

BETHEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Encounter Homeschool Program
STUDENT / PARENT HANDBOOK



2023-2024

SCHOOL BOARD

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**Bethel Christian School is a member of and accredited by the
Association of Christian Schools International (A.C.S.I.)**

Adopted by the School Board

4/20/2021

933 College View Drive, Redding, CA 96003

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www.bcsredding.org

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome! We are very excited about this school year and we hope that you are, too. Bethel Christian School Encounter is counting on your support to make this year the best.

The staff at BCS Encounter is dedicated to discovering your needs and helping you benefit as much as possible from your experience with us. Many opportunities for spiritual and personal growth, as well as deep and lasting friendships will be made possible through our program.

This handbook is designed to give you an understanding of the basic policies of BCS Encounter. We hope it is a benefit to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

We look forward to getting to know each one of you. Please join us in praying daily for all the families in Encounter. By working together, BCS Encounter can become all that God has destined it to be.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Administration, Teachers, and School Board of BCS Encounter

Organization

Bethel Christian School (BCS) of Redding, California, operates within the structure of the Constitution and by-laws of Bethel Church. Encounter is a part of BCS, therefore we adhere to the same mission, vision, and values.

Bethel Mission

Bethel's mission is Revival: the personal, regional, and global expansion of God's kingdom through His manifest presence.

BCS Motto

God is the center of all subjects. [Romans 1:20]

BCS Mission Statement

At Bethel Christian School, we partner with parents to prepare and develop the whole student; mind, body, and spirit, through academic training that is interwoven with ministry and worship. [Proverbs 22:6]

BCS Vision Statement

Our students will become successful life-long learners and leaders in a lifetime relationship with the Lord Jesus. [1 Thessalonians 2:11 & 12]

BCS EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Jesus grew in wisdom (intellectually), stature (physically), and in favor with God (spiritually) and man (socially). [Luke 2:52] Therefore, our educational goals encompass the spiritual, social, intellectual, and physical areas of our students' lives. These areas are inseparable, and through them all run the insistent thread of the spiritual. It is our aim to avoid the tendency to teach the Bible compartmentally or on the intellectual level alone. Scripture clearly commands parents to be responsible for the education of their children. Bethel Church maintains a Christian school to assist Christian parents in the exercise of their Biblical duty. [Deut. 6:4-9, Proverbs 22:6] Our purpose at Bethel Christian School is to partner with parents to prepare and develop the whole student; mind, body, and spirit through academic training that is interwoven with Biblical teaching, ministry, and worship. We believe that the spiritual man is integrated into all aspects of learning and life.

Students at Bethel are...

Commissioned to Make Disciples

God reveals Himself in the Bible as Creator and "the way, the truth and the life." We honor Him as Lord and King. Therefore, all curriculum and instruction flows from the Biblical worldview that in Christ Jesus, God established His kingdom and commissioned His people to make disciples of all nations. We teach our students to preach the Gospel in word and action, knowing that signs and wonders follow those who believe. [Mark 16:15-18, 2 Cor. 5:11-20]

Friends with God

A student's personal relationship with Christ is the core of all they can learn and accomplish. We teach our students to receive and respond to God's offer of intimate relationship by loving Him in return with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength through communion with the Holy Spirit. [Luke 2:52, Mark 12:30, 2 Cor. 13:14]

Sons and Daughters of God

Knowing and personally experiencing God's transforming love, power, and truth is the deepest need and greatest joy of humanity. As our students grow in friendship with the Lord and learn to follow the Holy Spirit, they will perceive themselves as God perceives them and embrace their true identity as a child of the King. As they work FROM God's acceptance rather than FOR it, holiness and Christ-like character will become more an internal motivation to position them to fulfill God's call on their life and less a merely external expectation. [Galatians 4:7, Romans 8:14-17]

Passionate Worshippers

Worship is fundamental to our relationship with God. It recognizes His worth and we become like the One whom we worship. We believe the arts find their true home in service to God, so our students learn to express worship through dance, music, choir, drama, painting, and drawing. [John 4:23]

Statement of Faith

We believe that there is only one true God who is the eternal King, Creator, and Redeemer of all that is. He is perfectly holy, just, loving, and truthful. He has revealed Himself to be eternally self-existent – one being in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

We believe that the Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God.

We believe that humankind was created in the image of God to know and enjoy Him, yet we willfully rejected the Lordship and glory of God for which we were intended. Because of this, sickness, death, and judgment entered the world and now creation experiences the effects and consequences of sin.

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and is God's Anointed One, empowered by the Holy Spirit to inaugurate God's kingdom on earth. He was crucified for our sins, died, was buried, resurrected, and ascended into heaven, and is now alive today in the presence of God the Father and in His people. He is "true God" and "true man."

We believe that we are saved by God's grace, through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Anyone can be restored to fellowship with God through repenting, believing, and receiving Jesus as their Savior and Lord. The Holy Spirit convicts, regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and adopts us as we enter the kingdom of God as His sons and daughters.

We believe in the ongoing, sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life and minister super-naturally. The baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 1:4-8 and 2:4, is poured out on believers that they might have God's power to be His witnesses.

We believe in the victorious, redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides freedom from the power of the enemy – sin, lies, sickness, and torment.

