



ROYALMONT
ACADEMY

25-26 High School Handbook

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Handbook Use Policy

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Royalmont Academy reserves the right to amend the Parent-Student Handbook at any time to address unforeseen circumstances, update policies, or align with changes in diocesan or legal requirements. In the event of any amendments, parents and students will be promptly notified. Compliance with all handbook policies, including amendments, is a condition of enrollment at Royalmont Academy.

Royalmont Academy admits students of any race, sex, color, creed, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Royalmont Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, income, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition assistance, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs.

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Welcome

This handbook provides an explanation of policies and procedures for ninth through twelfth grade, ensuring Royalmont Academy High School operates smoothly and efficiently. Please take time to read the handbook carefully.

At Royalmont, we believe that both school and family are called to work together to provide a proper learning structure. As Pope John Paul II said in Baltimore (1994):

"Surely, it is important for America that the moral truths, which make freedom possible, should be passed on to each new generation. Every generation of Americans needs to know that freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. How appropriate is St. Paul's charge to Timothy! 'Guard the rich deposit of faith with the help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.'"

This handbook serves as a guide to foster a learning environment that aligns with Royalmont Academy's mission to form Christian leaders who will transform society for Jesus Christ. These policies and guidelines are not exhaustive, as the school administration reserves the right to evaluate and address unique situations throughout the school year.

Mission and Profile

Mission Statement

At Royalmont Academy, our mission is to bring souls to Christ by forming Christian leaders. We achieve this mission through a partnership with parents, the primary educators of their children. Together, we nurture the whole child by embracing a program of Integral Formation.

Our Philosophy of Catholic Education

Catholic education at Royalmont is not just about academic excellence—it is about formation. We believe in teaching the whole person: soul, mind, and body. Our school is a place of encounter, where Christ is at the center, and where love for the truth, goodness, and beauty leads students to discover their identity and mission in the world.

Regnum Christi Charism

As a Regnum Christi school, Royalmont Academy reflects the charism of Regnum Christi through personal accompaniment, a missionary spirit, faith-based leadership, and Christ-centered formation. We align our practices with other RC schools while preserving our unique local identity. This includes a commitment to:

- Evangelize hearts through authentic encounters with Christ.
- Form Christian leaders through a robust program of integral formation.
- Accompany students and families in their personal growth and mission.

Promote communion with the Church and the broader Regnum Christi movement.

Fixed

Commented [CG1]: Is this supposed to be the 4th bullet?

Core Values

Living Our Values at Royalmont Academy

At Royalmont Academy, our culture is intentionally shaped by values that align with our Catholic identity and mission to form strong Christian leaders. Our *Core Values*—Truth, Goodness, Beauty, and Unity—are the foundation of everything we do, guiding our pursuit of academic excellence, moral integrity, and meaningful relationships. These are the timeless virtues that shape hearts, minds, and souls.

To create the community we aspire to be, we also hold to *Permission-to-Play Values*—minimum expectations for behavior rooted in human dignity: **Perseverance, Justice, Charity, and Humility**. These are non-negotiable. Everyone in our school community is called to uphold them. In addition, we are growing in *Aspirational Values*

Agreed. Fixed.

Commented [CG2]: This is a weird phrase to put in there. This seems more like a business term?

Commented [CG3R2]: The multiple sets of values are very confusing. It doesn't simplify how we are to anchor what we do, I am confused as to how we are rolling these into our school day to day as there are 12.

such as **Innovation, Engagement, Accountability, and Hope**—traits we intentionally cultivate to reach our full potential as a faith-filled, future-ready institution. Together, these values shape a school where students are known, loved, challenged, and inspired.

Integral Formation Explained

Integral Formation® focuses on the development of all dimensions of the person:

- **Apostolic Formation:** Fostering a life of service to the Church and humanity, creating a civilization of justice and love.
- **Human Formation:** Shaping virtuous character through self-mastery, leadership, and an appreciation of the arts, while cultivating a healthy mind and body.
- **Intellectual Formation:** Pursuing truth and academic excellence, with an emphasis on critical thinking, eloquence, and a lifelong love of learning.
- **Spiritual Formation:** Developing an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, rooted in prayer, the sacraments, and a desire to follow God's will.

Accreditation

Royalmont Academy is accredited by the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA) and Regnum Christi Education.

Catholic Environment

A Catholic environment can only be achieved when parents, formators, and administrators share a common vision. The spiritual formation of our students is an essential element of our Catholic mission. We strive to create a community in which Christ is known and loved in an atmosphere that fosters unity with the Holy Father and Archbishop. *Royalmont Academy exists to further the mission and objectives of the Catholic Church, in its entirety, and those causing public scandal by actively promoting a moral or doctrinal position contrary to Catholic teaching may be asked to leave.*

School Traditions

At Royalmont Academy, our school spirit is deeply tied to our mission of forming Christian leaders who courageously live out their faith. Our colors and mascot represent the values and traditions we uphold as a community.

School Motto

Royalmont Academy's motto, "**Semper Altius**"—Latin for "**Always Higher**"—reflects our commitment to striving for excellence in all areas of formation: spiritual, human, intellectual, and apostolic. This motto calls every member of Royalmont to aim higher in their faith, character, and leadership, always seeking to glorify God in all they do.

School Colors

Our spirit colors—**navy blue, red, and white**—reflect the virtues we aim to instill in our students:

- **Navy Blue:** Represents strength, steadfastness, and loyalty to Christ.
- **Red:** Symbolizes the courage and sacrifice of those who have gone before us, the saints, martyrs, and particularly the Cristeros – all of which point to the blood shed for our sins by Jesus Christ.
- **White:** Stands for purity of heart and our call to live in the light of Christ's truth.

These colors are a unifying symbol for the entire Royalmont community, seen in our uniforms, athletic teams, and school events.

Crest

Royalmont's crest integrates symbols of our Catholic identity, academic mission, and patronage. Central to our identity is the cross, the Sacred Heart, and symbols of the theological and cardinal virtues. Our colors reflect joy, purity, and perseverance.

Commented [CG4]: This is not a description of our crest

Mascot

Our mascot, the Cristero, is a symbol of courage, fidelity, and faith. Rooted in the historical witness of the Cristeros of Mexico, it reminds us that we are called to stand with Christ in truth and love, even amid difficulty.

Patron Saint(s)

Royalmont Academy honors Blessed José Sánchez del Río as our high school patron. A young Cristero martyr, José demonstrated unwavering faith and courage. His witness inspires our students to live as joyful and bold apostles in today's world.

Commented [CG5]: Andre Basset?

Commented [CG6]: He is a Saint

Administration and Governance

Royalmont Academy is a recognized non-profit educational institution filed under the legal name, Royalmont Academy, Inc. Royalmont is owned and governed by a Board of Directors. Royalmont is recognized by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati as an independent Catholic school operating under the permission of the Archbishop of Cincinnati. Royalmont is also an affiliate Regnum Christi school.

Royalmont Academy High School Personnel

High School Administrative Team

Joshua Ater	<i>Head of School</i>
Christine Gladden	<i>High School Assistant Principal</i>

Athletics

Joe Meibers	<i>Director of Athletics</i>
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Campus Ministry and Chaplaincy

Fr. Jesus Salinas	<i>Chaplain</i>
Abbie Kohler	<i>Campus Ministry</i>

General: Leadership and Support Staff

Chris Clark	<i>IT Director</i>
Karen Kinross	<i>Admission, Marketing, Communications</i>
Christine Miller	<i>Testing/Government Funds/Executive Assistant</i>
Anne Polak	<i>Development Director</i>
Jeff Polly	<i>Facilities Director</i>
Shaina Richardson	<i>School Nurse/Front Office</i>
Jennifer Sprague	<i>Finance Director</i>
Celeste Teaford	<i>Front Office</i>
Nathalie Tomeny	<i>Cafeteria Manager</i>
Conner Zink	<i>Facilities Coordinator</i>

Faculty

Luke Brown	<i>Latin</i>
Monica Forsthoefel	<i>Theology, Leadership</i>
Christine Gladden	<i>History, Government, Finance</i>
Brenda Hefferan	<i>Spanish</i>
Dr. Joni Torsella	<i>Math</i>
Joe Meibers	<i>Health, PE</i>
Chloe Roe	<i>Music/Art</i>
Kristen Schwind	<i>Science</i>
Anthony Tepe	<i>Literature, Classics</i>

Fixed
Commented [CG7]: Anita

Admissions Policies

Choosing a school is one of the most important decisions a family can make. At Royalmont Academy, we don't just educate minds—we form hearts, character, and souls in pursuit of the truth. As a Regnum Christi Catholic school, our mission is to form Christian leaders who will transform society. We welcome families of all faiths who desire a community that partners with them in this mission of integral formation. Rooted in the Catholic worldview, we provide a joyful, rigorous, and inclusive environment where students are called to discover their God-given purpose and grow in wisdom, virtue, and faith.

Non-Discrimination Statement

No student may be excluded from Royalmont Academy solely because of race, color, national/ethnic origin, or ancestry.

Admissions Process

1. Visit the School
 - Parents and potential students are encouraged to visit the school during school hours; call the Admissions office for an appointment. Shadow days are also encouraged and will be arranged.

2. Complete an Application
 - Return the application to the Admissions Office. Completing the application includes:
 - No application fee high school applicants, application completed online
 - Copies of most recent report card and standardized test scores (K-12th)
 - Original of birth certificate (we must make a copy) and copy baptismal certificate (if applicable)
 - Applications are processed on a "first received basis"
 - Complete FACTS application for tuition assistance, if needed
3. Testing and Academic Qualifications
 - Once the application and all records are received, they are reviewed by the Administration for acceptance and placement. Students must be at the college preparatory level for acceptance.
 - HSPT for incoming freshman high school applicants.
 - Transfer students may be required to take a Math and English entrance exam. Current high school transcripts will be reviewed for placement.
 - Students needing special accommodations, modifications, 504 plans, or IEP plans may require additional questions or review to ensure Royalmont can meet that student's specific needs.
4. Family Interview
 - After the entrance assessment, a family interview is /scheduled to review its outcome and discuss any other concerns or questions the family may have as well as the school.
5. Notification of Acceptance
 - Following the above five steps, you are then notified of your child's acceptance status to Royalmont.
6. Deposit and Enrollment Contract
 - Return of your contract and payment of the deposit and activity fee for each child secures enrollment.

*Admissions fees are non-refundable.

Accuracy of Information

Refusing to provide requested information to the school, or providing false, incomplete, or inaccurate information to the school, may result in the denial or revocation of admission and/or disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Withdrawal

All financial obligations toward Royalmont Academy HS must be met before transcripts of a withdrawn student are forwarded. Financial obligations include a any tuition and fees, returning of school-owned items including, but not limited to, library books, novels, non-consumable textbooks, school-owned computers, etc. must be returned. Additionally, any and all outstanding financial obligations including, but not limited to, lunch fees and tuition must be met. Requests for forwarding transcripts must be made in writing and submitted to the Head of School from admitting institution. Transcripts are mailed to the institution where the student applies and cannot be given directly to the parents of the student.

Financial Withdraw Policy

I/We understand tuition is based upon annual expenses of the school. If a student withdraws prior to two weeks before the opening of school a full refund of tuition will be given except for the tuition deposit.

If the student withdraws after this period a refund will be given by a prorated amount per quarter. Once a student enters a new quarter, there will be no refund given for that quarter. No Refund will be issued if the student withdraws after the end of the second quarter. Written notification must be submitted to the Head of School and the School Office at least two weeks before the effective date of the withdrawal.

Admissions for Students needing Special Education Services / IEPs

Royalmont Academy serves many students who need special accommodations or are on IEP's. However, some needs exceed our abilities. Royalmont reserves the right to refuse admissions if it is determined that for academic, medical/health, and/or social and emotional reasons we cannot reasonably meet the student's needs. Royalmont may choose to provide part, or all of these services through the use of third-

party providers (ex: speech). Royalmont's Special Education Services come with additional costs that ensure we are able to meet these student needs. These costs may be covered in-part or in whole by the Jon Peterson scholarship depending upon the level of service required. Royalmont will work with each family to determine total need and costs each school year. Royalmont also provides additional assistance to families who qualify to help offset costs for these services. Parents have a right to appeal an admissions denial pertaining to SPED Services/IEP's in writing to the Head of School. The Head of School decision is final.

Previously Expulsion

Royalmont Academy does not accept applications from students previously expelled from another school.

International Students

Royalmont Academy does accept international students. Students must meet normal admissions requirements in addition to proving fluency in the English Language. Students must meet all legal US Government standards for passport and Visa. Tuition for international students is a higher rate because of additional costs incurred by the school. For high school, Tuition for International Students is \$13,300. Additional costs and fees may apply dependent upon circumstances. See Admissions and tuition paperwork for more details. Royalmont cannot control changes to US Government policy. If a situation (pandemic, war, otherwise) were to arise where an international student must return home, Royalmont's normal tuition reimbursement policy applies.

Admissions Under Special Circumstances

Royalmont Academy is a Catholic school that abides by the teachings and rules of the Catholic Church. Faith is integrated into all aspects of the school's activities. It would be inconsistent with the school's identity and mission to teach, promote, or encourage an understanding that is contrary to Catholic teachings. Thus, a student's expression of his/her gender, sexual identity, or sexuality that is inconsistent with the Catholic faith may be considered by Royalmont Academy when determining whether to admit or retain a student.

Statement on Evangelization and Inclusion

Royalmont is an apostolic Catholic school that welcomes all who seek the truth in charity. Students do not need to be Catholic to attend, but all formation and instruction are rooted in the Catholic worldview. We believe that formation happens best in a community that is both loving and courageous in proclaiming Christ.

Our evangelizing mission is lived joyfully and inclusively, respecting the journey of each person while inviting them into a deeper relationship with Christ. We seek to form apostles who live their faith in action, both now and in the future.

Academic Overview

Curriculum Overview

Royalmont Academy offers a rigorous academic program rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition. As a Regnum Christi school, our curriculum integrates faith and reason, fostering a love for truth, goodness, and beauty across disciplines. We strive to prepare students not only for college success but also for faithful Christian witness in all walks of life.

Instruction is personalized to develop each student's God-given talents. Teachers employ mastery-based learning, project-based applications, Socratic dialogue, and other methods to build critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills. All courses are designed to support the formation of Christian leaders.

Royalmont's curriculum balances classical content and modern competencies. While aligned with the standards of the State of Ohio, it also exceeds them through additional theology, leadership, and formation coursework.

Curriculum Standards

Royalmont Academy follows the Graded Course of Study of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Schools Office and Regnum Christi Education. The curriculum is aligned with the State of Ohio's Learning Standards. Religion courses are taught at every grade level. Students, regardless of religious affiliation, participate in Religion classes and receive an academic grade which appears on the report card. The report card grade for the Religion courses reflects the student's ability to understand the teachings of the Catholic Church. Schools follow the Religion Graded Course of Study provided by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from Royalmont Academy High School, students must complete the following minimum requirements. Two diplomas are offered: the **Royalmont Diploma** and the **Graduate Diploma**. The Graduate Diploma reflects a higher level of engagement in the school's mission and formation program.

Subject	Royalmont Diploma	Graduate Diploma
Theology	4.0	4.0
English Language Arts	4.0	4.0
Mathematics	4.0	4.0
Science	3.0	4.0
History & Social Studies*	4.0	4.0
Foreign Language	2.0	3.0
Logic	1.0	1.0
Physical Education	0.5	0.5
Health	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts	1.0	1.0
Leadership Electives	1.0	2.0
Capstone & Formation**	—	1.0
Total Credits	27.0	29.0

*History requirement includes Financial Literacy.

**Capstone & Formation includes apostolic service hours, retreat participation, senior leadership practicum, and personal accompaniment.

All students are also expected to participate in regular retreats, spiritual formation, and household activities. The Graduate Diploma reflects greater depth in these areas.

Special Needs Services

Our **Student Support Team** provides a supportive placement for students diagnosed with Specific Learning Disabilities and Other Health Impairments. These students are in need of a program that will maximize their potential to be successful academically the services offered include but are not limited to the development of organizational skills, developing both modifications and accommodations for assignments and assessments. The supports are offered in the resource room, and the general education classroom depending on the IEP of the student. The Student Support Team utilizes the case management model to facilitate communication with the parents and the student's school district of residence. The program is open to students that complete the admissions process, meet entrance assessment requirements, have an IEP and are on the John Peterson Scholarship. (Royalmont does not have an intervention specialist for students with ISPs. All ISPs will need to be converted to an IEP to be served by our program.

Commented [CG8]: Honors Diploma? Why are we changing the name?

If anything, I feel like the Graduate diploma is the minimum, like what the state requires to graduate, and then the extra is the RA diploma

Commented [CG9R8]: Wouldn't our students benefit from having an "Honors Diploma"?

Commented [CG10]: We are switching back to requiring this now for everybody?

Commented [CG11]: We are adding this as a requirement?

Commented [CG12]: We are not at a point of offering all of this right now. And it is not detailed enough for anyone to understand what is required. How many hours? Retreat participation = just going like everyone else? What is senior leadership practicum? What is personal accompaniment? This reads like a whole new program that we don't have and I cannot put together at this time.

Commented [CG13]: What/who is this and do they know this is what they are called? Do our teachers need to know about this title?

Academic Integrity

A core value of Royalmont Academy is to develop students who are morally strong. A formative response to academic dishonesty will encourage and help students to understand fully what academic dishonesty is and why it is wrong. While Christian charity demands that love supersedes justice, any type of academic dishonesty is a serious offense and must be appropriately addressed with charity, love, and justice.

