

The Grace and Glory Family Handbook



Grace and Glory Academy

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We are a non-denominational, non-campus, private satellite school in California.

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe there is only One True God, Our Father, The Creator of the Universe, Maker of Heaven and Earth, His Son and our Savior Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Counselor. We believe in the entire Bible, Old and New Testament to be the inspired, Holy Word of God. We believe in God's design for marriage, between one man, and one woman. We believe each person is created in God's image for the purpose of worshiping and serving Him, following His commandments and decrees.

SCHOOL VERSE

Psalm 84: 11 - The Lord gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

SCHOOL COLORS

White –as we are given purity, sanctity, and salvation by God's Grace.

Blue – as we are given Jesus, The Living Water to flow through us, for God's Glory.

SCHOOL MASCOT:

Lighthouse –like our Academy it is a beacon of light and guidance to homeschool families.

SCHOOL FOUNDING HYMN:

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus by Helen H. Lemmel.

SCHOOL ACCEPTANCE STANDARDS

Families agree with Grace and Glory's statement of faith and abide by our guidelines.

Families show:

- an ability to communicate in English and teach their student in English.
- an ability to affirm financial commitment to the Academy.
- an ownership of a computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone for online record keeping.
- an active membership with HSLDA.org
- a copy of their student's birth certificate.

COMPLYING WITH THE LAW

CA state law requires that children between the ages of 6-18 must be enrolled in school. California does not have a specific homeschool law; California is one of the 12 states in which homeschools may operate as *private in-home schools*. Grace and Glory Academy students are filed on our Grace and Glory Academy private school affidavit as we are a private satellite school.

DAYS REQUIRED

Grace and Glory Academy has set a minimum number of 170-175 educational days which must be met, in order to complete one grade level at our Academy. We do not count hours or minutes. *Students who fall significantly short of 170 days without valid medical release, may be not allowed to complete a grade level at our Academy.*

ATTENDANCE

CA state law requires the keeping of a record of daily academic attendance for every student enrolled in our private school.

We encourage parents to keep a Homeschool Planner in your house, with record of daily attendance and daily learning lessons/curriculum plans for your own records. This covers your family in the event, you are ever questioned by authorities.

In the event our school is ever audited, we may be requested to give an account of every student's attendance, thus, we highly recommend families keep their attendance up to date on a monthly basis at minimum.

Attendance reporting is done exclusively through EdPort at Grace and Glory Academy. Attendance reporting is done on a monthly basis, and we will provide reminders via email.

CURRICULUM

All curriculum is subject to Academy approval for the protection of our student body.

Grace and Glory now offers two choices:

- (1) Parent-Selected Curriculum: the teaching parent makes personal selections.
- (2) School-Select Curriculum: our Academy Admin makes selections on your behalf.

Curriculum can be free, paid, or a combination of both.

We do not allow un-schooling without a curriculum.

One, optional, free Curriculum Counseling session is available per year with registration.

Grace and Glory students must be taught in the required branches of study, as noted in the state of CA educational code; this includes Language Arts, Math, Science, History and Geography, PE and High School Electives.

GRADING + COURSE OF STUDY

Our Academy requires a semi-annual report card to be submitted for all students, through EdPort. We have a pre-approved grading scale for parent teachers to follow.

CA also requires an annual Course Of Study to be submitted for each student in every grade level. The Course of Study defines what resources and materials you will be using for each student over the academic year.

If at any time you decide to change or remove a curriculum, class, or course from your student's educational plan, you must log in to the online portal and update your student's status.

SCHEDULING

Grace and Glory Academy allows families the freedom to schedule your homeschool days, as it best suits your family rhythm. Private Schools in the state of CA are not bound to specific school schedules or timeframes. Generally, most students perform best from late morning to early afternoon when they are fresh, however – you are free to start and end your homeschool days, whenever it works well for your family.

Grace and Glory Academy families may choose to school year-round, or on a traditional schedule September to June, or with a modified traditional schedule August to May! All families must start and end a grade level between June 15 and June 15 of each term.

VACATIONING/HOLIDAY BREAKS

Grace and Glory Academy teaching parents may choose when you would like your student(s) to take major and minor holiday breaks throughout the year! We suggest sitting down in the summertime with a calendar to plan out when you will complete your 170 educational days, and when you will take breaks.

TESTING/EVALUATIONS

It is important in your day-to-day schooling to evaluate your students understanding and progress. Testing can be formal or informal, verbal, written, project-based, or multi-media.

Grace and Glory Evaluations/ Assessments are provided for parent teachers to use as an optional educational tool. Parents may also choose to have their student take an online or paper achievement test or standardized test from a pre-approved vendor. We do not require testing.