We believe that the Church consists of all who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He gave His Church the ordinances of baptism and communion. The Church exists to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ and further advance His kingdom by undoing the works of the enemy, preaching and living the good news of God's love, and discipling the nations – baptizing and teaching them to love and obey God.

We believe in the ever-increasing government of God and in the Blessed Hope, which is the glorious, visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to rule and reign with His overcoming bride – the Church.

We believe that heaven and hell are real places. There will be a resurrection of the lost and the saved, the one to everlasting death and the other to everlasting life.

We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive covenant union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25) and that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other and that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity is engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman. Further, we embrace a biblical view that sexuality and sexual identity are God given at conception and are fixed and assigned by one's DNA as male or female. (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:21-24, Matthew 19:4-9; Mark 10:5-9; Ephesians 5:22-33, Psalm 139:13-16). ([Bethel Church's Statement on Biblical Sexuality](https://www.bethel.com/beliefs/biblical-sexuality/) <https://www.bethel.com/beliefs/biblical-sexuality/>)

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents/Guardians of BCS Encounter students agree to wholly support the school's Biblical standards and environment of holiness and love in word and deed as based on Bethel Church's interpretation of scripture. For clarity please review the following scriptures: 1 Tim. 4:12, Col. 3:17, Titus 2:7-8, 1 Thess. 5:19-23, James 3:17-18, Romans 12:1-2, 1 Cor. 6:9-20, Ephesians 5:3-5, 1 Thess. 4:3-8, 1 Tim. 4:12, 2 Tim. 2:19-22, 1 John 3:1-3.

Additionally, parents agree to:

1. Commit as a family to regularly attend weekly cohort meetings (in-person or online).
2. At least one parent will accompany their children to all in-person and online cohort meeting times.
3. Provide prayer support for Encounter. This is essential. This is a spiritual battleground, and the battle must be fought with spiritual weapons. [Ephesians 6:13-20]
4. Support and uphold BCS's standards and policies.

If a family is unable to keep their commitment, a staff member will initiate a conversation to discuss the situation. If the problem persists, BCS administration will be invited to be involved in the discussion process. After seeking to work out the problem, it may be necessary for BCS to ask a family to withdraw from the program.

STUDENT CONDUCT

All students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest Christian standards of honesty, honor, integrity, purity, responsibility, and love toward his fellow Christians. The administration reserves the right to dismiss a student who, in its judgment, does not conform either to the stated regulations governing student conduct or to the expressed principles, policies, and programs of the school.

Student Behavior

Listed below are guidelines regarding standards of student behavior. Students are expected to act according to these guidelines:

1. BCS Encounter students are expected to treat others with the same respect with which adults in treat them.
2. Problem actions include but are not limited to: Not following Encounter staff's instructions or misuse of facility when in-person. Students are to follow a hands-off policy; no hitting, slapping, wrestling, or play fighting.
3. BCS students will conduct themselves in Christian character, which includes but is not limited to: Being respectful of all others, honesty, fair play, and good sportsmanship.

Discipline

If a student chooses not to abide by the behavior guidelines, it is viewed as an opportunity for the child to learn by his/her mistake. The student will be actively involved in determining the best course to make amends; by asking forgiveness and deciding how to repair damaged relationships or objects. The student must learn that, as in life, when I make a bad choice, I have to fix it. We are not here to bail them out, but to guide them in making better choices. It is our goal to work with parents/guardians in the area of discipline. In order for any discipline to work in training children, it is essential for Encounter staff and parents/guardians to be in agreement. A parent/guardian who is not supportive of the school's discipline program will undermine the structure of the school. For this reason, parents/guardians who are against the

stated policies of BCS Encounter and school board may be asked to leave the program if no understanding can be reached.

Probation

Should there be repeated discipline problems, the first recourse will be for the student to be placed on probation for a designated time period. The family will be involved in helping to draft a written probation plan that outlines specific changes, and over the probation period, parents and Encounter staff will communicate about progress.

Expulsion

After probation, if the student's behavior has not shown sufficient progress, the student may be expelled from the BCS Encounter Program. The BCS Administration will be involved in making all expulsion decisions and has absolute discretion in regards to matters of discipline.

ADMITTANCE POLICY

Non-discriminatory Policy

It is, and shall be, the policy and practice of BCS Encounter, in admission of students or the hiring of employees, not to discriminate on the basis of the applicant's race, color, gender, or national origin.

Admissions

Admission to BCS Encounter is a privilege and admittance is by application only. Acceptance, including terms and conditions, is determined by the administration. Applications are available online at bcsredding.org and must be completed in detail. Read the entire handbook and share appropriate sections with your child(ren).

1. Submit the following:
 - Completed application
 - Application fee
2. Following review of the application for enrollment by the administrator, the applicant and his/her parents will be contacted.
3. The registration fee is due upon acceptance to BCS Encounter.

FINANCIAL POLICY

Registration

Registration fees enable us to plan for staffing needs and cohorts. The registration fees are non-refundable. (See Fee Schedule for specific information.)

Tuition

Tuition is due by August 5. (See Fee Schedule for specific information.)

Credit/Debit Card Fees

There will be a fee assessed by FACTS for all Credit and Debit Cards used to make payments. The fee is 2.85% for every transaction. To avoid these fees, Direct Deposit from a bank account may be used when paying tuition.

Refunds

Refunds will not be made after October 1. Before October 1, refunds will be prorated based on how long the student has participated in the Encounter Program.