Academic dishonesty is defined as giving or receiving unauthorized aid on any assignment, including homework, classwork, quizzes, tests, projects, and exams.

Royalmont Academy's policy to address students who have engaged in academic dishonesty was developed in consultation with the Regnum Christi schools. Administration will typically follow the guidelines below in cases where a student has been found to have engaged in academic dishonesty. These guidelines may be altered depending on circumstances surrounding the specific situation, at the discretion of administration.

First Offense

- The student is required to retake the assessment or assignment for a maximum of 70% credit.
- The student loses the privilege of exam exemptions for the course in which the incident occurred.
- Parents will be notified by a phone or with a follow up email,
- The student will receive one detention,
- Incident records will be documented in the student's file.
- Students must meet with the Assistant Principal.

Second Offense

- The student is required to retake the assessment or assignment for a maximum of 50% credit.
- The student loses the privilege of exam exemptions for all courses for the semester.
- Parents will be notified and a conference will be scheduled to include the student, parents, relevant administration, and any other persons as deemed necessary.
- The student will serve a Saturday detention to be served at the convenience of Administration.
- The incident record is documented in the student's file.

• *No Academic Discipline Plan will be put in place*

Academic Regulations

- Sequential courses must follow the proper order, and students must fulfill all prerequisites before registering for a course.
- If a senior does not have a class scheduled and does not need credit for graduation, he/she may leave before the end of the regular school day or arrive late. Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors must remain in school for all 8 periods of the school day.
- When a student withdraws or transfers to another school, parents must notify the school and complete the necessary arrangements prior to withdrawal. Teachers will be asked to calculate an exit grade up to the last day of class attendance.

Commented [CG14]: What is the 3rd offense? I don't think a Saturday school detention will curb it

Commented [CG15R14]: Unless - depends on what the discipline plan is, but I haven't gotten there yet

I think this is covered later but I added

Mastery-Based Learning

Royalmont emphasizes growth, feedback, and revision. Students have opportunities to reassess and demonstrate improvement. Grades reflect the highest and most consistent level of mastery demonstrated over time, not simple averages.

- Grades should reflect the highest level of mastery of a standard.
- Summative assessments must reflect student understanding at the time of evaluation.
- Formative work is ungraded or minimally weighted but provides essential feedback.
- Reassessment is permitted, and in some cases required, after meaningful additional practice and/or intervention.
- Students may be asked to complete remediation assignments or attend office hours or learning labs before a reassessment.
- Summative assessments are aligned with clearly communicated standards and must allow students to demonstrate deeper levels of thinking.
- Feedback must be specific, timely, and actionable.

- If 50% or more of a class falls below 75%, reteaching is required, and students must be allowed to retake with the opportunity for full credit.
- If fewer than 50% reach mastery on a retake, the assessment must be reviewed for proper leveling.

changed to mid/low

Commented [CG16]: We changed this to is the average of the class is lower than 75%. If we stick with 50% of individuals, our class sizes are so small, in a class of 5 students, 2 failing would not meet this threshold even though 40% is a lot. In my opinion.

Commented [CG17]: Does this appropriate to put in the student handbook? I think only the teacher one as this is inner operations.

I think this is ok.

Academic Policies

Homework

Homework is purposeful and aligned with class objectives. It is assigned to reinforce skills, prepare students for new content, or complete project-based learning components.

- As a general guideline, students should expect no more than 10 minutes of homework per grade level per night (e.g., 9th grade = 90 minutes total).
- ~~Homework is not to be increased without administrative approval.~~
- Late homework may receive partial credit unless an extension is granted in advance.
- Chronic lateness may affect a student's formation grade and/or require intervention.

Commented [CG18]: Need to add that students enrolled in an AP course will not follow these limits?

Commented [CG19]: This shouldn't be in the student handbook, but the teachers

Late Work and Missed Assignments

- A maximum of one letter grade per day may be deducted for late summative work.
- The minimum score for fully completed late work is 75%.
- Missed assignments due to excused absence must be completed within the same number of days as the absence.
- Absent Work: If a student misses a Monday class on a M/W/F schedule, the work is due Friday. If a student misses Tuesday in a T/Th class, the work is due the following Tuesday.

Commented [CG20]: Can we add the time limit before it is a zero? In Mason (public), they say after 2 weeks it is a zero. Can we set ours to 1 week?

Let's see how this year pans out.

RE has addressed this. We need to do our part 1st.

Remediation & Retake Procedures

- Students falling below 75% mastery are eligible and sometimes required for remediation.
- Students may retake assessments after completing meaningful remediation.
- Students can earn a minimum of 75% on a successful retake, with additional credit at teacher discretion.
- If 50% or more of the class falls below mastery, the teacher must reteach and re-assess for full credit.

Commented [CG21]: Are we capping them to once in each course? What is our protection from students using this policy to plan on failing for constant retakes? We know teenagers, we know they are smart enough to figure this out. How do we make sure this is requiring increased cognitive effort on students and not giving them an out for learning and study skills?

Commented [CG22]: Again, weird to have in student handbook

this is our promise to the students? ~~to~~ parents

IEP Accommodations and Support

- IEP accommodations must be honored in all academic settings.
- If accommodations are not followed, students must be given full retake credit without penalty.
- Intervention Team must review IEP student retake plans in advance.
- If a student with an IEP has a grade below 75% after two weeks into a quarter, a personalized support plan must be initiated.
- IEP students may have extended deadlines, alternate formats, or additional reassessment opportunities based on documented needs.

Grades and Grading

The basis of the teacher's criteria in assigning a grade is the concrete evidence of demonstrated learning through formal examinations, quizzes, written and oral reports, homework, special projects, group work, and class participation. Royalmont policy require that teachers provide a certain variety and quantity of assessments with the goal of ensuring students are able to demonstrate mastery of material. Questions about grades should first be discussed with the appropriate teacher. If further discussion is indicated, the student should contact the Assistant Principal followed by the Head of School.

- Final Grades

All work must be submitted by the end of the semester, and all grades are considered final at the close of the semester. Royalmont is on a semester system. Final semester grades are assigned at the end of each semester, at which time credits are earned. Royalmont does not award partial credit to students who withdraw before the end of the semester, but will supply exit grades for transfer students. Each final semester grade is calculated according to the individual weightings posted in the class syllabus and announced at the beginning of the term.

- Report Card & Progress Reports

At approximately nine weeks into a grading period, parents and students will be notified if there is failure to make progress toward a passing grade (average grade $\geq 69.5\%$).

*should be "2" symbol
I just wrote it out*

Commented [CG23]: Is this supposed to be the less than symbol?

Commented [CG24R23]: Or am I not reading this right?

FACTS Online Grading and Information Program

Parents, students, and teachers use our FACTS program to check grades, send messages, and more. The administration also utilizes this program to send important safety messages. It will be very important to make sure your information is always up to date in this system. You will receive information at the beginning of your time at Royalmont. Each year Royalmont will remind you to update all your information and for parents to click the box accepting text messages for emergency purposes. High School students are expected to check FACTS to stay up to date on their courses at a minimum of once a week.

Non-custodial Parent

In the absence of a court order to the contrary, Royalmont Academy HS will provide the non-custodial parent with access to academic records and to other school-related information regarding his/her child per the current law if requested by the non-custodial parent. If there is a court order specifying there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order.

Unsatisfactory Academic Performance

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who fail any course during the school year must make the credit up before being allowed to begin the next school year. A senior who fails any course in the final year must complete the required work by August 1 unless special arrangements are made. The student will not receive his or her diploma or have a final transcript released until the work is completed. Students of all four years must make up any failed course from the first and/or second semester by attending summer school, credit recovery, or sessions with a tutor approved by the Assistant Principal. If a student works with a tutor, mandatory minimum requirements of 20 hours of contact and 40 hours of work per semester failed must be completed for credit to be granted. Students who have failed three or more academic subjects on their final report card will not be promoted to the next grade level. Students who fail any number of courses for consecutive years will warrant a meeting with the Assistant Principal and Head of School and the family of the student to determine best steps forward.

*CCP is different.
I'll note.*

Summer School

Students may not use summer school ordinarily to complete any course unless they have failed the course during the school year. Permission may be granted by the administration if there is a course a transfer student needs which Royalmont does not offer.

either complete credit recovery or retake this or...

If a student fails a course during the year, the student is required to retake this class in an accredited summer school or during an online course at an accredited school/online school. Official transcript needs to be turned into Assistant Principal upon completion of course.

Commented [CG25]: CCP? Is that different? We have students who have done/are doing this, I didn't know that wasn't allowed

Commented [CG26]: But, above it said there were other options besides summer school (credit recovery, etc.). This para and the UACADEMIC Perf above it are contradicting

Incomplete Grade (I)

Due to extenuating circumstances, a student might receive a grade of "I" or incomplete from a formator for a grading period. Generally, the student will have two weeks into the next grading period or two weeks into the summer (should the grade occur at the end of the year) to complete the work necessary to receive a grade unless a different schedule is set up at the formator's discretion. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure that he or

Agreed. I rewrote

she meets with the formator and completes the work. If the work is not completed by the student then, the grade of "I" will revert to a grade of "F".

Withdrawals

Withdrawal of a student on a permanent basis is a formal procedure. Parents/Guardian must contact the Head of School or Assistant Principal indicating the official date of withdrawal. Official school records will be mailed, not hand delivered, to the new school provided that:

- 1) Release of Records form is signed by the parent/guardian
- 2) All school property is returned, and all financial obligations are met
- 3) An exit interview conducted by the Assistant Principal has been completed

The Assistant Principal or Head of School will inform the teachers. The student is responsible to clean his/her locker of all personal belongings on his/her last day of school. The school will not be held responsible for any missing personal items.

Withdrawn Refund Policy

[I/We] understand tuition is based upon annual expenses of the school. If a student withdraws prior to two weeks before the opening of school a full refund of tuition will be given except for the tuition deposit.

If the student withdraws after this period a refund will be given by a prorated amount per quarter. Once a student enters a new quarter, there will be no refund given for that quarter. **No Refund will be issued if the student withdraws after the end of the second quarter.** Written notification must be submitted to the Head of School and to the School Office at least two weeks before the effective date of the withdrawal.

Use of AI Tools/Ai Policy

Royalmont encourages responsible and ethical use of technology. As AI becomes more integrated into daily tools, the following guidelines apply:

- Spelling and grammar checkers, including Grammarly, are permitted unless the assessment is explicitly evaluating standards related to spelling and grammar.
- AI tools used for research (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot) must be cited when they contribute ideas or generate content.
- Students may not submit AI-generated writing or analysis as their own. Doing so constitutes academic dishonesty.
- Use of AI tools must be developmentally appropriate and aligned with instructor expectations. All assignments should be considered Level 0 unless otherwise specified by the teacher.
- Teachers are encouraged to instruct students on responsible AI use and foster digital literacy.
- AI continues to develop at a rapid pace. Royalmont will approach AI with our values through the lens of a Regnum Christi school who aims to provide a 21st century education and Formative Discipline – assuming the best of the student first. This is especially true as AI penetrates more deeply into everyday tools and may cause confusion among both student and faculty on appropriate use.
- Any issues related to AI use and questions of academic integrity shall be addressed first by the Assistant Principal, and then by the Head of School.

AI Use Scale: All writing assignments should be given an AI level as a part of the assignment. If Level 0 is used, the teacher must direct that no digital research be allowed and provide the needed resources or guidance therein. Level 0 is interpreted as students may not use AI tools for brainstorming, content generation, or research assistance. However, embedded features such as spelling and grammar suggestions (e.g., Microsoft Editor, autocorrect, Grammarly) are permitted, as they are considered standard editing aids rather than generative AI. No AI-generated text, outlines, summaries, or reworded content may be submitted.

- **Level 0 – No AI Use:** Student may not use AI tools at any point in completing the assignment.
- **Level 1 – AI for Ideas Only:** Student may use AI tools to brainstorm, outline, or gather ideas. No direct AI-generated writing may be submitted.
- **Level 2 – AI for Drafting Support:** Student may use AI tools to help organize thoughts, summarize research, or suggest structure. Final writing must be original and student-authored.

Commented [CG27]: Does this section require parent signature?

Amendbook does. yes.

Commented [CG28]: I personally don't think that students should be permitted to use ChatGPT for research. This is a skill that is in ELA standards that students have to master. AI does it for them

you have to talk about any AI. Right now if you use any major search engine - google or microsoft - the first result you get will be AI generated. Also remember the levels below apply.

Commented [CG29]: This is woven through standards, students are to practice this, not get it from AI

There is no challenge. This just says a Level 2 project allows this.

- **Level 3 – AI-Assisted Drafting:** Student may use AI in developing content but must revise significantly and demonstrate understanding. A copy of the AI draft and the final submission must be included.
- **Level 4 – AI Integration Permitted:** Student may use AI-generated output as part of the final product. Work must still reflect critical thinking and personalization. Proper attribution of AI usage is required.

Commented [CG30]: This reads as students can have an essay generated for them and students just rewrite what is there and turn it in? Am I misunderstanding this?

developing content is different than writing for them...

Unauthorized AI use will be treated as a violation of academic integrity.

Grading Policy

Quarter 1 through Quarter 3: the lowest grade a student can receive is a 69%. If a student grade must be adjusted, the student and parent(s) will be required to meet with the administration and formator to develop a plan for improvement for the following quarter.

Grading and GPA

Royalmont Academy High School uses a mastery-based learning approach, supplemented by a traditional GPA scale for transcript purposes. Students are evaluated based on their ability to demonstrate mastery of learning objectives over time.

Commented [CG31]: We are continuing the rounding up of points? I never agreed with it when Pitstick was here, I don't think it is ethical to give free points students did not earn and skew their grades. I agree in cases like Cassie's class desperate times but that should be a once in a lifetime event. Just rounding up feels like were just passing students along. If we changed it to if they ended a quarter with this failing grade, they will spend the next break reworking for 75%.

1st quarter fail - rework over Thanksgiving
2nd Q fail: rework over Christmas
3rd Q fail: spring break
4th Q fail: 1 week into summer

Grading and GPA Scale

High School GPA Scale and Weights

A+ =	4.0	96.50-100
A =	4.0	92.50-96.49
A- =	3.67	89.50-92.49
B+ =	3.33	86.50-89.49
B =	3.00	82.50-86.49
B- =	2.67	79.50-82.49
C+ =	2.33	76.50-79.49
C =	2.00	72.50-76.49
C- =	1.67	69.50-72.49
D+ =	1.33	65.50-69.49
D =	1.00	62.50-65.49
D- =	.67	59.50-62.49
F =	0.00	0-59.49

WP - Withdrawn Passing

WF - Withdrawn Failing

P - Passing

INC - Incomplete

NG - No Grade

****Incomplete:** A grade of "INC" is used at any marking period to indicate that the student has not completed the required work or semester exam for any reason. The grade is used only in cases when circumstances beyond the student's control, such as long-term illness, have made it impossible for the student to meet the course requirements. An Incomplete automatically becomes a "Failure" unless the work is completed during the following two weeks or unless the time is extended by the teacher involved and/or the administration.

High School GPA Weights:

AP Courses: +.5 Honors Courses: +.5 CCP Courses: +1

Exam Policy

Semester comprehensive exams are administered in all year long courses. Semester courses take final exams at the end of the semester. Students should understand the serious nature of exams and plan for plenty of time to study and review.

Exams may be in several forms such as examination test, project, presentation, performance, etc. All examinations are to be taken at their scheduled time. Exams may not be taken early without permission of the administration and the

I'll ask RC the Q.
In theory, if we are doing Remediation, this shouldn't happen. Additionally we will now have put into effect an Academic improvement plan.

formator. This situation would require a seriously significant reason. Written verification will be required in cases of illness from the physician if an exam is missed. All decisions concerning exam make-ups are at the discretion of the administration.

Final Exam Exemptions

Grade Level	Course Average	# of Exemptions 1 st Semester	# of Exemptions 2 nd Semester
9 th	89.5	1	1
10 th	89.5	2	2
11 th	89.5	3	3
12 th	89.5	4	All

Commented [CG32]: Do we need to say "or greater"?

Additional Exam Exemption Policies

- Students in AP classes may not exempt first semester exams.
- Students in AP classes will not take second semester exams if they take the College Board AP exam in May, which is an expectation for every student taking an AP class. Failure to take the exam administered by the College Board may result in deduction of overall course grade by up to 15%.
- Seniors will be required to take a final exam in the spring if they do not have an 89.5 or higher.
- Students who have a first offense for academic dishonesty will lose their exam exemption in that class.
- Students who have a second offense for academic dishonesty will lose their exam exemptions for all classes.

Semester Examinations

All academic core courses include a comprehensive final exam/project/paper as part of the curricula. This final exam/project/paper can count as much as 15% of the student's final semester grade. Some elective courses may also require a comprehensive assessment. Students requesting early administrations of semester exams must meet with the Academic Dean at least one month prior to exam dates.

Commented [CG33]: "can", not "will"?

Commented [CG34]: Who is this?

AP

Rescheduling of final exams will occur in the following cases:

- Participation in a scheduled school event (i.e. Girls'/Boys' State)
- Unavoidable family emergencies
- Illness

When it is known beforehand, the student will complete the test(s) PRIOR to the absence. Keep in mind that in-class review time will be missed. In cases of illness or emergencies, tests will be scheduled as soon as possible on the student's return during after-school hours.

