Rom. 6:23; 8:17-18; Rev. 20:15; 1 Cor. 2:7-9

### **8) Sanctity of Life**

From the moment of conception, each person is created in the image of God and points us to God's sovereign rule in this world. All human life is of invaluable worth and significance in all its dimensions, including the unborn, aged, mentally handicapped, physically challenged, and every other condition in which humanness is expressed from conception to the grave.

Gen. 1:26-27; 5:1; Ps. 139:13-16; 127:3; Ex. 20:13

### **9) Marriage**

Marriage is a sacred and social union ordained by God to be lifelong, sexually exclusive relationship between one man and one woman. Sexual relationships outside of marriage, including, but not limited to, the practice of adultery, fornication, pornography, and homosexuality are forbidden in Scripture.

Gen. 2:22-25; Matt. 19:3-6, 9; Heb. 13:4; Eph. 5:3; 1 Cor. 6:9-11, 18-20; Ex. 20:14; Rom. 1:18-32; 1 Thess. 4:3-7

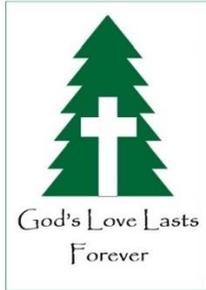
## **10) Children**

Children are a gift from God. The Bible commands parents to raise their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. God has given parents, not the state, the responsibility for every area of their child's development, including education, spiritual training, and life preparation.

Although parents may choose to get assistance from or delegate a portion of that responsibility to the Church, institutions, organizations, and others, the ultimate responsibility remains with the parents.

Ps. 127:3-5; Deut. 6:5-7; 11:18-21; Pro. 22:6; Eph. 6:1-4

---



# Evergreen Christian School Handbook/Constitution

## **Our Purpose**

The purpose of Evergreen Christian School (ECS) is designed for families in which parent(s)/guardian(s) meet the following criteria:

- are committed Christians and are involved in a local Christian church
- have a desire to pursue excellence in education for their children by teaching Biblical principles, academics, and life skills
- are in agreement with the ECS Statement of Beliefs, Code of Conduct, Vision Statement, and Handbook
- are in agreement regarding their decision to home educate their children through ECS

## **Evergreen Christian School as a PSP**

In our PSP, the parents determine the individual curriculum, goals, program, and timing of their children's education. That schooling takes place in their familiar home environment and learning progresses at the individual student's pace of readiness.

ECS also provides extension classes during the school year that become part of the student's study for that year and fulfill the requirements for that particular subject. Qualified and driven teachers, usually parents of ECS-enrolled students lead these classes during ECS class time.

Participating parents sign a statement of commitment at the beginning of the year (or at the time of enrollment, if during the year) and agree to be accountable for certain activities.

## **Enrollment**

All families who wish to enroll in Evergreen Christian Home School are required to read and agree to all the items listed in the Evergreen Christian School Statement of Commitment. It is required that two-parent/guardian families have both parents/guardians sign all required items. In order to build a greater sense of responsibility and accountability, all students are required to sign the Code of Conduct.

Any family who chooses not to sign all required forms, as stated above, may not be able to enroll in Evergreen Christian School. ECS administration reserves the ultimate right for all decisions regarding admission and may choose to make exceptions based on extenuating circumstances.

Other paperwork such as, but not limited to, emergency contact or medical forms may be required by the ECS administration.

## **The Role of Parents**

Parents are the ultimate authorities, as ordained by God, in the development of their children. At ECS, parents are given the final decision in the grades reported on all report cards and transcripts, as parents are far more reliable and intimate in understanding the learning of their children. Parents should also be active in supporting ECS teachers through necessary communication and encouraging their children in regards to the completion of academic requirements. Parents are also encouraged to be as involved as possible and as they are led in ECS activities, such as field trips, service opportunities, special events, etc. They are also highly encouraged to utilize resources in a timely manner within ECS or outside organizations in planning for college and financial aid.

Parents are also responsible for their children at all ECS functions. Please be sure to review the Code of Conduct with your children.

## **Submission of Records**

The ECS administration will establish files for every family. These files will contain registration paperwork, applications, Course of Study materials, medical/emergency information, academic records, and any other pertinent information.

Parents are responsible for submitting a Proposed Course of Study for all courses by the beginning of the school year and an Actual Course of Study, Attendance Records, P.E. Verification, and Grading Report at the end of each semester.