IEP (Special Needs/Individualized Education Plans)

Grace and Glory may accept new IEP students on a case-by-case basis. We do not offer any government/state special services because we are a private school. If your student is coming from a traditional campus school with an IEP, our Grace and Glory Principal has the authority to update or remove the IEP – based on proof of evaluations and meeting with student's parents. Students who are operating at two grade levels behind or more, must automatically have an IEP on file to continue schooling under Grace and Glory Academy. IEP Students must have a Semi-Annual Grace and Glory Goal Sheet submitted online and updated each semester. Annual IEP meetings are a conducted privately with our Admin.

STUDENT FILES

All student files are kept digitally at Grace and Glory Academy. If your student is transferring from another school, upon your signed approval, Grace and Glory Academy will request the cumulative file from your student's former school. Once we receive your student's file, we will pass the digital and/or paper records on to you as the teaching parent. Shipping fees may apply.

Grace and Glory Academy will keep digital files only via Ed Port. Files are not shared without

your permission. Files contain report cards, attendance records, logs, notes, waivers, awards, etc. If you have been with Grace and Glory and apply for a new school, that school has the right to request screening information from us, about your students' academic performance, behavior, and your family financial commitment.

PROMOTION

Since every student is studying different types of curriculum at home with their teaching parent, Grace and Glory Academy does not offer Academic Awards, nor do we hold in-person promotion ceremonies.

SCHOOL VACCINATIONS

Privately home educated students who do not attend a full-time campus-based school in the state of California, are exempt from vaccination requirements. Parents have the choice whether or not to follow a full or partial vaccination schedule, or to delay or dismiss vaccinations all together when enrolled in Grace and Glory Academy.

HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION [H.S.L.D.A.]

Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) is an association of attorneys who defend the home schooling rights of members nationwide. One of the most comforting areas of support any homeschool family can have, is the assurance of knowing you have a team ready to defend you in any/all legal matters that may arise at any time.

We require all families to be HSLDA members and we offer a group discount code!

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Grace and Glory Academy is a recognized 501c3 non-profit organization in the state of California. Our school pays annual federal and state filing fees, CPA, Accounting, and Legal fees– as well as web and email maintenance fees, insurance, and office fees, thus, we have set our enrollment pricing accordingly to cover these ever-rising costs.

Families must affirm a financial commitment to Grace and Glory Academy. Fees are non-refundable after being submitted. If your student is enrolled anywhere from 1 to 175 days in our Academy, your tuition must be paid.

FAILURE TO KEEP YOUR COMMITMENTS

If your family fails to keep your financial commitment or fails to submit required record keeping information by our posted due dates, you can expect the following action: First, a penalty fee of \$40 for the first late submission will be applied. Then, a \$50 penalty will be collected for the second instance. IF there is a third instance where a penalty is needed, that is grounds for dismissal.

DISMISSAL STANDARDS

Parent-Teacher proves to be unwilling/unable to fulfill your teaching responsibility.
Parent-Teacher proves to be unwilling/unable to communicate with our school leaders.
Parent-Teacher proves to be unwilling/unable to fulfill your financial responsibility.
Parent-Teacher provides to be unwilling/unable to submit academic records via EdPort.
Parent-Teacher, Student, or Family has violated any terms of this handbook guidelines.

PARENT TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1) **Own a smart-technology device (computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone).**
- 2) **Provide** copies of student(s) birth certificate, health records, and school history.

- 3) **Report Online** an Annual Course of Study for every student. (we train you how)
- 4) **Report Online** Academic Attendance for every student. (we train you how)
- 5) **Report Online** Student Report Cards for every student. (we train you how)
- 6) **Abide by** our Academy start and end dates, pre-set each academic year.
- 7) **Submit** a High School Contract for every High School class. (we train you how)
- 8) **Teach** your child **in English**, for 170-175 days each academic year.
- 9) **Make digital payments** in a timely manner.
- 10) **Provide** names and contact info of any teachers, including co-op tutors, coaches, etc.
- 11) **Safe-keep samples** of your student's work at home in the event of questioning.
- 12) **Maintain** annual membership with Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA).

OUR PURPOSE/MISSION

To equip and encourage the Christian homeschool community in a manner that brings Glory to God.

To assist and support Christian families in upholding state laws and fulfilling legal requirements for private home education. To provide unique homeschool support, information, and inspiration which is built on the foundation of Christ, upheld by Biblical standards for harmony amongst Christian believers.

Schooling by God's grace, for God's Glory