Exemption to the Physical Education Graduation Requirement

(Based upon Section 3313.603 of the Ohio Revised Code, Letter L)

In the State of Ohio, students are required to complete one-half unit of physical education for graduation. One-half unit requires a minimum of 120 hours of course instruction. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, Royalmont Academy students in grades 9-12 who successfully complete two full seasons of recognized Royalmont school activities as outlined below may be exempted with a completed waiver from the high school physical education graduation requirement. Prior participation in recognized activities cannot be retroactively used to fulfill waiver requirements. Students entering their senior year who have not completed ALL waiver requirements or taken a one-half unit Physical Education course will be placed in physical education classes immediately in order to fulfill graduation requirements.

The "Two Full Seasons" requirement can be completed within a single school year. According to Ohio Revised Code, boards of education may NOT provide for partial completion of the high school physical education requirement; therefore, the one-half unit requirement cannot be partially exempted. For example, it is not possible to combine one semester of a physical education course with successful completion of one athletic season to meet the

physical education graduation requirement.

Impact on Overall Graduation Requirements

Those students exempted with a waiver from the high school physical education graduation requirement are **required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction, in another course of study**, as determined by the student and parent in conjunction with the Head of School or Assistant Principal. Students will accordingly satisfy their P.E. obligation. Please note that students **will not earn a letter grade** when utilizing the P.E. exemption waiver. Those students utilizing the P.E. Exemption are still required to meet all other graduation requirements established by Royalmont Academy High School including the completion of all required credits for graduation.

Recognized Activities

Royalmont Academy High School recognizes that "Two Full Seasons" of appropriate participation in the following Royalmont activities may be used to satisfy P.E. Waiver requirements:

Cross Country Basketball
Volleyball Track & Field

**** Other club/non-school sponsored activities or online course will not be approved ****

It was determined that the current Cheerleading program at RA Prep would not qualify as an approved activity as it is more a "pep squad." Practice time, intensity and duration do not offer enough hours in comparison to any of the approved interscholastic activities.

Process for Physical Activity Exemption

1. Student indicates desire to be exempt from Physical Education courses by choosing the P.E. Waiver option during course selection.
2. Once a student has participated fully in, and completed **one** of the two required seasons, the student will then *submit the P.E. Exemption Waiver Form to the admissions office*. The student is expected to complete and submit an additional form after participating fully in, and at the conclusion of, the second season. Students are required to turn in the completed form to the admissions office within **(4) four weeks** of the last contest or competition. It is the responsibility of the student to turn the form in. **THIS WILL NOT BE DONE AUTOMATICALLY FOR THE STUDENT. If the form is not turned in by the due date, they will lose that season of credit toward the waiver.**
3. Students *entering their senior year* who have not completed ALL waiver requirements or taken a one-half unit Physical Education course will be placed in a physical education class immediately in order to fulfill graduation requirements.
4. The Physical Education Exemption Form will then be reviewed by the athletic department, the appropriate coaches and school administration for approval.
5. Once the appropriate exemption waiver documentation is approved, students will have fulfilled the necessary requirements for exemption.
6. Royalmont Academy may add sports as they are able that will also meet the requirements.

**** Please be aware that this exemption *may not transfer* should a student transfer to a different school/district with different policies. ****

Section 3313.603 of the Ohio Revised Code, Letter L

(L) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, the board of education of each school district and the governing authority of each chartered nonpublic school may adopt a policy to excuse from the high school physical education requirement each student who, during high school, has participated in interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading for at least two full seasons or in the junior reserve officer training corps for at least two full school years. If the board or authority adopts such a policy, the board or authority shall not require the student to complete any physical education course as a condition to graduate. However, the student shall be required to complete one-half unit, consisting of at least sixty hours of instruction, in another course of study. In the case of a student who has participated in the junior reserve officer training corps for at least two full school years, credit received for that participation may be used to satisfy the requirement to complete one-half unit in another course of study.

Promotion and Retention

Students who demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful at the next level of learning are promoted.

Promotion to the next grade level requires:

Commented [CG35]: We can't? In the past, we gave student credit when they played soccer for Mars Hill because we didn't offer it

that is tricky. If Mars Hill was accredited, I could see, but are they accredited?

Commented [CG36]: Who has this file? Need it uploaded into Teams

e. miller

- Passing all core subjects (Theology, ELA, Math, Science, History).
- Meeting all service and formation requirements.
- Attending retreats and maintaining good disciplinary standing.

In rare cases, a student may be retained or required to complete summer coursework for advancement. Decisions addressing academic achievement will be made on an individual basis. Parents/Guardians will be included in the discussion throughout the school year. The final decision rests with the principal in consultation with the academic support team. Parents/guardians' input will be considered.

Academic Probation

Students may be placed on academic probation if:

- They receive more than one failing grade in core subjects in a quarter.
- Their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0.
- They demonstrate a consistent pattern of missing or incomplete work.

Probation includes a review meeting with parents, a written improvement plan, and progress checks. Students who do not improve may lose extracurricular privileges or face dismissal.

Honor Roll

Honors are awarded at the end of each semester.

First Honors: an average of 3.80 or above

Second Honors: an average between 3.50 and 3.79

Honor Roll: an average between 3.00 and 3.49

Head of School Academic List

All A's in Academic grades (including specials)

Commented [CG37]: I really think we need another recognition: 4.0+. I think that is in a league of its own and should be celebrated. Honors with Distinction?

Transcripts

Royalmont Academy provides transcripts upon request. All financial obligations must be met for transcripts to be released.

Academics: General Information

Course Selection Process

- The course selection process begins in January.
- Current teachers provide recommendations based on class performance and grades.
- Students will review possible course choices with the Assistant Principal.
- Students will select elective courses.
- Students will have two opportunities during spring semester to revise their course selections.

*I'm going to remove
for now.*

Commented [CG38]: I will not be able to put a preliminary schedule for them to review and then the final for them to review all in the spring.

Advanced Placement Courses (AP)

Students must have a recommendation by the teacher to take an AP course. **All students enrolled in an AP course must take the AP exam and are responsible for the AP exam cost.** Any charges incurred by the school will be billed to the parent/guardian on the FACTS account by September 1 of the academic year.

College Credit Plus (CCP)

College Credit Plus is an approved program by the State of Ohio Legislature whereby students can earn high school and college credit(s) while at Royalmont Academy. A minimum of three college hours will translate into one high school Advance Placement credit. Students are permitted to take courses off campus throughout the year. Royalmont Academy reserves the right to deny a request for an off-campus CCP class to fulfill a Royalmont Academy graduation requirement. If Royalmont Academy has a course on campus, the student shall not take the same course through CCP. Interested students and parents should attend a CCP information session scheduled by the administrative office each winter/spring.

Commented [CG39]: This is literally happening this year with Madison CC and then most likely Ann Davis this year. I didn't know

↳ I'm struggling on this one. A CCP course, by nature, is worth +1.0, so how come it be the same?

Dual Credit Courses

Royalmont Academy has partnered with Catholic University of America to offer a selection of dual credit courses. Students wishing to obtain both high school and college credit through Catholic University will have permission from the teacher and will pay CU for the cost of the college credit. Information and fees will be sent home at the beginning of each year for these courses. A minimum of three college hours will translate into one high school Advance Placement credit.

Schedule Changes

The master schedule and teacher assignments are based on teacher recommendations, student grades, and student requests. Every effort is made to schedule requested classes, but scheduling constraints sometimes make this impossible.

The following school policies apply to schedules:

- The high school does not have a drop/add period. Schedule changes must be completed within the first week of school unless otherwise approved by the Assistant Principal.
- No schedule changes will be made for preferences of teacher, period, or friends.
- Level changes (between college prep, honors, and AP) are made only with teacher recommendation and approval by the Assistant Principal.
- Students, in conjunction with the Assistant Principal, are responsible for monitoring their progress in meeting graduation requirements.

Commented [CG40]: This isn't a schedule change but where should we add in that students should be allowed only 1 study hall (unless on an IEP, AP, CCP, or no other course is available at that time)?

*I Added under
course selection process
(see new bullet)*

Selection of the Curriculum and Instructional Material

Royalmont Academy High School believes the choice of instructional materials impacts the formation of students. Therefore, we strive to choose the highest quality of books and materials. We encourage parents to inform the

administration and teacher(s) if there may be a book that brings into question our beliefs as Catholic Christians or that would work against the formation we are attempting to achieve. The teachers and administration will review the materials to make a determination if this material will continue to be used in the course. We will strive to do our best to give our students the best possible curriculum for their formation.

Records Review

Student records are private and accessible only to school administrators (including the principal), the teachers who are working with the student, and the students' parents/guardians who make official requests. Parents/guardians are asked to make a request for records in writing 24 hours in advance. An appointment shall be made to view the records the school retains for the student. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the school will provide the non-custodial parent with access to academic records and other school related information regarding the student. If there is a court order specifying that no information is to be given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order.

Withdrawal/Disenrollment of Students Based Upon the Conduct of Parents/Guardians

Royalmont Academy may require a parent/guardian to withdraw his/her child based on the conduct of the parent/guardian. This may occur if the conduct of a parent/guardian is threatening, hostile, chronically disrespectful, or disruptive to the educational process. In such cases, principals shall contact their assigned Regional Director before the withdrawal is implemented. In this event, the following procedure shall occur: 1. Written notice will be sent to the parent/guardian and student describing the reasons for the student's potential disenrollment. 2. A meeting (in-person, virtual, or by phone) will be held between school representatives, the parent/guardian, and, if appropriate, the student, prior to the disenrollment. 3. A summary report detailing the reasons for the disenrollment will be sent to the Superintendent of Schools. 4. A parent/guardian who believes his/her child has been disenrolled for insufficient reason has the right to appeal, in writing sent through US mail, to the Superintendent.

Standardized Testing

Royalmont Academy follows the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and State of Ohio requirements regarding standardized testing. Students receiving State of Ohio scholarships may be required to participate in additional state testing. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati also requires students to take an Assessment of Religious Education. All students in required grade levels will take this assessment regardless of religious affiliation.

Temporary Home Instruction

Home instruction for children who are physically unable to attend school for an extended period may need to be provided through the local public school district. The student may need to enroll in the local public school to receive this instruction. Special consideration should be given on a case-by-case basis and in full consultation with parents/guardians, physician, school administration, and other related parties.

Early Graduation

Royalmont Academy High School is a four-year traditional high school. Early

graduation is not permitted.

Part-Time Students

Royalmont Academy High School allows for part time a 'la cart students. See A'La'Cart for full details.

Adult-Age Students

Royalmont Academy High School students must reside with their parent or guardian. We reserve the right to expect parents/guardian permission, signatures, etc. for adult-age students unless some prior arrangements have been made with the Head of School.

Transfer Students

No student will be admitted to Royalmont Academy High School as a transfer student unless all records have been reviewed by the administration or Admissions. Prior to acceptance, high school students will be interviewed by Admissions and Administration. References from the previous school may also be required. Transfer students are accepted on a first come, first serve basis as long space is available and academic needs are able to be met.

Annual Awards

At the end of the school year, ninth through twelfth grade students who have achieved a high level of formation and academic growth, development, and/or achievement are recognized at an awards ceremony.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter and semester. Grades are posted regularly in FACTS. All students will receive a graded progress report at mid-point in the semester (Quarter grades). Parent-Formator conferences will occur after midterms (Quarter grade) and after the end of the first semester; however, parents are invited to reach out to any formator at any time if they are concerned or have questions regarding any area of their student's formation.

National Honor Society

Students are determined eligible for the National Honor Society (NHS) based upon the standards set forth by the local NHS of Royalmont Academy. These criteria will be posted in the hallways of the school for reference and may be obtained from the moderators of the NHS.

Part Time A'La Carte Homeschool Study Policies

Royalmont Academy welcomes homeschool families into our faith-filled high school community through flexible, affordable A La Carte enrollment options. Designed to complement a robust home education, this program allows students to access our most mission-aligned courses, clubs, and athletic opportunities while preserving the freedom of homeschooling.

Commented [CG41]: To protect our current/future full timers, should we add in that they must be in a homeschool group? I am worried that some like the Broek's who don't need extra courses would rather unenroll full time and just take an handful of classes and stay home

that's why we limit to 3.
You can't get your
Senior requirements w/
3 classes. By law,
they would have to
enroll w/ state as
homeschool student.

Overview

Homeschool students may enroll in individual high school courses on either a semester or full-year basis. Students can select courses that are difficult to teach at home (such as lab sciences or higher math), fulfill state graduation requirements (such as Government, Finance, and Health), or participate in our signature Leadership and Classical Concentration tracks. Theology courses are also available and provide solid, orthodox Catholic teaching rooted in the Regnum Christi tradition.

Schedule Options

- Courses meet either **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** or **Tuesday/Thursday**
- Students may select the schedule that best fits their homeschool rhythm

Tuition & Discounts

- **\$1,600 per course, per year**
- **\$800 per course, per semester**
- **Discounted Rate:** 3 courses for \$4,000

Community Integration

Homeschool students enrolled through the A La Carte program are considered part of the Royalmont High School community and may:

- Participate in **Mass, Adoration, retreats, and Apostolic Projects**
- Join **athletics** at the same rate as full-time students
- Take part in **clubs and extracurriculars**, including:
 - Theater
 - Band
 - National Honor Society
 - Certamen (Latin)
 - ECyD (faith club for boys and girls)
 - Student Council
 - Chess Club
 - And more

Athletics

Eligible sports for homeschool students include:

Girls: Cross Country, Volleyball, Track, Basketball, Golf, Swimming, Bowling

Boys: Cross Country, Basketball, Track, Volleyball, Golf, Swimming, Flag Football, Bowling

Standardized Testing

Royalmont Academy follows the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and State of Ohio requirements regarding standardized testing. Students receiving State of Ohio scholarships may be required to participate in additional state testing. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati also requires students to take an Assessment of Religious Education. All students in required grade levels will take this assessment regardless of religious affiliation.

yes. done

Commented [CG42]: These are not listed in the PE exemption list above. Should they be?

Commented [CG43]: This is repeat. It is duplicate from a page above

Deleted.

Student Life

Dress Code and Uniforms

Royalmont Academy High School students are expected to wear the approved school uniform each day, fostering an environment of unity and focus. Uniforms must be clean, neat, and worn with pride. Specific uniform guidelines are provided to families at the start of the year and are subject to revision.

Boys' Uniform Requirements:

- Khaki dress pants (no jeans, joggers, or cargo pants)
- White or navy polo shirt with Royalmont logo for daily wear
- White button-down shirt with tie and blazer on Mass days
- Brown or black dress shoes (no athletic shoes)
- Belts must be worn at all times
- Non-uniform outerwear is not permitted inside classrooms

Girls' Uniform Requirements:

- Royalmont ~~plaid skirt~~ *grey skirt* or khaki pants
- White or navy polo shirt with Royalmont logo for daily wear
- White blouse and blazer on Mass days
- Skirts must fall within two inches of the knee
- Closed-toed, flat or low-heeled dress shoes (no athletic shoes)

Spirit Wear Days:

- Students may wear spirit wear every Monday along with other designated days
- Royalmont spirit tops (sweatshirts, tees, etc.) with uniform bottoms

Out-of-Uniform Days:

- Modest attire required: no sleeveless tops, no leggings or pajamas as pants, shorts/skirts must be within two inches of the knee
- No torn clothing, offensive language/images, or overly tight/loose garments

Dance Dress Code:

- Boys: Collared shirt, slacks, dress shoes
- Girls: Modest dresses or tops/skirts that cover the back, shoulders, and fall within two inches of the knee; no midriffs or low necklines
- Students who do not meet expectations will not be permitted to enter

Violations of dress code will result in a warning followed by disciplinary action for repeated offenses.

Attendance

Daily attendance is essential to student success. Families are asked to prioritize school hours and avoid unnecessary absences.

- High School doors open at 8:15 AM
- School Hours: 8:25 AM – 3:30 PM (doors open at 8:15 AM)
- Late arrivals must be signed in by a parent at the main office.
- Three or more tardies per quarter may result in disciplinary action.

Absences must be reported by 8:30 AM. A written or emailed note is required upon return.

Definitions:

Present = 0 minutes missed

Tardy = 1-89 minutes missed (at any point in the day) *Exceptions are made for bus delays.

Half Day Absent = 90 to 305 minutes missed

us h. fixed.
Commented [CG44]: So we're getting rid of the red!!! YAY!!

Commented [CG45R44]: The upperclassmen didn't like them and gave the freshman (Ann Marie) a hard time because they also thought it wasn't good

Commented [CG46]: I think we need to pick one, no reason to have two options and not have it uniformed

Commented [CG47]: We don't have these *fixed*

Commented [CG48]: Black

Commented [CG49]: And uniform shoes

Commented [CG50]: No sweatpants? Again, this is new as of 2 years ago. We always had sweatpants only on retreat days. I asked specifically about sweatpants at Pinecrest and they do not allow them out of uniform day or not. I think this is an important part of the human formation. We teach our students what it means to dress in style but appropriately. We actually had high schoolers put on a fashion show for middle schoolers to demonstrate this years ago! It feels like a complete shift from who/what we proclaimed to be. I just don't see the reason to allow sweatpants in school, especially so often. I think it is appropriate for sure on the River Ridge days but I agree with Pinecrest that it is not appropriate dress for academic settings.

We also need to specify shoes. Crocs, slippers, etc. are not appropriate. Especially when you think about safety like having to get out of the building quickly. The problem is, when allowed to wear sweatpants, these are the shoes that follow.