Submitting required records in a timely fashion is of utmost importance. Therefore, families who do not meet this deadline may incur consequences, per the discretion of the ECS administration.

Parents will have access to these files' information upon request to the ECS administration.

## **Required Memberships**

Evergreen Christian School is a veritable private school with a private school affidavit on file with the State of California. ECS cannot, however, guarantee anyone in our PSP complete protection from harassment by legal authorities or from legal prosecution in regards to home education. It is for this reason that we require active membership with Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), a trusted and proven agency that provides legal counsel and support to home educators regarding a parent's right to home educate.

Evergreen Christian School also requires all enrolled families to be active members of California Home Educators Association (CHEA). As CHEA remains the last Christian-based homeschool organization in California dedicated to providing resources and guidance to families, we feel that their services are invaluable and our membership helps their vital ministry to thrive.

## **ECS Teachers and Extension Classes**

Extension classes are meant to be an extension or supplement to your homeschooling experience. ECS will provide a range of classes for all grade levels throughout the school year. No family can be enrolled in an extension class without officially being a part of the ECS PSP (unless exceptions are approved directly by ECS administration). Tuition and fees may be required for

classes. It is the parents' responsibility to keep track of receipts regarding fees. These classes are intended to be used as part of the student's official records/transcripts.

By law, anyone teaching an Evergreen Christian School course of any grade level, whether at home or through an extension class, must provide proof of qualifications to teach his/her particular subject matter. This needs to be on file with the Evergreen Administrator for the duration of that teacher's tenure.

Extension class teachers also must submit a Course Syllabus by orientation at the beginning of the school year. These are academic classes that can assign homework, research activities, projects, and tests. ECS teachers must also provide an Actual Course of Study at the end of each semester. Teachers are given the authority in setting standards regarding work load, grading policies, and late work, and they must include these and other required information in their Course Syllabus.

ECS teachers are also responsible for communicating with parents, designing lesson plans and assessments, and posting grades. However, all posted grades are seen as "suggested" as parents are ultimately responsible for submitting final grades. It is highly encouraged that parents are well aware of the curriculum and standards throughout the school year, and that they show discernment through prayer if they decide to submit a different grade other than what was suggested the ECS teacher.

Parents are responsible for making sure that students are on time and miss as few days as possible. They are also responsible for communicating with the ECS teachers regarding makeup work.

All ECS teachers who are not parents of enrolled ECS families will be required to sign a Teacher Commitment Form stipulating the conditions of their teaching arrangement with ECS administration and their adherence to the ECS Vision, Constitution, Code of Conduct, and Statement of Faith.

### **Extracurricular Activities**

Evergreen is dedicated to providing ways to building relationships, celebrating achievement, and supplementing curriculum through outside activities. Some of these include field trips, park days, talent shows/family fairs, promotion ceremony, service opportunities, etc. It is also highly recommended that ECS families look for ways to involve their children outside of the home, such as community service, political campaigns, job shadowing/internships, and sports programs in order to build relationships, develop leadership and teamwork, cultivate life skills, and promote Christ in their world.

It is highly recommended that parents keep written documentation of extracurricular activities (hours, dates, duties, etc.) as this may be necessary in applying for college and scholarships or transcript verification.

## **Fees**

All Evergreen families will be responsible for some required fees (referred to as “tuition”). These fees generally cover costs for facilities, insurance, our group CHEA membership, HSLDA membership, and website maintenance.

Supply fees may be required for some classes and would be handled directly with the instructor. Registration/class fees may be required for some classes taught by non-parent consultants hired by the ECS administrators.

Other activities, such as promotion and field trips, may require fees for participation. ECS is dedicated to keeping costs as minimal as possible but some of these charges may be beyond our control.

It is expected that parents are responsible in making required payments regarding supply fees or class fees per predetermined arrangements with ECS administration and/or ECS instructors. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary measures.

## **Administrator Role in Finances and Accounts**

Evergreen administrators Mary Hebert and Chris Hebert have the right to open up banking accounts on behalf of Evergreen Christian School for the sole purpose of handling the transaction of fees from ECS families to pay for facilities usage, insurance, and other operational costs.

Administrative positions are completely voluntarily and receive no compensation for this role.