Commented [CG51]: There is actually a dress code listed in the dance flyers I hand out, it has a lot more information. Just to be consistent, do you want me to send you what I have or keep it less detailed like this one? Some of what is listed here is not what we've done and some that we have is not listed here. Just let me know

I am aware of strong opinions here. We allowed this before type of dress down days + not another. I am not going to make a value judgement on type of fabric. I will make a value judgement on modesty. ~~Not the best~~

Full Day Absent = more than 305 minutes missed

Notification of tardy or absences

- If a child will be absent, notification to the office should be made by 8:15 A.M. a parent phone call to the school office on the day of absence or a handwritten parent note prior to the absence is required.
- When a student returns to school after his/her absence or tardy, a written excuse signed and dated by a parent or guardian stating the reason for the absence or tardy must be given to the homeroom teacher or Front Office.
- If an unexcused absence is planned, written notification must be submitted to the Front Office in advance.
- Students may not attend extracurricular activities if they are absent from school.

Tardiness

Unexcused Tardies- Students who arrive after 8:25 AM will be considered tardy. When arriving late, high school students must report to the office before going to class. *Excused Tardies are determined by the administration of the school.*

Excused Absences

- Absences are excused for illness, death in the immediate family and other situations as pre-approved by the Head of School.
- Junior and Senior students ONLY may be excused for a college visit.
 - Juniors: 2 days
 - Seniors: 3 days

Unexcused Absences

- Vacations when school is in session are considered unexcused and discouraged; see notice below
- Other examples of unexcused absences are Take Your Child to Work Day, unapproved attendance at another school, and any absences without notification.
- Excessive unexcused absences and tardiness will be reported to the Head of School. Parents and/or the truant officer will be contacted and may result in disciplinary actions including dismissal from Royalmont Academy.
- If an absence is unexcused, the student is not entitled to credit for makeup work, including tests, projects, quizzes, etc.

Punctuality, Tardiness and Missing Class

Royalmont Academy HS values punctuality and considers timely arrival as a sign of respect to our formators and fellow classmates. The school day begins at 8:25 AM with homeroom. Students are to be seated in their assigned homeroom/class when the tone sounds to start the class.

- If a student arrives late to school but before 8:45 AM, he or she is to proceed to homeroom.
- If a student arrives after 8:45 AM, the student must first report to the Attendance Office/Front Office, sign in, and get an admit slip before going to class.
- Excessive tardies, more than five per semester, may result in additional disciplinary action such as but not limited to school service, after school detention, addition of course work to make up for missed work, or loss of credit for first period class. Each grading period and again at the end of the year, attendance will be reviewed along with academics and decisions will be made by the administration concerning continued enrollment.
- Students will receive an unexcused absence for class cutting. The Assistant Principal will address the consequences of class cutting, but it may result in detention time, service and/or a meeting with the student's parents. Repeated behavior of cutting class may result in suspension or expulsion.

Family Vacations are unexcused absences

Parents planning to take their children on a trip that will take them out of school should notify the Head of

Fixed
Commented [CG52]: Above it said 8:25?

Commented [CG53]: We don't have this right? It is first bell?
Fixed

School and homeroom teacher at least two weeks before the trip. Lengthy trips that cause the student to miss class time are not encouraged. Scheduled tests or exams will not be changed to accommodate individual holiday schedules that do not coincide with what is published in the school calendar. Teachers are not required to give any student assignments early to accommodate families who decide to take vacations during regularly scheduled class days. **The student is responsible for all missed work.**

Early Dismissal

Before a student leaves, he/she must sign out at the Front Desk/Attendance Window. Students may not dismiss themselves from school for a doctor's appointment or because they feel ill. In case of emergency or illness, students should report to the school's main desk, and the school administrative personnel will contact the student's parent or guardian. Students must be signed out in the office by a parent or guardian. If a student needs to be dismissed early from school, a note from the parent to that effect is to be brought to the Front Desk/Attendance Window at the beginning of the school day. Early dismissal notes must include:

- Reason for the early dismissal.
- Phone number to verify the request.
- Name of the doctor and/or dentist.

No students will be dismissed from 2:50pm-3:10pm due to buses arriving and departing.

Retreats

Parents of students who will be using a school day(s) to attend a retreat, pilgrimage, or spiritual event must contact the Assistant Principal in a timely manner, in writing, preferably at least one week in advance of the event. Such absences will be approved at the discretion of the Assistant Principal. In the written notification, parents should specify where the student is going and how long the student will be out of school. The student is responsible for all work missed.

Students are expected to attend Royalmont Academy HS retreats; they are not optional. However, if there are extenuating circumstances present so they cannot participate, it is the responsibility of the student and parent to communicate this via phone or a live conversation at least one week in advance of the retreat with the formator in charge, Assistant Principal, and/or the Head of School.

College Visits/Absences

Students are afforded opportunities to make college visits. Regular procedure for school absence must be followed, including a parental phone call and note upon return to school. Three days for college visitation during school time are reserved for seniors. Two days for college visitation are reserved for juniors. Students are responsible to work directly with their formators regarding missed class time and work.

Excessive Absence and Tardiness

Parents must call or send an email for absence or late arrival. Students who are absent more than 10 days in a quarter, or who have a pattern of absences throughout the year, may be asked to produce a doctor's excuse. Additionally, when a student arrives after the start of the school day, leaves before dismissal, or is out of school for any reason during the school day, his or her attendance will be considered "incomplete" for that day and will be designated as a tardy on their attendance record. Excessive unexcused absence or tardiness may result in a failure to pass the current grade.

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce employs the following definitions for absenteeism and truancy:

Chronic Absenteeism is defined as being absent 10% of the total school hours over the course of the academic year, regardless of whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

Excessive Absences is defined as being absent 38 hours in a month, excused or unexcused, unless the absences are medically excused by a health professional.

Habitual Truancy is defined as being absent 30 consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse for the consecutive

It was in our last handbook. More in elementary than HS.

Commented [CG54]: Can we say this? For me, if I had to get my child during this time, I am going to do it lol!

Commented [CG55]: How can they make up work from retreats/pilgrimages/spiritual events? Asking because I don't know how I do that

Same as Absence. Hasn't been an issue lately.

Commented [CG56]: This was listed above, should these two sections be combined?

Fixed

absences; or 42 hours in a month, or 72 hours within an academic year.

Reporting An Absence

Parents must call or send an email for absence or late arrival by no later than 8:45 AM. Message must include student name, parent name, reason for absence, and phone number. If a phone call is placed, upon return to school, the parent/guardian must send a written note to the homeroom teacher stating the reason for the absence. An email suffices for a written note. An unexcused absence from school will warrant proper corrective action.

Health and Wellness

- Students must be fever-free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Parents should notify the office of contagious illnesses or diagnosed conditions.
- Students with chronic illnesses must have a current health plan on file.

See Administrative Policies for more detailed health and medication policies.

Lunch and Meals

Royalmont encourages healthy habits and courteous behavior during lunch periods.

- Students must clean up after themselves.
- Loud or disruptive behavior will result in loss of privileges.
- Students with food allergies must sit at designated tables when necessary.

Bus Conduct

Royalmont Academy will comply with the local public school district's transportation policies with regards to bus service as it relates to misconduct on the bus.

Technology Use

Students are issued a school device through the 1:1 program and must comply with all related policies.

- Devices must be brought daily in the protective case.
- Students are responsible for charging and maintaining their device.
- Technology use is limited to academic purposes.

Use of the internet at Royalmont Academy is guided by the principles stated in the Archdiocesan Responsible Use of Technology Agreement. A copy of this document will be sent home for parent's/guardian's signature before a student can use the internet at school.

While Royalmont Academy attempts to filter internet traffic at school for the purpose of safeguarding staff and students, nothing is full-proof. It is always the responsibility of the user to comply with Royalmont Academy policies and the Archdiocesan Responsible Use of Technology Agreement. Further, the parent/guardian and student are solely responsible for internet usage outside of school, even if on a school-issued computer or other device.

All students must follow the school's Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

In addition to that policy, the following rules apply:

- Each formator has the discretion to allow and regulate the use of technology in the classroom and at school events.
- The individual formator has the discretion to determine the appropriate use of a device on tests, quizzes, and assignments.
- All personal technology devices such as iPods, cell phones, and tablets must remain put away during academic classes. Students may earn the responsibility to use devices responsibly during FLEX and Study Halls with permission.

Commented [C657]: Why are we allowing these new pieces? Their tablets don't have our security on them, I thought security on outside tech was a security problem?

Can I ask why we are switching this policy from no use? We struggle constantly with our laptops constantly, adding these new devices is going to make it a nightmare for us. Our policy has worked very well for us so far. Nationwide, schools are drastically pulling back on their phone allowance, even Pinecrest is going no phone at all next year. To match their laptop policy - only out when in class. They're not even allowed laptops in study hall unless working on an assignment. No music, etc. I don't want to adopt public school phone policies, especially since the data is out on how destructive it has been. Again, we struggle with laptops and music contributing to major distractions for our students.

Fixed. I did
know that came
from myke I
misread originally.

- Use of camera and/or recording function on any device during school hours/activities requires approval from a formator or staff member. Devices may **not** be used in bathrooms.
- Student abuse or misuse of school technology will result in disciplinary action and will be addressed by the Assistant Principal. The consequences will range from a warning for the first offence, subsequent offences are handled with a detention and loss of the device for the school day.

Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Policy

RA High School prepares students for their adult lives by challenging them to be lifelong learners. With this goal in mind, the school has infused current technologies into its classrooms and common areas for educational purposes. For many, Internet resources have become an accepted tool in the educational process. However, as our students require guidance while navigating the responsibilities of digital citizenship, RA High School has established parameters for Internet usage.

1:1 Program: Student Expectations- All students wishing to use technological resources available at RA High School must complete the "Responsible Use of Technology" form (p. 31 of this handbook) and return it to the Assistant Principal within the first ten days of school. This includes a permission section that must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian.

Acceptable Use

All computing devices should primarily be used for educational purposes. In pursuit of that purpose and in compliance with CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act), we are required to provide a filtered Internet experience for our students, resulting in the blocking of access to some Internet sites. Some of our educational tools provide gamified experiences to aid in the educational process – these games are allowed. However, students may not access games via the internet that are not preapproved by a teacher or administrator.

Outside of school families bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet use as they exercise with other informational resources. Parents should be aware of their student's digital activity. Some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive.

Social Media

Any inappropriate posting to any social network, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., whether school related or not, will result in disciplinary action against the student. The school administration has sole discretion in determining the propriety of any posting as it pertains to our school mission.

Music Use Policy

Research indicates that music can enhance concentration and focus for some students, while proving distracting for others. In order to support individualized learning preferences while maintaining a respectful and mission-aligned environment, Royalmont Academy permits limited use of music in the following ways:

Permitted Use:

- High school students may listen to music during:
 - Study Hall
 - FLEX Bell
 - Other independent work periods at the teacher's discretion
- Music may only be accessed through personal devices with earbuds or headphones (cannot be concealed)
- One ear must remain uncovered at all times for safety and communication
- Earbuds must be removed when class instruction begins, during group work, or when a teacher, staff member, or peer is speaking. *study hall or after bell ends*

Restrictions and Expectations:

- Music volume must be kept low enough that it is not audible to others
- All content must be appropriate for a Catholic school environment:
 - No explicit language, violent themes, sexually suggestive lyrics, or anti-Christian messages
- Teachers and administrators reserve the right to request that a student skip a song, change a playlist, or stop listening to music if content is deemed inappropriate or disruptive

Overall, research shows music can help some & be a distraction for others. Individual Accommodation

Commented [CG58]: This is fine, I just want to say that the students who use music the most are our underperforming students. They all protest strongly that it helps them, but from first hand experience, it leads them to staring into space or constant surfing on Spotify. Everyone says they have a playlist but its never used. I think it is very likely that we'll have to address this student by student, especially if students are constantly asking for retakes and the teachers are seeing them distracted time and time again in study halls. Having observed teens for years in these situations, I haven't seen it actually help a student succeed. Essentially, if students are underperforming, I am think we're going to have to have a conversation about their study hall structure to help them be more successful.

Commented [CG59]: No earbuds, we said this year they have to be larger ones, not concealable by hair as Brittany and Jayden constantly had earpods they'd wear all day between the two, changing the songs throughout the day.

Commented [CG60]: It should say when the SH or F period is over, not when the next class begins. *Fixed*

Commented [CG61]: This is a lot more for us to monitor. In the past, we have had parents upset by music their child was exposed to while sitting next to someone listening to music. I don't think adding this music policy for everyone is necessary.

If a student needs the music to succeed, if it is an actual need and not just a preference, there would be a reason, like a learning disability? Would it be simpler to phrase this in that way? What I am thinking is that this is a huge new area we have to monitor on top of everything else in the classroom. If a student needs it, absolutely we need to make sure they have access to it. For example, I assume it would be on documentation like IEP's. If students cannot succeed without it, they would have documentation to ensure they are supported in this way. My worry is that this is a preference that is leading to distraction, underperformance, and frustration and other RC schools have policies against it and I think we should be more consistent with them.

this isn't a requirement, just gives us permission if needed. I think what we have done is Right. p. thing it is written.

- Music is not permitted during assessments or exams unless explicitly allowed by the teacher
 - Students who abuse this privilege may have their music privileges temporarily or permanently revoked
- Monitoring and Accountability:
- Faculty may conduct periodic checks of playlists or request a student to share their screen or device upon reasonable suspicion
 - Refusal to comply may result in disciplinary action per the student code of conduct
- This policy is designed to balance personal learning styles with the values and expectations of a Christ-centered academic environment. Students are encouraged to use discernment and moderation in their music selections and to always place respect and attentiveness first.

Consequences of Misuse

Any violations of school policy and rules may result in loss of school provided access to the Internet, and may result in a school probationary period along with additional disciplinary measures, as decided by the Assistant Principal. When and where applicable, outside law enforcement agencies or other resources may be contacted and consulted regarding the technology abuse.

Cell Phones and Smartwatches

- Cell phones must remain off or silenced during the school day and they must be put away in a locker, backpack, or out of sight. Cell phones may only be used during the school day with teacher permission.
- Use outside of school hours is permitted but students must still follow appropriate use policies. Images, music, games, or apps must not present material that would be questionable to our Catholic Christian faith.
- Smartwatches cannot be used for academic purposes without teacher permission.
- Unauthorized use during class or lunch may result in confiscation. Cell phones will be returned at the end of a school day.
- Repeat offenses may result in the device being held until a parent meeting.

School Telephones

Students may not use the telephones in the school offices without permission of the teacher or office personnel. Students are not expected to use any phone during the academic hours because they are expected to be engaged in their classes. In cases of emergency, parents must contact the main office. The office personnel will take steps to communicate to the student as needed.

Lockers and Backpacks

- Lockers are to be kept organized.
- Students are permitted to decorate the inside of their lockers so long as decoration is appropriate within a Catholic school setting. No vulgarity, crude imagery, overt political endorsements that aren't directly in line with Catholic teaching, or things deemed disrespectful are allowed. Messages supported by Catholic Social Teaching are allowed (ex: Pro-Life poster). Final discretion left with Assistant Principal and Head of School.
- Outside of lockers may not be decorate without permission of Assistant Principal.
- Backpacks must be stored safely to prevent tripping hazards in hallways and classrooms
- Royalmont administration reserves the right to search and inspect any student's locker, as well as their automobile, personal electronics, and/or personal belongings at any time while on campus.

Public Displays of Affection (PDA)

Royalmont Academy students are expected to conduct themselves with dignity, modesty, and Christian virtue at all times. Inappropriate public displays of affection—such as kissing, prolonged hugging, hand-holding, or other physical intimacy—are not permitted on campus or at any school-sponsored event. Such behavior detracts from the

Commented [CG62]: This should be dictated by an IEP right?

I've never seen an IEP. Having, I have seen some teacher play music it allows music if the assignment is appropriate. Teachers' upstart.

Commented [CG63]: "direction"?

same

Commented [CG64]: A few years ago when we talked about this, we said the parent had to pick it up? If I just hand it back to them at the end of the day, that is not a deterrent. I agree we should not hold them overnight, but getting it back right after, doesn't do anything. Parents would be notified by me right when I am given the phone so they could make plans to come get it

We can't take the liability. Student leaves w/o it, drives home, is in an accident, can't call for help. We can't have parents sign any know its an issue. White card - we just can't hold liability outside of school.

learning environment and our mission of forming strong Christian leaders. Violations will result in corrective action, including a parent meeting and, if repeated, may lead to further disciplinary consequences.

Clubs and Activities

Royalmont offers a variety of extracurricular clubs and leadership opportunities. Students are encouraged to suggest and lead approved clubs. Past clubs have included:

- Student Council
- Pro-Life Club
- St John Bosco Club

Students are encouraged to participate as part of their apostolic and human formation.

Athletics

Royalmont Cristeros compete in seasonal sports including cross country, volleyball, basketball, and track.

- Students must maintain academic eligibility to participate.
- Team travel requires appropriate conduct and parent permission.
- Attendance at practices and games is required.

See athletic handbook for complete details.

Commented [CG65]: Which is? Used to be passing all 5 core subjects

See Athletic handbook

Lunch and Meals

Royalmont encourages healthy habits and courteous behavior during lunch periods.

- Students must clean up after themselves.
- Loud or disruptive behavior will result in loss of privileges.
- Students with food allergies must sit at designated tables when necessary.

Commented [CG66]: This is repeated from pages above

Removed

Student Pregnancy

The decision to admit or retain a student in the school who has become pregnant, or caused another student to become pregnant, will be made by the pastor/president and/or principal after all involved parties have been consulted. In each case, the decision will be made with the welfare of the student(s) involved, and the common good and welfare of all the students considered.

GENDER IDENTITY POLICY

According to the Catholic Faith, a person's sexual identity is rooted in one's biological identity as male or female. A person's biological identity and gender identity are considered to be one and the same. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati has specified the following policy regarding gender identity: In Catholic schools, all curricular and extra-curricular activity is rooted in and consistent with the principles of Catholic doctrine.

Catholic schools should:

1. Support students with gender dysphoria by treating them with sensitivity, respect, mercy, and compassion.
2. Require that participation on school teams be according to biological sex.
3. Require that names and pronouns be in accordance with the person's biological sex.
4. Designate Catholic sex education, uniforms and gender appropriate dress, bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and sleeping accommodations on trips according to biological sex.
5. Maintain names in school records according to the student's biological sex.
6. Provide reasonable accommodation to a private bathroom for use by any student who desires increased privacy.

In case of a specific request, consider in a compassionate way, on a case-by-case basis, the physical and psychological needs of a student based on the following questions:

1. What is the specific request of the student and/or parents?
2. Is the request in keeping with the teachings of the Catholic Church?
3. Is the school reasonably able to accommodate the request?

Royalmont Academy recognizes that occasionally there may be instances where young people experience dissonance between their biological sex and the roles and norms advocated by society. Some young people might feel drawn to dress, act, and even manipulate their physical bodies in ways contrary to God's plan. Royalmont Academy advocates that young people, working with their parents, bring these types of issues to their pastor as well as to other trained professionals who might best assist them in clarifying and defining issues of self (and sexual) identity in accord with Catholic teaching and God's natural plan. Royalmont pastoral services are available to all members of the school community.

Field Trips

The Assistant Principal and/or individual staff members often will sponsor field trip events for selected groups of students or the whole student body. A permission form will be provided to the students/parents before each field trip for parents to sign and return. No student may participate in an off-campus field trip without this written permission slip. If parents do not wish to grant permission to a field trip, they must communicate via phone, email, or in-person their intent for their student to not participate along with indicating their preference on the permission form. A student may be denied participation on a field trip for academic or disciplinary reasons as determined by the Assistant Principal or Head of School.

Classroom Parties

On special occasions a formator may organize a classroom party. Please inform the school of any food allergies your student may have. Make sure the student reminds the formator so proper precautions may be taken.

Guidelines on Food and Drink

- Food may be consumed within the classroom only with permission of the teacher.
- Students are allowed to bring a hot or morning drink to be consumed in the student lounge or first bell. Drinks should have a lid. Students are responsible for cleanup.
- Snacks, lunch, and drink are allowed in the student lounge. Students are responsible for cleanup. Lack of cleanup may result in suspension of privilege for a period of time.
- In high school, students are expected to make responsible choices regarding food and drink. Faculty and administration reserve the right to speak with students and their parents if patterns of consumption raise concerns about the student's health or well-being (e.g., excessive caffeine use, signs of disordered eating such as anorexia or bulimia).
- Water bottles are permitted in all classrooms.
- Students are not to chew gum anywhere on the school premises.
- Students must follow school regulations with regard to use of medicine (over the counter or prescription).

The student is a Royalmont Student at all times.

A student who engages in conduct, whether inside or outside the school that is detrimental to the reputation of the school may be disciplined by school officials. Furthermore, all school rules apply on field trips.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus ministry is a critical component to the overall success of our mission at Royalmont Academy. While they touch all areas of formation, they are particularly vital in the areas of spiritual and apostolic formation.

Spiritual Formation centers on every person's development and growth in a relationship with Christ, experiencing Him as an intimate friend. He is a friend who not only loves us unconditionally but also has a distinct and beautiful plan for each of our lives. Growing spiritually ensures the greatest possible development and strength in all other areas of our formation because of the best possible motivation: Love for God.

- **Celebration of the Eucharist:** As the "source and summit of the Christian life," the Celebration of the Eucharist is a central part of school life at Royalmont Academy. Celebration of the Eucharist is offered every school day at 7:00 a.m. in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel. Masses are also held on assembly days, feast days, and other special occasions. During these celebrations, students will be encouraged to participate in various aspects of the Mass. This active participation helps young people live out this sacred mystery and grow in faith.
- **Family Life Program:** Throughout the year, Royalmont Academy offers a range of programs for parents including seminars, retreats, and other spiritual activities. These programs are aimed at building community and supporting parents in their role as the primary educators of their children.

The dates and topics will be published. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend these events.

- **Our Chapel:** The Blessed Sacrament is housed on campus in our chapel. When entered into earnestly, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will help the student build a prayerful and ever-deepening relationship with Christ. Every student is encouraged to visit and spend time with the Blessed Sacrament before and after school, or during breaks. In addition, periodic class visits to the chapel are scheduled into the calendar during the school year. Out of respect for Christ, a prayerful and reverent attitude is to be maintained while in the chapel. As a sign of our belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, students are expected to maintain a dignified demeanor while in the chapel.
- **Retreats:** Spiritual retreats provide an opportunity for students to strengthen their relationship with God and neighbor. This privilege and responsibility lies at the core of our school's formation program. Specific details on the retreat will be sent home in advance.
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers sanctifying grace, thus deepening our relationship with Christ. The sacrament is highly encouraged and is formally available to students at announced times, and by appointment during non-school hours.
- **Spiritual Mentoring:** One very important means offered by Campus Ministry in guiding the spiritual growth of our high school students is *Spiritual Mentoring*. Our Campus Ministry team are trained and experienced in speaking with and guiding youth in their spiritual journey. **Spiritual mentoring is the one-on-one personal dialogue that helps students navigate the world around them with a sense of faith, joy, and love, as they work toward a life of fulfilled Christian living.** Spiritual mentoring is optional for students in the school.
- **The Liturgical Year:** Royalmont Academy follows the liturgical calendar within the Church, paying special attention to Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. The liturgical traditions and special events at the school aim to continually cultivate the school community's love for Christ and His Church.

- **Apostolic Formation** in the High School seeks to encourage and assist in the development of each of our students in the following areas:
 - A personal sense of mission, recognizing their identity as “called” by God,
 - An awareness of their own, unique God-given gifts and abilities that are designed and needed to serve others, and A natural desire to serve and give, as a response of love and gratitude for God’s love for us.
 - These objectives will be reached through a four-year integral process of the following:
 - Discovery and discussion of Catholic Social teaching in the classroom.
 - Service opportunities enabling the students to personally engage with those they serve, which include Apostolic Days, service on retreat days, and mission opportunities.
 - Team and individual service projects for upperclassmen, which not only highlight a response to a human need but also propose solutions for our community or society that meet human needs more effectively.

Service Hour Requirements

One key to cultivating the apostolic hearts of our students is found in offering apostolic experiences. At Royalmont we require each of our students to fulfill at least ten hours of service each year.

Added

Commented [CG67]: For honors diploma, we said 20 hrs/year

20 hours for honors diploma

Discipline

Royalmont Academy strives to provide formative discipline throughout the school day. The emphasis isn’t simply punitive or appropriate consequences for negative behavior but also emphasizes a consistent approach to help each student grow and learn from every formative disciplinary experience.

Formative discipline is not based solely on justice, which demands that certain consequences accompany a certain action. Rather, formative discipline seeks to positively teach and motivate students, guiding them to identify and choose what is good and just. Formative discipline motivates the student to understand, value, and internalize expectations that reflect virtue, proper habits, and principles of life.

Students are informed of the rules and given the rationale behind them. They are encouraged to see the benefit of these expectations for themselves and others.

Formative discipline requires more time and effort than punitive discipline. Most importantly, it requires personal attention to the student that is only possible with the ongoing cooperation and support between parents and the school. Communication must be timely and consistent. All employees of the school are responsible for creating and maintaining an environment of formative discipline in the school, inside and outside the classroom.

Our students are expected to be respectful of God, of others, of property, of authority, and of themselves.

From arrival time on campus until departure time for home, we expect students to contribute to this environment of respect through their behavior and appearance.

Formative Discipline: Policy and Process

At Royalmont Academy, teachers address minor classroom and/or campus infractions with individual students (and parents if necessary). If the problem continues, or the student does not respond, the teacher will refer the student to the Assistant Principal. The Assistant Principal will work with the teacher to ensure the student is receiving both consequential and formative discipline. At Royalmont Academy High School we employ three primary means of discipline: White Card, Detention, Suspension and Expulsion. In certain circumstances, other measures (ex: service) may be employed.

It is also our belief that the consequences for unacceptable behavior should be clearly defined. The handbook is a guide toward this end; it is not an exhaustive and all-inclusive manual for behavior. It is

important and desired that the environment and the culture of the school foster respect for self, fellow students and faculty and staff, and respect for the facilities and network with which we have been entrusted.

The Royalmont Academy formative discipline policy pertains to daily activities and events at school as well as school-related activities and events off campus. *However, students who do not behave in a manner reflecting the values and expectations of Royalmont Academy, including while online, off-campus, and outside of the school year, may be subject to school discipline.* This includes, but is not limited to, illegal activities of any type.

* Any of these steps may be altered, depending upon the circumstances of the situation, at the school's discretion.

Formative Discipline: White Card

A white card is given after an initial verbal correction. The white card serves as a notice to both the student and parent that a corrective issues has occurred. The purpose of the white card is to ensure communication between the teacher, the student and the parent. Upon the need for a second correct, when a white card is issued, a student will be required to serve either a lunch or FLEX detention – at the discretion of the Assistant Principal.

- The accumulation of 3 white cards in a semester will result in an after-school detention.
- The accumulation of 5 white cards in a semester will result in an in-school suspension.
- The accumulation of 6 white cards in a semester will result in an out-of-school suspension and automatic Formative Discipline Plan.

Commented [CG68]: I don't think a restart at HS is appropriate. Definitely in Middle school as they are transitioning from elementary to young adult and are learning the world around them. At HS level, this repeated behavior is intentional.

Formative Discipline: Detention

Detention is issued in three forms and may include a formative activity from the administration. Detention is typically used for minor infractions including but not limited to tardies, uniform code violations, and minor conduct issues.

- **FLEX detention:** Students assigned FLEX detention should report to the detention room at the assigned time. FLEX detention will be served as soon as possible after the offense occurs unless other arrangements are made with the administration. Extracurricular activities, such as meetings or rehearsals, are not considered acceptable excuses for failing to appear in detention.
- **Lunch detention:** Students assigned lunch detention should report to the Assistant Principal. Lunch detention is to be served as soon as possible after the offense occurs.
- **After School detention:** Student must stay from 3:30 until 4:15 in assigned room to serve detention after school. After school detentions will be coordinated with parents on timing.
- **Saturday detention:** Saturday detention dates are arranged by administration. Saturday detentions will be held as necessary. Students are expected to report at the arranged time (7:30AM-11:30AM). Attendance is mandatory. Failure to attend a Saturday detention will result in the student having to serve an additional Saturday detention.

The following guidelines apply to Saturday detentions:

1. The detention must be served on the assigned Saturday.
2. Students must arrive on time and must bring sufficient school work or appropriate reading materials to occupy three hours.
3. There may be a formative activity to be completed during the Saturday detention.
4. Students are expected to be actively engaged and complete assigned activities.

Formative Discipline: In-School Suspension (ISS)

1. The student attends school as usual and reports to the administration.
2. Administration will provide formative activities to be completed during the suspension period.
3. The student will be allowed to make up tests or quizzes as well as homework but cannot livestream into their classes.
4. The student will sit/work in an assigned area.

I guess it depends on how easily we are going to use white cards. Different schools differ here.

5. The student will be marked "absent" for attendance.

Formative Discipline: Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

When a student is suspended, all student privileges are revoked. A conference involving the student, the student's parents/guardians, and school administration will be required. The attitude of the student and the willingness of the parents/guardians to support the judgment of the school will be major factors in determining the conditions for readmission to classes, duration of the OSS, and a return to good standing.

Formative Discipline: Expulsion

If a student is asked to withdraw or is dismissed/expelled from Royalmont Academy,

- Administration will notify the parents,
- Financial policies outlined on the tuition contract remain in effect,
- The student will clean out his/her locker and return all books and/or athletic uniforms/equipment,
- The parent/guardian of the student will fill out a Withdrawal Form and return it to the Registrar and make any necessary arrangements for transferring records to the new school,
- The student will not be allowed on campus without specific permission from administration, and
- The student will not be allowed to attend any function that is the sole activity/event of Royalmont Academy whether on campus or away without specific permission from administration.

Formative Discipline: Major Infractions

The following is a list of infractions that are considered serious. At the discretion of the administration, behavior of these types may result in detention, probation, suspension, and/or expulsion. Parents are notified immediately and a parent meeting is scheduled.

Aggressive Behavior: Physical or verbal behavior directed toward another person, including but not limited to hitting, shoving, tripping, or threatening.

Arson, Reckless Burning, Fire Alarm, Bomb Threat: The student will pay full restitution for property damage and/or any fines incurred. Local law enforcement may be consulted.

Assault (Physical and Verbal): To intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly cause physical injury to another. To place another person in fear of imminent physical injury by word or conduct.

Dangerous Objects and Weapons: Any materials or devices that might endanger the physical safety or disrupt the normal school day and/or injure others or cause damage to property are not allowed on campus or at any school sponsored event.

This includes anything that could reasonably be considered or used as a weapon, such as firearms, knives or other weapons, explosives, firecrackers, smoke or stink bombs, water guns, paintball guns, airsoft guns, poisons, drugs, alcohol or any object that resembles a lethal weapon. If the administration believes a student may have a prohibited item on his/her person, or in his/her car or locker, the administration reserves the right to initiate a search. Another adult will be present to act as a witness during searches.

Students found to have or to have had any of these items on campus will be subject to severe disciplinary consequences.

Forgery: Behavior including lying and/or falsifying signatures, phone calls, or emails.

Harassment/Bullying: See Harassment/Bullying Policy

Insubordinate Behavior: Behavior including, but not limited to, willfully disobeying the authority of school staff, cumulative minor infractions, profane language or gestures, disruption of any classroom or school sponsored activity and not attending assigned detentions.

Substance Abuse: Please see Substance Abuse Policy.

Technology (Inappropriate use): This includes inappropriate viewing, sharing, browsing, downloading, and/or printing of any demeaning or offensive content/pornography. This also includes activity relating to harassment/bullying and/or derogatory comments made via electronic communication. Please see the Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

Theft: Taking of someone's property regardless of the monetary value. Theft undermines the trust that is essential in an educational community. **Students will pay full restitution and/or return the stolen item(s).**

Vandalism: The willful, ignorant, or malicious defacing or destruction of property. **Students will pay full restitution for damages.**

Repeated offenses may be handled through removal from the classroom or activity, detention, suspension from any school privileges and activities, Saturday detention, or in-school or out-of-school suspension.

Formative Discipline: Minor Infractions

Minor infractions include but are not limited to things such as uniform code violations, tardies, minor conduct issues, and minor technology issues. The formative protocol for these infractions gives the students some flexibility while aligning with our formative approach to discipline. The following consequences are authorized at the discretion of the administration in conjunction with communication with parents. See white card escalation process for further details.

Formative Discipline: Formation Plans

Formation plans are designed specifically for any student who is in need of a greater attention to detail with regards to their conduct and behavior in school. Formation plans are best utilized to help a student avoid a repeated pattern of infractions, and can also be requested by parents to assist with school conduct and infractions. Formation Plans exist for the overall well-being of the student and are implemented at the discretion of the administration. The code of conduct and rules stated in this handbook are not exhaustive. There may be inappropriate incidents that occur which are not stated here. In all disciplinary matters, administration and faculty reserve the right to apply disciplinary measures based on their professional and educational discretion.

Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policy

It is the policy of Royalmont Academy (the "School") that any form of harassment, intimidation, or bullying is expressly forbidden. The Parish and School's internet and computer system and equipment may not be used to engage in harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The "Student Responsible Use of Technology" form must be signed by each student and on file with the School.

The School reserves the right to impose discipline for harassing, intimidating, bullying, and other inappropriate behavior that takes place off School grounds and outside School hours.

Definition of Terms

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular or other telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

"Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" means either of the following:

- Any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both:
 - o Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
 - o Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student.
- Violence within a dating relationship.
- "Harassment, intimidation, or bullying" also means electronically transmitted acts i.e., by Internet, social media/network, blog, cell phone, personal digital assistance (PDA), wireless hand-held device, or other electronic communication device, that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the

behavior both:

- o Causes mental or physical harm to the other student; and
- o Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student.

In evaluating whether conduct constitutes harassment, intimidation, or bullying, special attention should be paid to the words chosen and the actions taken, whether such conduct occurred in front of others or was communicated to others, how the offender interacted with the victim, and the motivation, either admitted or appropriately inferred. What may constitute harassment, intimidation, or bullying in one circumstance might not constitute such in another. As in all disciplinary matters, the School will make this determination utilizing its professional and educational discretion and judgment. Types of Conduct Harassment, intimidation, and bullying can include many different behaviors including, but not limited to, overt intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate another student. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include:

- Engaging in unsolicited and offensive or insulting behavior;
- Physical violence and/or attacks;
- Threats, taunts, and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
- Extortion, damage, or stealing of money and/or possessions;
- Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors; and
- Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies, computers, cell phones, other electronic devices, the Internet, online websites, blogs, or social media/networks (also known as “cyber-bullying”). Examples of cyber-bullying include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Posting slurs on the Internet, websites, blogs, or social media/networks;
 - Sending abusive or threatening instant messages, text messages, emails, or other communications through the Internet, websites, blogs, or social media/networks;
 - Taking embarrassing photographs of students and posting them online or otherwise distributing them; and
 - Using the Internet, websites, blogs, social media/networks, or electronic communication devices to impersonate another individual or circulate gossip or rumors to other students.

Complaints Regarding Harassment

Formal Complaints Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such written reports shall be reasonably specific including persons involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and the names of any potential witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any School staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the principal or his/her designee.