## **Fundraising**

Participation in fundraising activities is highly encouraged but not required. We want our giving of time and talents to be a joyful, voluntary act of worship. However, we also want to be able to provide further resources and opportunities for our families that might only be possible through additional financial support. Private donations and grants (from like-minded individuals and organizations) are always accepted.

## **Amendments**

Amendments to any official ECS paperwork, such as, but not limited to, the Constitution/ Handbook, Vision Statement, and Code of Conduct must be presented and approved through a parent-attended ECS meeting. A quorum of at least five families must be present for the amendment to be enacted.

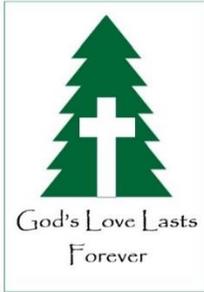
## **Exiting from Evergreen**

Any family who chooses to exit from Evergreen Christian School may do so at any time. Parents must put their intention of exiting in a typed letter or email to the Evergreen Christian School Administrator identifying the names of students exiting and the effective date of departure. It is also suggested they describe the reasons for their departure.

Per Evergreen administration’s discretion, families who leave Evergreen Christian School must obtain a letter from their new school administration requesting delivery of their student’s files.

The letter must have the school's letterhead, administrator's name, and valid mailing address. Upon receiving this letter, Evergreen administration will mail these files.

If a family who has left Evergreen Christian School chooses to re-enroll after being enrolled elsewhere, they may do so provided that Evergreen obtains access of the student's cum files and the parents re-sign the required Constitution packet paperwork.



# Evergreen Christian School Code of Conduct

**Parents, please carefully read through this Code of Conduct. It is your responsibility to make sure that students understand the essence of the rules.**

1) Always act and speak with kindness and respect. Let our words be appropriate to the situation and glorifying to God. It is never acceptable to intentionally emotionally or physically harm or embarrass another person. Examples of inappropriate behaviors/speech include the following:

- Making fun of people; unkind remarks; name calling; profanity; racial/sexual jokes, gossiping, threats or bullying

2) Embrace an attitude of compassion for the differences, needs, and/or disabilities of others. We need to teach our children (and practice as parents) not to be cruel or insensitive to people who are different from themselves, as so often can happen in schools.

3) Have respect for and show obedience to all authority figures. Examples of ECS authority figures include administrators, teachers, adult supervisor, field trip tour guide, etc. ECS students should understand that these adults have been delegated by the school (and by you) to speak to them about and to correct inappropriate behavior.

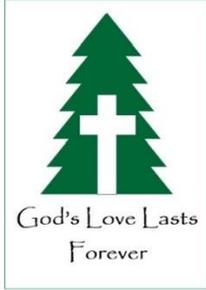
4) Have respect for property. This includes the property and landscape of the church property, parks, field trip locations, other families' homes, etc.

5) The possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and illegal drugs is not permitted at any ECS function. Parents of students who need to take prescribed medication during class should communicate with their ECS teacher.

6) Wholesome and Biblical relationships are encouraged between all students, particularly boys and girls together. Students should look upon one another as brothers and sisters in Christ and refrain from demonstrating physical affection with each other at all ECS functions.

7) All clothing should be modest in style and fit. Clothing should not draw undue attention/distraction or create a safety hazard. This should be applied to all ECS families and guests at ECS functions. We understand there may be fashion trends that our students do not see as potential problems. Please help them to understand the motivation behind these rules.





# Evergreen Christian School

## Parents' Statement of Commitment

- 1) We have each put our faith in Jesus Christ as our own Savior and Lord.
- 2) We are committed Christian parents who regularly attend a local Christian church.
- 3) We are in agreement with the ECS Statement of Beliefs and Vision Statement.
- 4) We agree to read and abide by the current ECS Handbook/Constitution and Code of Conduct.
- 5) We agree to pursue excellence in education by teaching Biblical principles, life skills, and academics. We pledge to develop an overall educational plan in which we will provide purposeful educational activities for our child(ren).
- 6) We understand that Evergreen Christian School is a non-accredited private school.
- 7) We understand that annual membership in Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) and California Home Educators of California (CHEA) is required for all ECS families.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Date)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Husband's Signature)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Date)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Wife's Signature)**

- 
- I allow my family's likeness to be used in any ECS promotional materials, such as our website.
  - I do not allow my family's likeness to be used in any ECS promotional materials, such as our website.