Informal Complaints Students and/or their parents/guardians may make informal complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, School administrator, or other School personnel. Such informal complaints shall be reasonably specific as to the actions giving rise to the suspicion of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, including persons involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the prohibited behavior, and the names of any potential witnesses. A School staff member or administrator who receives an informal complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the above information. This written report by the School staff member and/or administrator shall be promptly forwarded to the principal or his/her designee.

Anonymous Complaints Students who make informal complaints as set forth above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the School staff member or administrator who receives the complaint. The anonymous complaints shall be reviewed, and reasonable action will be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the concept of fairness to the student alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Criminal Misconduct Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement, and suspected child

abuse will be reported to law enforcement and/or Child Protective Services, consistent with the Archdiocese Decree on Child Protection and Ohio law. All School personnel must cooperate with investigations by outside agencies.

Conduct Disclaimer No discipline issued pursuant to any handbook shall bind the School to issue the same, or even comparable, discipline to other students in the future. Nor will any form or extent of discipline be construed as a precedent for how discipline will be imposed moving forward. Rather, the School - 27 - reserves sole judgment and discretion in disciplining students based on the circumstances of each incident, including but not limited to the respective age(s) of the student(s) involved, the student(s)' perceived maturity level, the conduct at issue, the student(s)' attitude and degree of cooperation, the student(s)' disciplinary history, and any other aggravating or mitigating circumstances the School deems relevant. Nothing in this Handbook limits or otherwise constrains the School's authority, discretion, judgment, or responsibility in any student disciplinary matters.

Cooperation as Condition of Enrollment

If a student, or his/her parent/guardian, behaves in ways that hinders the school from pursuing its mission, objectives, or disciplinary norms, the administration may determine that ABC School is not the appropriate educational environment for that child and the child may be disenrolled. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Lack of respect for the school's/parish's mission, programs, and activities.
- Lack of respect for school/parish employees; hindering them from discharging their duties.
- Lack of respect for school/parish property

Right to Search and Seizure

School officials will respect the privacy and dignity of students at all time. With just cause, school officials reserve the right to search a student's possessions and/or person. Officials further reserve the right to seize any item that may pose a threat to the student or others. Lockers and computers are the property of Royalmont Academy HS and may be searched at any time. Royalmont Academy reserves the right to search and inspect school property used by students at any time. Royalmont Academy also reserves the right to search and inspect personal property when the administration (1) suspects items prohibited by the school are in a student's possession; or (2) suspects a student may be engaged in conduct in violation of the school's policies and procedures. Such items may be confiscated and appropriate action, including disciplinary action, may be taken. Automobiles parked on school property are also subject to all the above.

Grievance Procedures

Royalmont Academy HS adheres to the principle of a subsidiary in community and believes that disagreements should be resolved at the lowest possible level.

Students, parents/guardians who feel they have a legitimate grievance related to school practices, policies or relationships shall be expected to adhere to the following procedures. The purpose of this procedure is to produce at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to grievances in a spirit of charity and justice.

- 1) Discussion with concerned parties: Discuss the grievance or complaint with the parties concerned at an informal meeting as soon as possible after the incident. If this must be done during the school hours, an appointment may be made with the party concerned for a time that will not interfere with the normal school routine. The Assistant Principal or member of the Pastoral Staff can help a student initiate the next step of the process.
- 2) Formal Meeting: If the matter cannot be settled informally by the parties concerned, they should request a meeting with the teacher/coach and the Assistant Principal. If this must be done during the school day, an appointment may be made for a time that will not interfere with the normal school routine.
- 3) Administrative Meeting: If the matter cannot be settled through an initial formal meeting, please request a meeting with the Assistant Principal alone. A meeting may be arranged at which time the aggrieved will be given an opportunity to present his/her explanation. A parent/guardian may intercede to appeal a disciplinary action. The Assistant Principal will assess the issues and make a final decision.
- 4) Appeal to the Head of School: In rare cases that cannot be resolved at the administrative level and the aggrieved continues to feel that the matter is not resolved, he/she may submit the grievance in writing

within five (5) working days of the Administrative meeting to the Head of School of Royalmont Academy. A meeting may be arranged at which time the aggrieved will be given an opportunity to present his/her explanation to the Head of School. The Head of School will render a decision in writing. The Head of School's decision is final.

Finality of Decisions

The Head of School is the final recourse in all disciplinary situations and may waive or impose a disciplinary action at his/her discretion

Guidance and Counseling

Royalmont Academy High School is committed to the integral formation of every student. As part of our human and intellectual formation pillars, we provide guidance services to help students navigate academic planning, personal growth, and the discernment of their God-given mission.

Academic Guidance

Our Assistant Principal and designated faculty provide academic support in the following areas:

- Course selection and schedule planning
- Support for academic difficulties
- Understanding graduation requirements
- College preparation advisement and transcript documentation

Families are encouraged to schedule meetings proactively, especially during course registration periods or when a student's academic performance indicates the need for intervention.

High School-to-College Planning

While Royalmont does not yet have a full-time college counselor, we provide:

- ACT/SAT preparation resources
- Transcript requests and letters of recommendation
- Guidance on applying to Catholic colleges, seminaries, and other mission-aligned institutions
- Support for College Credit Plus (CCP) enrollment, in partnership with the State of Ohio

Families are encouraged to consult with the Assistant Principal to ensure their child's high school courses align with future goals and that CCP courses meet state requirements and credit transferability expectations.

Personal and Spiritual Support

Although Royalmont does not have a licensed school counselor on staff, students are welcome to speak with faculty, the Assistant Principal, Campus Minister, or Head of School when they are facing personal, relational, or emotional challenges. These conversations are guided by charity, confidentiality (when appropriate), and respect for the student's dignity.

For more serious or ongoing concerns, families may be referred to trusted Catholic counselors or other professional resources.

Support for Students with IEPs or Learning Plans

Royalmont Academy partners with Morgan Tutoring to support students with documented learning differences. Our Special Education Services include additional accommodations provided by Royalmont teachers as well as

Intervention Support provided by Morgan Tutoring:

- Academic coaching
- Progress monitoring
- Teacher collaboration
- Support for accommodations as outlined in IEPs or learning plans
- IEP Goal support
- Aid assistance

Each parent will be provided an annual plan that includes both teacher and Intervention Specialist support that will happen throughout the year. Parents are encouraged to meet with administration and our intervention specialist to ensure student needs are met within the scope of our mission and available resources.

Vocational Discernment

Royalmont High School encourages students to discern God's call in their lives, including potential vocations to the priesthood, religious life, marriage, or single life. Through spiritual direction, retreats, theology courses, mentorship from faculty and clergy, and exposure to missionary work, students are invited to listen for the Lord's voice and respond with openness and courage.

Administrative Policies

Attendance and Absences

Regular attendance is essential for academic success and formation at Royalmont Academy. Parents are asked to avoid scheduling non-essential absences during school hours. Students are expected to be in their seats and ready to learn by 8:25 AM.

- **School Hours:** 8:25 AM – 3:30 PM
- **Absence Reporting:** Parents must notify the school office by 8:30 AM each day a student is absent. A written note or email is required upon return.
- **Tardiness:** Excessive tardiness (three or more per quarter) will result in follow-up by administration.
- **Extended Absences:** Absences for vacations or other non-medical reasons should be communicated in advance. Students must arrange for missed work with teachers.

Entrance & Dismissal

- A2 doors will open for high school students at 8:15 AM. This door is reserved for high school students only. Exceptions can be made if high school students are transporting underage siblings.
- High School Students will be dismissed at 3:30 PM. If high school students are being picked up they must do so following the pickup line procedures established for Royalmont. If high school students are driving themselves they may park near the A2 door and exit near the A2 door.

Leaving School During the Day

Students are not permitted to leave the building, even go to their car to get something, without permission from supervising teacher or administration. Students may not leave the school grounds without EXPLICIT permission from the Head of School or the Assistant Principal. Early dismissal for a student must be requested by a parent/guardian in writing. This written permission must include the exact time of leaving and needs to be delivered by the student or parent to the main office and the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the school day.

- A La Carte students must check in and out at the front office. They are permitted to stay in the high school lounge if they are in between classes or making use of the lounge for study or school related purposes.

- CCP students also are permitted to check in and out for off-site CCP courses. A schedule for each student should be provided to the front office.
- Seniors are permitted to leave campus for their lunch period so long as they are in good standing academically. Seniors must return to campus for their courses or will be considered tardy. It is their responsibility to manage their time.

Emergency and Snow Closings

Royalmont Academy HS may experience delayed school starts or school closings due to bad weather or other emergencies. The safety of our students is key, and parents may use their own judgement if they feel the weather in their area is not safe for traveling. (Please see how to report Absences.) Students, parents and staff will receive an email or text message outlining the specifics regarding a school closing or delay. This will occur through the FACTS system. Make sure to opt click the text messaging button inside FACTS to receive texts. Local television Channel 12 will also be informed.

If the school is closed, no staff or students should report to the building, and extracurricular activities will also be canceled unless otherwise communicated.

If school is delayed, the official school day will begin at 10:35 AM, and students may begin to arrive at 10:15 AM.

In the event of the school closing or delay start due to inclement weather or an emergency, Royalmont Academy HS will make every effort to notify the families by 6:30 AM. Given that Royalmont Academy HS supports a wide geographical range of school districts, sometimes these closures and delays may be communicated at different times in the morning.

Communication

The best educational atmosphere is one in which parent/guardian, teacher, and school work as complements to one another. The commitment of the faculty and administration is to work in a constructive, professional manner for the education of our students. Lines of communication between all members of our educational community need to be open and direct and operate best when handled swiftly and confidentially.

Educational issues should be addressed to the classroom teacher first, before approaching the Assistant Principal.

Teachers can generally be available after school to meet with parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are asked to schedule such appointments in advance. Teachers cannot interrupt their instruction time for spontaneous appointments. Parents/guardians are asked to write or call the teacher through the school office for an appointment time. Email and voicemail to the teacher are also acceptable. Drop in visits are discouraged, and are much less productive, as the teacher and/or principal will not be able to give parents/guardians total attention, and complete information, without preparation.

Dedicated time is set aside each school year for brief, formal Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences. Parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule these conferences using the predetermined format prior to conferences.

Regular Parent Communication

Royalmont Academy provides a weekly email newsletter throughout the school year. Additionally, we will send text communications for emergencies or quick reminders.

Confidentiality Regarding Student Information

Confidentiality of all student information is required. Administration, staff, and volunteers are expected to exercise caution in maintaining privacy regarding all matters regarding individual students.

Alternate Drivers

If your student is to ride home with someone other than the regularly scheduled driver, parents should send a note to the Assistant Principal giving written permission for the student to leave school with this person. Please include the other person's name, and relationship.

Busing

If you are interested in obtaining public school transportation, contact the transportation office in your public-school district. If you arrange such transportation, register your student's bus number with our school's office. Royalmont Academy will comply with the local public school district's transportation policies with regards to bus services as it relates to misconduct on the bus.

Visitors

Parents and school visitors are required to sign in with the school secretary. The administration reserves the right to evaluate the value of any request to visit the school. For example, no student may bring a non-enrolled friend to visit his or her class unless the student has obtained permission from the Head of School at least three days in advance.

Royalmont Academy will not be responsible for outside students on their days off. If requesting a student to visit the school please note there are liability issues with visiting students, to this end visiting students are not encouraged and will only be for a short time if permitted. Good examples of outside students visiting are for shadowing in consideration of attending Royalmont or for cultural exchanges as arranged by the classroom teacher.

Emergencies and Drills

Emergency drills will be conducted on a regular basis according to the norms outlined by state law.

In the event of an emergency, we will follow the directions of civil authorities. If we are directed to keep the school open, we will remain on a regular schedule if possible or alter the schedule as dictated by the circumstances. If we are advised to close the school, we will. If a student has no ride home, he or she will be kept at Royalmont Academy HS until a parent or guardian can pick up the student. Alternative departure and pick-up procedures may be used depending upon the nature of the emergency and to ensure the safety of students and staff. Notifications will be sent through the FACTS texting system and/or Channel 12.

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Safety Plans

Royalmont Academy files a completed safety plan with the State of Ohio annually. This plan contains policies and procedures for school staff and students to follow in the event of a variety of natural and man-made crisis situations. Royalmont Academy also follows the requirements for necessary fire, evacuation, and tornado drills and files a semi-annual report with the state.

Communication with Teachers

Parents are invited to speak often with formators. If you would like to discuss a particular issue, please schedule a personal meeting with your student's formator. Note that arrival and dismissal times are not times for such conversations. Parent/Formator Conferences will be scheduled by the school office for all students during the days specifically designated on the school calendar. The purpose of such conferences is to inform parents of their student's academic progress and human and spiritual formation.

Communication with Administration

The Head of School and Assistant Principal will be available to meet informally with parents during the day, as possible. The best way for quick communication is email. If it is important to meet in person, please call or email the school office for a mutually acceptable time.

Written Communication Requiring Parental Signature

Certain communications may require a parental signature and the return of such to school. Some items requiring parental signatures include the report cards/interim progress reports and permission slips for school activities. Where applicable, technology may be used to acquire information and digital signatures.

Phone Calls (Incoming)

Do not hesitate to call the school to ask questions, set up a conference, or relay a message to a student or any faculty or staff member. Formators and students will be called out of class during the school day only for emergency phone calls.

High school students are permitted to receive messages via personal phones from parents, employers, or others during the day, but they may only check and respond to these messages after dismissal. Students are not permitted to use their phones during class time or passing periods. In the case of an emergency requiring immediate attention, parents should contact the front office. This policy helps students learn to manage their phones responsibly while maintaining a focused academic environment.

Phone Calls (Outgoing)

If a student wishes to contact a parent or guardian, he or she may go to the school's main desk. Students will be permitted to use the phone for other extenuating circumstances with school office personnel approval. The student may not use their cell phone/smartwatch to call home.

FACTS Updates

Families should anticipate that most school announcements, updates, and student academic information will be posted to and communicated via FACTS. The most up-to-date grade information for your student will be posted there. Additionally, students should use FACTS (as well as TEAMS) to manage classroom assignments and formator communications.

Emergency Forms

Emergency and health information must be completed by parents and sent to the main office before their student may begin school. The school needs to know about the health concerns of students in case medication or emergency care is needed. It is important for any allergy information to be shared in addition to a treatment plan as well. This is mandated by the State of Ohio. Please have these emergency forms turned into the Front Desk/Attendance Window by August 18, 2023.

Injury

Any accidents occurring on school grounds will be immediately reported to the school office. If emergency care is necessary and the parents or family physician cannot be reached the school will obtain the necessary treatment by utilizing the written permission consent form for emergency care which is on file in the office. Parents/Guardians are responsible for payment of any medical or hospital bills as a result of an accident or injury to the student while at school.

Medical Information

At the beginning of each school year, parents/guardians will provide current medical information for the students. If information changes during the school year, parents/guardians must contact the school with the updated information.

Medication

Ideally, all medication should be given at home. During school hours, prescribed and over-the-counter medication will be administered by school personnel only under the listed conditions:

- Parent or guardian will provide written permission from both the child's physician and parent/guardian for school personnel to administer medication. This is mandated by the State of Ohio.
- Medication will be brought to school by a parent in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.

Royalmont Academy follows the following Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandate and Section 3313.713 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding administering medication to students.

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Medical Information At the beginning of each school year, parents/guardians will provide current medical information for the students. If information changes during the school year, parents/guardians must contact the school with the updated information. Administration of Medication ABC School follows the following Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandate and Section 3313.713 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding administering medication to students. Administering Medications to Students (O.R.C. 3313.713) Each school shall adopt a policy on the authority of its employees to administer drugs prescribed to students enrolled at the school. That policy must either: (1) prohibit, except as otherwise required by federal special education laws, employees from administering drugs, or (2) authorize designated employees to do so. In the event the school adopts a policy allowing designated employees to administer drugs to students, the designated employees must be either: (a) licensed health professionals, or (b) have completed a drug administration training program conducted by a licensed health professional and considered appropriate by the school. Likewise, if the school adopts a policy permitting the administration of medication, that policy also may provide that certain drugs, types of drugs, or types of procedures should not be administered or used. - 17 - A school which elects to have a policy allowing the administration of drugs to its students may administer the drug only after all of the following occur: 1) The school receives a written request, signed by the student's parent or guardian, that the drug be administered to the student. This request should include a statement that the parent/guardian releases the school and its employees from any and all liability for damages or injury resulting directly or indirectly from the presence of the medication in the school or its use by the student; 2) The school receives a statement, signed by the prescriber, that includes the following information: a) The name and address of the student; b) The school and class in which the student is enrolled; c) The name of the drug and the dosage to be administered; d) The times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered; e) The date the administration of the drug is to begin and end; f) Any severe adverse reactions that should be reported to the prescriber and one or more phone numbers at which the prescriber can be reached in case of an emergency; and g) Special instructions for administration of the drug, including sterile conditions and storage. 3) The parent or guardian agrees to submit a revised statement signed by the prescriber if any of the information provided immediately above in (2)(a)-(g) changes; 4) The employee(s) designated by the school to administer the drug receives a copy of the statement set forth in (2) and (3), immediately above; 5) The drug is received by the employee(s) designated by the school to administer the drug to the student for whom the drug is prescribed in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescriber or licensed pharmacist; and 6) Any other procedures required by the school are followed. If the school adopts a policy permitting the administration of drugs to its students, the school shall keep and retain copies of: (a) all written requests by a student's parent or guardian to administer the drugs; and (b) all prescriber statements noted above. The school shall keep and retain copies of all medical records pertaining to each drug a student receives in that student's respective file. The school also must establish a secure and locked location in each building for the storage of drugs to be administered. Drugs that require refrigeration may be kept in a refrigerator in a place not commonly used by students. The possession or use of non-prescription, over-the-counter medication during school hours is discouraged. Administration of these medications (i.e. throat lozenges, acetaminophen drugs such as Tylenol and Datril, etc.) should be determined on the local school level, if the - 18 - school determines that adequate personnel are available, and as long as appropriate permission forms are on file. The school will not administer aspirin to students because of its connection to Reye's Syndrome. At the discretion of the principal, the school may require that medication be kept by school personnel until the student needs to use it. Notwithstanding the above, a student may possess and use an epinephrine autoinjector to treat anaphylaxis, subject to the following conditions. First, the school must have written approval from the student's parent/guardian. Second, the school must have written approval of the prescriber of the autoinjector. The prescriber's written approval must include the following: (1) The student's name and address; (2) The names and dose of the medication contained in the autoinjector; (3) The date the administration of the medication is to begin and end, if known; (4) Acknowledgment that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the autoinjector appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the

autoinjector; (5) Circumstances in which the autoinjector should be used; (6) Written instructions that outline procedures school employees should follow in the event that the student is unable to administer the anaphylaxis medication, or the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's anaphylaxis; (7) Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to the child using the autoinjector that should be reported to the prescriber; (8) Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to another child, for whom the autoinjector is not prescribed, should such a child receive a dose of the medication; (9) At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the prescriber in an emergency; (10) At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the parent/guardian; and (11) Any other special instructions from the prescriber. The school also must have received a backup dose of the anaphylaxis medication from the student's parent/guardian. And in the event a student or school employee has to administer anaphylaxis medication to the student, the school must immediately thereafter request assistance from an emergency medical service provider. Medication Administered at School The school nurse, or designated school personnel, who has completed a drug administration training program, conducted by a licensed professional, may administer medication (prescription and over the counter) upon proper completion of a signed medical authorization form. This must be signed by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and prescribing - 19 - physician. A note from the student's parent/guardian or verbal permission is not considered acceptable for school personnel to administer medication. Medication sent to the school must be in its original container and have an affixed label indicating the student's name, name of the medication, dosage, route of administration and times of administration. Medication shall be brought to the office in the original bottle by the parent/guardian. No medicine (prescription or over the counter) may be kept by the student in the desk, backpack, lunch box, etc. or on his/her person. Exceptions may apply such as treatment for food allergies, asthma, or diabetes

DIABETIC CARE POLICY

Royalmont Academy complies with Section 3313.7112 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding diabetes care. See addendum for complete details.

School Administration of Diabetes Medications

Diabetes medication may be administered by a school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a school employee who is trained in diabetes care under Section 3313.7112(E) of the Ohio Revised Code and so long as all of the following are satisfied:

- 1) The school receives a written request, signed by the student's parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student, that the drug be administered to the student.
 - 2) The school receives a statement, signed by the prescriber, that includes all of the following information:
 - a) The name and address of the student;
 - b) The school and class in which the student is enrolled;
 - c) The name of the drug and the dosage to be administered;
 - d) The times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered;
 - e) The date the administration of the drug is to begin;
 - f) The date the administration of the drug is to cease;
 - g) Any severe adverse reactions that should be reported to the prescriber and one or more phone numbers at which the prescriber can be reached in an emergency; and
 - h) Any special instructions for administration of the drug, including sterile conditions and storage.
 - 3) The parent, legal guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student agrees to submit a revised statement signed by the prescriber to the school if any of the information provided by the prescriber pursuant to section (2) above changes.
 - 4) The person authorized by the school to administer the drug receives a copy of the statements referenced in section (2) and (3) above.
 - 5) The drug is received by the person authorized to administer the drug to the student for whom the drug is prescribed in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescriber or a licensed pharmacist.
 - 6) Any and all other procedures required by the school are followed.
- If a drug is administered to a student, the school shall acquire and retain copies of the written requests required by section (1) above and the statements required by sections (2) and (3)

above. Additionally, the school shall ensure that by the next school day following the receipt of any statement required by sections (2) and (3) above, a copy is given to the person authorized to administer drugs to the student for whom the statement has been received. Diabetes medication that is to be administered at school shall be kept in an easily accessible location.

Parents, legal guardians, and/or other persons having care or charge of the student with diabetes are responsible for providing the needed medication and supplies (including but not limited to foods for treating low blood glucose) for the student.

Student Administration of Diabetes Medications

On written request of the parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of a student and authorization by the student's treating physician, a student with diabetes shall be permitted during regular school hours and school-sponsored activities to attend to the care and management of his/her diabetes in accordance with the order issued by the student's treating physician so long as that physician determines that the student is capable of performing diabetes care tasks. The student shall be permitted to perform diabetes care tasks in a classroom, in any area of the school or school grounds, and at any school-related activity, and to possess on his/herself at all times all necessary supplies and equipment to perform these tasks. If the student or the parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student so requests, the student shall have access to a private area for performing diabetes care tasks.

If the student performs any diabetes care tasks or uses medical equipment for purposes other than his/her own care, the school may revoke the student's permission to attend to the care and management of the student's diabetes.

Non-Restriction Disclaimer

The school shall not restrict a student who has diabetes from attending the school on the basis that the student has diabetes, that the school does not have a full-time school nurse, or that the school does not have an employee trained in diabetes care. The school shall not require or pressure a parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of a student to provide diabetes care for the student with diabetes at school or school-related activities.

Policy On Student Use of Marijuana

Royalmont Academy is committed to providing the most optimal educational environment for all of its students. Drug abuse is a significant problem throughout our society, and it can have devastating consequences, particularly on young people.

Royalmont Academy maintains a policy of zero tolerance for students' use of marijuana, in particular due to its continued criminalization under federal law. Therefore, any student who uses, possesses, sells, distributes, purchases, or is under the influence of marijuana may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. For purposes of clarity, this policy applies in all respects and with equal force regardless of whether a student holds a prescription or recommendation from a health care provider and regardless of a student's status as a medical marijuana cardholder under Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Revised Code. A positive drug test for marijuana will be treated the same as a positive test for any other illegal or controlled substance.

Health Screenings

Vision and hearing screenings shall be provided regularly. Insert any school specific information to how this is accomplished, such as time of year, grade levels, etc.

Medical Examinations

All students in Ohio schools must have an immunization record indicating all required immunizations have been given. If records transferred from another school do not include immunization dates, parents are responsible to provide them. Parents are advised to obtain necessary immunizations prior to the start of school.

When Does My Child Need to Stay Home

1. **Your child should remain home if symptoms are serious enough to interfere with the ability to learn or if your child's illness may be contagious.**
2. *Fever:* If your child's temperature is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, he/she should remain home until fever free (without medication) for a full 24 hours.
3. *Flu:* Your child should remain home until Flu symptoms are gone and your child is fever free for 24 hours (without medication).
4. *Vomiting and Diarrhea:* Your child should remain home until there is no vomiting or diarrhea for a full 24 hours.
5. *Head Lice:* There is a NO nit policy at the school regarding head lice. Please periodically check your child lice.
6. *Pink Eye:* If your child has symptoms of Pink Eye please visit your physician before returning to school.

If Your Child Becomes Ill During School Hours

If your child has symptoms that are serious enough to interfere with the ability to learn or if your child's illness may be contagious, the parent will be contacted to arrange for the student to go home.

Guardianship and Custody

Students enrolled at Royalmont Academy must reside with a parent or legal guardian unless other arrangements have been approved in advance by school administration.

- **Guardianship Documentation:** If a student lives with someone other than a parent, legal documentation must be provided to the school. Acceptable forms include:
 - A judge-signed Temporary Guardianship Order, or
 - A placement letter from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, or
 - A notarized Power of Attorney for the Care of a Minor Child when granted to a grandparent.

The documentation must clearly outline physical custody, decision-making authority, and any relevant restrictions or communication guidelines. Complete contact information for the guardian must also be submitted.

- **Child Custody Agreements:** In the case of divorce or separation, the enrolling parent must provide the most recent court-issued custody agreement. The student's official residence for enrollment and communication purposes will follow the court's designation of primary physical custody. In joint custody arrangements, the student will be considered to reside with the parent they stay with for the majority of the school week.
- **Name Changes:** A student's legal name on all school records must match the name on their birth certificate unless a court order of legal name change is provided. A certified or notarized copy of the Final Order Changing Name of Minor must be submitted.

Royalmont Academy reserves the right to request updated documentation at any time if there are changes to custody, guardianship, or legal residence.

Student Information Privacy/Confidentiality of Student Records

All student records are considered private information and kept in a secure location in the school only for those personnel who are in direct need of information to work with and help the student. This information in student records is handled with confidentiality and kept in a locked location. This includes, but is not limited to medical records, behavior reports, and transcripts.

Lost and Found

Lost and found articles will be collected and placed at the school's main desk. Articles that remain unclaimed will be donated to charity at the end of the academic year. The school shall not be directly responsible for the care of personal property. Additionally, Royalmont Academy shall not be directly or indirectly liable for theft or loss of personal property of students on school grounds or school sponsored activities. Should a student choose to bring

personal belongings to school, the student, not Royalmont Academy is personally and solely responsible for ensuring his/her belongings are properly secured.

Students are discouraged from bringing valuable belongings to school or to school sponsored functions. Valuable belongings include cash, expensive electronics, or digital equipment, expensive clothing or attire, jewelry, ect. Should a student choose to bring these to school or a school sponsored event, they do so at their own risk.

When deemed appropriate, Royalmont Academy will report to authorities and prosecute all thefts or vandalism to property.

Safe Use of School Facilities

The safety and well-being of everyone who uses Royalmont Academy HS facilities is a priority. Policies and practices are in place to reach this goal. This includes a detailed plan about the containment and as necessary the remediation of any asbestos or other potentially hazardous substances. Copies of these plans are available to view by request.

Allergy Policy

Parents of students with a life-threatening food allergy are required to alert the homeroom teacher and the front office staff. Paperwork will be filed stating the nature of the food allergy and the official protocols as written by the doctor.

Royalmont Academy is not a food allergy free zone. Parents are expected to teach their child what steps need to be taken to avoid foods that would endanger the student. The student is expected take normal precautions not to be endangered by this food.

During lunch, there is a food allergy table. Students with food allergies will be directed to this table to eat. The student is expected to sit at this table.

Any food that is brought into the classroom is to be inspected by the teacher. If any contain possible allergenic food, the teacher is to ensure the student is knowledgeable about what food it is and given some other option or if a student is severely allergic, the food is not to be given in this classroom. The teacher is to inform all parents bringing food to a classroom or event, that there is a student in the room with a food allergy. The teacher will inform parents to avoid this food for any and all events held in the classroom.

If a student is required to have an epi pen, the parent will inform the front office, fill out the required paperwork, bring the doctors directions and epi pen. The epi pen will be kept in the front office and/or the student will be permitted to keep the epi pen with them as directed by the doctor.

Safety and First Aid

Teachers and staff members of Royalmont Academy are trained in basic first aid, Heimlich, CPR and use of the AED. Royalmont teachers and staff members will attend to any student or staff member who is in need of first aid according to their Red Cross training as possible. This includes calling 911 whenever necessary.

Students in need of minor medical care will be sent to the office if possible and the nurse at the front office will assess the situation and take the proper steps. Parents will be notified of the situation and decisions for further medical care will be made.

The front office has basic first aid materials to use for minor needs. Any care required beyond minor needs, will require the parent to pick the child up at school to see a doctor or the school will call 911.

All parents are required to fill out an emergency medical form for each of their children at the beginning of each year and each time there are needed changes to the student's medical information. The nurse will review the card if there are any special needs.

Family Expectations

Families are expected to act with charity at all times toward school personnel and other families. Student and parent actions, whether on or off campus, should reflect this virtue. The school reserves the right to require the withdrawal of any student whose individual actions—or whose family's actions—are not in accordance with the philosophy of Royalmont Academy High School or are contrary to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Royalmont Academy High School adheres to the principle of *subsidiarity*—that matters should be handled by the smallest, most immediate, and competent authority whenever possible. We believe that conflicts or concerns are best resolved at the lowest appropriate level, fostering personal responsibility, respect, and reconciliation.

In practice, this means:

- Disagreements with a faculty member or staff should be addressed directly and professionally with the individual involved, not through intermediaries, nor discussed with other teachers, parents, or members of the school community. This aligns with our Christian duty to avoid gossip, slander, and detraction, in fidelity to the Eighth Commandment.
- Similarly, concerns between students should first be addressed peer-to-peer when age-appropriate. If needed, students may seek support from a teacher or administrator—but not as a replacement for personal responsibility.
- When appropriate, Royalmont reserves the right to invite parents to assist in resolving student-to-student conflict. As the primary educators of their children, parents hold the first responsibility for helping their children seek and offer forgiveness, develop empathy, and grow in virtue.
- If concerns arise between a parent and a faculty or staff member, we ask that the parent bring the concern directly to the person involved before escalating the issue. Should resolution not be achieved, it may then be escalated to the next level as appropriate.

By embracing subsidiarity, Royalmont strengthens a culture of trust, respect, and personal accountability—hallmarks of authentic Catholic formation and faithful Christian witness.

Tuition

All documents that include specific information for the year, such as amount of tuition, tuition assistance information and forms and the process are available on the FACTS information system and by request through Admissions.

Use of Student Pictures/Information

Royalmont Academy will seek permission from parents/guardians for use of image and likeness of all students in its promotional materials. All reasonable effort will be made to only use the images of students where parents have given permission. Royalmont holds no responsibility for photos or videos taken by anyone not employed by the school.

Child Abuse Policy

Child Protection

Royalmont Academy follows all Archdiocese of Cincinnati mandates and Section 2151.421 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.

Royalmont Academy takes seriously the health and safety of our children. The Archdiocesan Decree on Child Protection is followed. Royalmont Academy complies with all applicable civil laws with respect to reporting allegations of known or suspected abuse of children to civil authorities.

Ohio law requires all individuals acting in an official or professional capacity to immediately report any actual or suspected act of child abuse to the public children's service agency or to local law enforcement where the child resides or where the abuse is occurring. (ORC 2151.421)

All known or suspected instances of child abuse (including neglect) will be reported to the proper authority.

All staff members including regular volunteers and coaches of Royalmont Academy are trained in the Decree on Child Protection and updated on changes to this policy and any applicable law. All staff members are required to be fingerprinted and submit to an online background check.

Teaching, Non-teaching, and Volunteer Background Check Requirements

All teaching and non-teaching employees are required to complete FBI/BCI background checks as well as online background checks as required by the State of Ohio. The online background check is completed through Selection.com. Teaching and non-teaching employees must also comply with the Archdiocesan requirements to complete the Virtus Child Protection Decree workshop.

Volunteers

All volunteers are required to complete an online background check with Selection.com as well as comply with the Archdiocesan requirements to complete the Safe Parish policies.

Royalmont complies with all Child Protection Policies as published by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Parent Association (RAPA)

Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Royalmont Academy Parents' Association is to support the school, faculty, administration, and students by helping to provide for their needs. The parent association is a structure consisting of various committees that operate under the direction of the association's officers with the approval of the Head of School.

The secondary mission of the parent association is to bring Royalmont families closer together in a Catholic environment through social, educational, and spiritual events. The parent association fosters the spirit of charity while collaborating on school projects in service to God and each other.

Right to Amend

This handbook is not inclusive of policy to cover all circumstances. Royalmont Academy High School reserves the right to act in matters not specifically delineated in this handbook. The school reserves the right to amend this handbook at its sole discretion and with reasonable notification.

Addendum

Administering Medications to Students (O.R.C. 3313.713)

Each school shall adopt a policy on the authority of its employees to administer drugs prescribed to students enrolled at the school. That policy must either: (1) prohibit, except as otherwise required by federal special education laws, employees from administering drugs, or (2) authorize designated employees to do so.

In the event the school adopts a policy allowing designated employees to administer drugs to students, the designated employees must be either: (a) licensed health professionals, or (b) have completed a drug administration training program conducted by a licensed health professional and considered appropriate by the school. Likewise, if the school adopts a policy permitting the administration of medication, that policy also may provide that certain drugs, types of drugs, or types of procedures should not be administered or used. A school which elects to have a policy allowing the administration of drugs to its students may administer the drug only after all of the following occur:

1) The school receives a written request, signed by the student's parent or guardian, that

the drug be administered to the student. This request should include a statement that the parent/guardian releases the school and its employees from any and all liability for damages or injury resulting directly or indirectly from the presence of the medication in the school or its use by the student;

2) The school receives a statement, signed by the prescriber, that includes the following information:

- a) The name and address of the student;
- b) The school and class in which the student is enrolled;
- c) The name of the drug and the dosage to be administered;
- d) The times or intervals at which each dosage of the drug is to be administered;
- e) The date the administration of the drug is to begin and end;
- f) Any severe adverse reactions that should be reported to the prescriber and one or more phone numbers at which the prescriber can be reached in case of an emergency; and
- g) Special instructions for administration of the drug, including sterile conditions and storage.

3) The parent or guardian agrees to submit a revised statement signed by the prescriber if any of the information provided immediately above in (2)(a)-(g) changes;

4) The employee(s) designated by the school to administer the drug receives a copy of the statement set forth in (2) and (3), immediately above;

5) The drug is received by the employee(s) designated by the school to administer the drug to the student for whom the drug is prescribed in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescriber or licensed pharmacist; and

6) Any other procedures required by the school are followed.

If the school adopts a policy permitting the administration of drugs to its students, the school shall keep and retain copies of: (a) all written requests by a student's parent or guardian to administer the drugs; and (b) all prescriber statements noted above. The school shall keep and retain copies of all medical records pertaining to each drug a student receives in that student's respective file. The school also must establish a secure and locked location in each building for the storage of drugs to be administered. Drugs that require refrigeration may be kept in a refrigerator in a place not commonly used by students.

The possession or use of non-prescription, over-the-counter medication during school hours is discouraged. Administration of these medications (i.e. throat lozenges, acetaminophen drugs such as Tylenol and Datril, etc.) should be determined on the local school level, if the school determines that adequate personnel are available, and as long as appropriate permission forms are on file. The school will not administer aspirin to students because of its connection to Reye's Syndrome. At the discretion of the principal, the school may require that medication be kept by school personnel until the student needs to use it.

Notwithstanding the above, a student may possess and use an epinephrine autoinjector to treat anaphylaxis, subject to the following conditions. First, the school must have written approval from the student's parent/guardian. Second, the school must have written approval of the prescriber of the autoinjector. The prescriber's written approval must include the following:

- (1) The student's name and address;
- (2) The names and dose of the medication contained in the autoinjector;
- (3) The date the administration of the medication is to begin and end, if known;
- (4) Acknowledgment that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the autoinjector appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the autoinjector;
- (5) Circumstances in which the autoinjector should be used;
- (6) Written instructions that outline procedures school employees should follow in the event that the student is unable to administer the anaphylaxis medication, or the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's anaphylaxis;
- (7) Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to the child using the autoinjector that should be reported to the prescriber;
- (8) Any severe adverse reactions that may occur to another child, for whom the autoinjector

- ☐ By signing this Handbook below, I acknowledge and agree that after carefully considering the risks involved, and having the opportunity to discuss these risks with any healthcare professional(s) of our choosing, I voluntarily and willingly accept those risks and acknowledge that returning to in-person classes and other in-person Royalmont Academy functions is the choice of each family, including ours. If student or parent(s) who visit Royalmont Academy have underlying health concerns which may place them at greater risk of contracting any communicable disease, I acknowledge and agree that I will consult with a health care professional before student or parent(s) return to school, attend any Royalmont Academy function, or visit Royalmont Academy. Moreover, I acknowledge that while adherence to safety and precautionary measures (e.g., social distancing guidelines, facemasks, handwashing, etc.) may reduce possible exposure to the risk of contracting a communicable disease, the possibility of serious illness and death remains. I do hereby accept and assume sole responsibility for any illness acquired by student or parent(s) while at Royalmont Academy or any Royalmont Academy function.
- ☐ I have read and agreed to be governed by all the policies and procedures for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Section

- ☐ I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook. I certify that I consent to and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook.
- ☐ I understand that the Student Handbook does not contractually bind Royalmont Academy and is subject to change without notice by decision of Royalmont Academy's governing body.
- ☐ I understand that admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and that any behavior, either on or off campus, which is not consistent with the school's standards could result in the loss of that privilege.

Student Signature Date

Student Signature Date (if another HS student in the family)

Student Signature Date (if another HS student in the family)

Student Signature Date (if another HS student in the family)

Student Signature Date (if another HS student in the family)

Student Signature Date (if another HS student in the family)

This Handbook Acknowledgement Form may also be completed online at www.Royalmont.org under Family Resources on the Family Documents page.

Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

This School Computer and Laptop Use Agreement may also be completed online at www.Royalmont.org under Family Resources on the Family Documents page.



ROYALMONT ACADEMY

Parent/Student Handbook 2025-2026

Handbook Acknowledgement Form

Dear Parents and Student(s):

Please carefully review this edition of the *ROYALMONT ACADEMY PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK*, sign the statement below, and return this form to the Office of the Assistant Principal by Wednesday, August 16, 2023. This form must be completed and on file in order to allow your son or daughter to attend classes at Royalmont Academy High School.

Parent Signature Section

- ☐ I hereby affirm that I have read the Student Handbook and discussed its policies with my student(s).
- ☐ I certify that I consent to and will submit to all governing policies of the school, including all applicable policies in the Student Handbook.
- ☐ I understand that Royalmont Academy exists to further the mission and objectives of the Catholic Church, in its entirety, and those causing public scandal by actively promoting a moral and doctrinal position contrary to Catholic teaching may be asked to leave.
- ☐ I understand that the standards of the school do not tolerate profanity, obscenity in word or action, disrespect to the personnel of the school, or continued disobedience to the established policies of the school.
- ☐ I understand that the services of the school are engaged by mutual consent, and that either the school or I reserve the right to terminate any or all services at any time in accordance with current policies.
- ☐ I understand that the Student Handbook does not contractually bind Royalmont Academy and is subject to change without notice by decision of Royalmont Academy's governing body. Admission to the school is a privilege, not a right, and admission for one year does not guarantee automatic admission for future school years.
- ☐ I, the undersigned parent(s) and student, acknowledge and agree that, as a student at Royalmont Academy and as parent(s) of that student, entering in the school or being on the premises, having personal contact with teachers, classmates, and other Royalmont Academy staff, involves a certain degree of risk, namely of parent(s) and/or student acquiring a communicable disease, there is an elevated risk of student contracting the disease simply by being in the building, on the premises, or at any Royalmont Academy function. The same is true for parent(s) of a student at Royalmont Academy.



ROYALMONT ACADEMY

Parent/Student Technology 1:1 Use Agreement 2025-2026 Agreement Form

In order to ensure the proper use of technological resources, it is necessary that each user (and his/her parents, regardless of user's age) annually sign the *Responsible Use of Technology Policy - User Agreement Form*. The signed form, part of the beginning of school year electronic forms, must be completed before Internet access is permitted. Signing the form indicates that the user will abide by the rules governing internet and other technology access as stated in this policy.

Technology Use Agreement

Please carefully review, sign the statement below, and return this form to the Assistant Principal by **the Monday of the FIRST FULL week of school**. This form must be completed and on file in order to allow your son or daughter to attend classes at Royalmont Academy High School.

I understand that the computer assigned to me _____ (fill in name and grade), computer _____ (fill in number), is my school computer for the 2023-2024 academic year. This computer is NOT my personal property, but the property of Royalmont Academy, and is to be used for schoolwork only. It is not to be used for personal use, social media, or anything that would be prohibited per the Responsible Use of Technology policy.

I understand that I am personally responsible for keeping the computer in good working condition, without damage, and will report any incidents to a member of the Royalmont staff immediately. This computer is to be either in use in a classroom, or in the computer cart. I acknowledge that if I damage this computer or any other computer during this school year it is my personal responsibility, and I will be financially accountable for its repair or replacement.

Drivers will be required to provide a listing of all violations in the past 5 years and states where they have had a driver's license. State motor vehicle record checks will be made to verify a valid license and obtain a history of violations and convictions.

Operating non-owned vehicles on company business

Employees or volunteers operating personal vehicles on company business must be on the list of approved drivers for operating non-owned vehicles. In addition to complying with fleet safety program practices, drivers of non-owned (personal) vehicles are expected to:

- Maintain the vehicle per the manufacture's recommendation
- Inspect the vehicle on a regular basis
- Keep tires inflated and windows clean inside and out
- Provide up-to-date insurance information
- Report convictions and violations as outlined in this policy
- Report crashes and related incidents per the crash reporting policies
- Vehicle must be standard passenger vehicles (no motor cycles or non-street legal vehicles are allowed)
- Drivers should discuss the frequency and amount of business use with their personal insurance carrier and obtain a business use endorsement as needed

Minimum insurance limits

Employees or volunteers who drive "Non-Owned Vehicles" while conducting business for the company are subject to all the provisions and standards of this program.

Additional responsibilities include:

1. Maintaining automobile liability insurance limits of at least \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident, and \$50,000 property damage; but in no case less than the minimum required by law for the state in which the driver resides
2. Maintaining current state vehicle inspection if the state requires one; and
3. Maintaining their "Non-Company Vehicle" in safe operating condition.

Driver Receipt

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Non-Owned Vehicle Business Use Policy. I agree to abide by the directives set forth in this policy and to conduct myself according to the standards established therein.

Signature

Printed Name Date

Record to be kept with permission slip folder for each off-site event.

necessary. Supervisors and drivers will be trained in post-accident procedures to secure the details of the accident and document the damage. Providing detailed facts of the accident will help our insurance carrier deter fraudulent third-party insurance schemes.

Drivers are required to document all details of the accident: traffic flow, speed limits, stop lights/signs, weather conditions, citations issued, etc. Pictures should be taken to document the extent of damage to all vehicles involved.

Once this information is secured, the driver is to report all accidents immediately to the dispatcher and/or supervisor. If the vehicle is inoperable, arrangements need to be made for towing and delivery of cargo, if necessary. Hazmat operations, containment and cleanup will be coordinated by dispatcher, supervisor and/or driver.

Vehicle Business Use Policy

This policy applies to the use of non-owned vehicles for specific Royalmont Academy sanctioned activities. For definition, a non-owned vehicle is either a vehicle that has been rented or is owned by another private party other than Royalmont Academy. This includes use for transportation during school hours as well as after-school hours for school sanctioned athletic and extra-curricular events as well as off-site events such as retreats, pilgrimages, and field trips. Not included in this policy is transportation provided by faculty, staff, administration or parents for non-school sanctioned events; athletic events where the school is not providing group transportation (ie: entire team) also does not fall under this policy; parents securing rides from other parents for their children does not fall under this policy, nor would these parents be covered by school insurance.

In order to operate a non-owned vehicle for school business the employee must comply with the below items.

1. An annual MVR review performed by the school which must meet the defined criteria.
2. Maintain proper insurance coverage on the personal vehicle at all times
3. Ensure the non-owned vehicle is properly maintained and safe to operate at all times

MVR Checks

Prior to each off-site driving event, the school will perform a MVR review of the non-owned vehicle driver. The MVR must meet the below criteria:

- Must have held a valid driver's license for 2 years
- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must meet additional criteria if they are operating vehicles defined as "commercial motor vehicles" used in intrastate or interstate commerce
- Must have no more than 2 moving violations in the past 3 years
- No serious violations as outlined below in the past 3 years
- No repeat serious violations for the length of the driving record
- No more than 1 preventable crash in the past 3 years, and no more than 2 combined violations and crashes

Serious violations include:

- Speeding 20 MPH or more over posted
- Operating while intoxicated
- Felony use of a vehicle
- Passing school bus with lights flashing for loading or unloading
- Crossing RR tracks against activated warnings
- Drag racing
- Other violations which show a significant disregard for the safe operation of motor vehicles

- Passengers making or taking calls for the driver is permissible provided the interaction does not affect the driver's performance
- Regular callers must be informed that you will not be available while driving and should be notified of the best times to call based on driving schedule
- Employees who receive calls from co-workers who are driving are obligated to ask that the co-worker call back at a more appropriate time

Headset/Hands-Free Use

- The use of headsets or hands-free devices while driving is permissible IF:
- Device is owned by adults employee/volunteer (no student devices allowed)
- Use of the device does not cause distraction (i.e., fiddling with the device or taking eyes off road to get it to function properly)
- Any dialing or use of the handset is handled while stopped or pulled to the side of the road
- Conversations do not interfere with the driver's ability to drive safely
- Road conditions are generally good and do not threaten your safety

Emergency Calls

The only exception to the cell phone use guideline is calls placed to 911. If placing or accepting an emergency call, it should be kept short with a hands-free option if available. The vehicle should be pulled over if possible.

GPS Systems

Royalmont Academy understands that sometimes, especially when traveling in unfamiliar areas, drivers require assistance with directions. GPS systems are extremely helpful devices, but they can also be distracting if used improperly. Employees must adhere to the following:

- Mounted GPS systems may not block or obstruct the driver's view in any way
- Is it recommended that GPS systems should be voice narrated and not require that the driver look away from the road to follow instructions
- Employees may not program the system while in motion
- Programming or otherwise engaging with the GPS screen may only occur while stopped or while pulled off the road

MP3 and Other Audio Devices

In some cases, worrying about music selection or touching dials and buttons on the radio, MP3 player or other audio device may be just as dangerous as cell phone use. It takes eyes and concentration off the road, which is not permissible under the Royalmont policy. Royalmont allows employees/volunteers the use of personal, portable audio devices, because we do not want to eliminate employees' ability to enjoy music while behind the wheel. However, employees must follow these guidelines:

- Employees may not take eyes off the road to adjust music settings
- Programming music settings while stopped, pulled off the road or before departing is permissible behavior
- Employees may not under any circumstances use MP3 players or other handheld electronic audio devices with headphones – not only is it illegal in most states, it also impedes the driver's ability to properly hear warning signs, signals or sirens

Accident Investigation Procedures:

Royalmont realizes some accidents are unpreventable. Drivers should seek medical attention immediately, if

by revoking a previous exception.

Royalmont Vehicle Use Policy

Basic Vehicle Operation Guidelines:

Employees and volunteers will each be required to review and sign off on the vehicle operations and use policies prior to transporting for official Royalmont Academy purposes. Following are basic vehicle operation principles to which employees are required to adhere.

- Always use seat belts.
- Drive defensively. Always anticipate what other drivers on the road might do wrong and plan your mode of escape. Never move through traffic aggressively.
- Respect speed limits and traffic signs. Follow all traffic signals.
- Always lock the vehicle and apply the parking brake when getting out, even if it remains in sight.
- During long trips, take breaks every four hours. Never drive more than 10 hours during a 24-hour period.
- Avoid driving past midnight.
- Avoid driving in dangerous conditions, including drowsiness and inclement weather.
- (If rented) Remove any trash or personal items before returning the vehicle to rental company.

Traffic Violations

Royalmont Academy is not responsible for any traffic violations or parking tickets acquired by violation of city ordinance, state or federal laws regarding your driving habits and operation of your motor vehicle. Any ticket issued is the employee's/volunteers responsibility, even if the ticket is issued while conducting business for Royalmont Academy.

Refueling Guidelines

Vehicles should be refueled when the meter reads $\frac{1}{4}$ full. Retain receipts proving the purchase of gasoline and (if necessary) record mileage with each gasoline purchase. For your safety when operating a vehicle, follow these guidelines:

- Turn off the vehicle's engine while refueling.
- Never smoke, light matches or use lighters while refueling.
- Do not get into the vehicle during refueling, as this presents a flash fire hazard.
- Do not overfill or top off the vehicle's fuel tank. The fuel dispenser shuts off automatically when the tank is full.
- Never force the hold-open latch on the gasoline pump with any means other than the latch provided.

Distracted Driving:

Royalmont is committed to employee, volunteer, and student safety, and for this reason firmly prohibits all behavior that distracts employees/volunteers while they are operating a company vehicle. General guidelines for behavior while driving are as follows.

- Use of cell phones while driving is strictly prohibited – this includes all functions of the cell phone including, but not limited to, phone calls, text messaging/SMS, e-mail, MMS, Internet use, camera use, etc.
- Use of electronic devices – including laptops, PDAs, cameras and pagers – while driving is strictly prohibited unless specifically outlined below
- Voicemail must handle all calls while driving, and calls may only be returned when stopped or pulled off the road

is not prescribed, should such a child receive a dose of the medication;
(9) At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the prescriber in an emergency;
(10) At least one emergency telephone number for contacting the parent/guardian; and
(11) Any other special instructions from the prescriber.
The school also must have received a backup dose of the anaphylaxis medication from the student's parent/guardian. And in the event a student or school employee has to administer anaphylaxis medication to the student, the school must immediately thereafter request assistance from an emergency medical service provider.

Medication Administered at School

The school nurse, or designated school personnel, who has completed a drug administration training program, conducted by a licensed professional, may administer medication (prescription and over the counter) upon proper completion of a signed medical authorization form. This must be signed by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and prescribing physician. A note from the student's parent/guardian or verbal permission is not considered acceptable for school personnel to administer medication.
Medication sent to the school must be in its original container and have an affixed label indicating the student's name, name of the medication, dosage, route of administration and times of administration. Medication shall be brought to the office in the original bottle by the parent/guardian.
No medicine (prescription or over the counter) may be kept by the student in the desk, backpack, lunch box, etc. or on his/her person. Exceptions may apply such as treatment for food allergies, asthma, or diabetes.

Diabetic Care Detail

Royalmont Academy is committed to ensuring students who have diabetes receive appropriate and needed diabetes care in accordance with an order signed by the students' treating physician.

Such care must include the following:

1. Checking and recording blood glucose levels and ketone levels or assisting the student with checking and recording these levels;
2. Responding to blood glucose levels that are outside of the student's target range;
3. In the case of severe hypoglycemia, administering glucagon and other emergency treatments as prescribed;
4. Administering insulin or assisting the student in self-administering insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
5. Providing oral diabetes medications;
6. Understanding recommended schedules and food intake for meals and snacks in order to calculate medication dosages pursuant to the order of the student's treating physician;
7. Following the treating physician's instructions regarding meals, snacks, and physical activity; and
8. Administering diabetes medication, as long as the administration is performed by a school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a school employee who is trained in diabetes care under Section 3313.7112(E) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Within 14 days of receiving an order signed by the treating physician of a student with diabetes, the school shall inform the student's parent, legal guardian, and/or other person having care or charge of the student that the student may be entitled to a school accommodation plan regarding the student's diabetes.

Royalmont Immunization Details

Royalmont Academy complies with the minimum immunization requirements set forth by Sections 3313.67 and 3313.671 of the Ohio Revised Code. Although Royalmont Academy complies with those minimum requirements, it also retains discretion to enforce stricter requirements at any time, for instance, by requiring vaccination even over a parent's/guardian's conscience or religious conviction, objection, or