

HomeSCHOOL ROCKS!



Community Handbook
2026-2027

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Our Mission



Homeschool Rocks! is a place where you can bring your kids to laugh, learn, grow, and build valuable friendships. It's a place for homeschool parents too: to get homeschooling advice, commiserate, make parent friends, and feel secure that your child is getting a diverse, dynamic, secular homeschooling experience.

We strive to provide homeschooling families throughout SWFL precisely what we want for our own homeschooling kids – the very best education possible. We are 100% committed to seeing our kids and our homeschool community thrive.



Our Values



Inclusivity

We strive to create a warm, welcoming environment for all families. We guide our students in accepting others and being true to themselves.

Growth Mindset

Just because you haven't done it yet doesn't mean you can't. Our goal is to give kids the confidence to try, even if they might fail. Mistakes are an opportunity to learn.

Community

We encourage building strong connections among students, teachers, and parents to create a safe space where our kids can be who they are!

Secular Education

Our program is free from religious instruction, providing a safe place for students of any or no religion to enjoy the benefits of our community.



Code of Conduct



- ✓ Our community is welcoming and accepting of all. Be kind.
- ✓ Respect staff, peers, wildlife, your community, boundaries, and the space around you.
- ✓ Respect the time of your teachers, students, peers, and coworkers. Use class time as intended.
- ✓ Use appropriate language.
- ✓ Class time is for learning. Break times are for using the bathroom, eating snacks, and refilling your water bottle.
- ✓ Food and beverages other than water are to be consumed outside during breaks and lunch.
- ✓ Walk and use quiet voices inside the building.
- ✓ Keep your body and fluids to yourself.
- ✓ Do not make comments about things someone cannot change in 30 seconds or less.
- ✓ Do not repeat information from sensitive discussions if it isn't about yourself. No rumors or gossip.
- ✓ Keep your area clean and neat. If you see something on the ground, pick it up.



Student Responsibilities



-  Homeschool Rocks! is a phone-free community. All student electronics must be placed in the designated bin. If caught with a device, a parent will be called for immediate pickup.
-  Standalone e-readers without internet access may be used during break times. Please let Admin know.
-  Laptop computers are permitted only for classes that require them and must remain in backpacks until instructed.
-  Do not share food. We have many students with allergies. Only eat in designated areas.
-  Water in a sealed container is the only item that may be brought to class, unless approved as an accommodation.
-  Always practice verbal consent with any physical contact, including hugs and taps. Respect for personal boundaries is expected.
-  No climbing on church property, trees, signs, or equipment. No pulling bark off trees or picking flowers. Stay within designated outdoor areas.
-  Reporting an unsafe situation is not tattling.



Disciplinary Guidelines

- ! We believe that students learn by having consequences naturally follow the event.
- ! Damaging or disrespecting community property may result in community service, such as cleaning up.
- ! Excessive or disruptive energy may result in being asked to walk a lap. Repeated infractions lead to a meeting with a parent.
- ! Bullying will not be tolerated and will result in immediate pickup and possible suspension. A behavior plan will be required.
- ! Physical aggression will result in immediate parental pickup and possible suspension.
- ! Bad-mouthing other students or spreading rumors may result in removal from social situations and a formal written apology.
- ! "Gang behavior" or "getting involved" in others' conflicts will be handled as if all students participated equally in the event.
- ! Electronic bullying out of school will not be tolerated. If cyberbullying occurs, provide screenshots to the Counselor.



Positive Reinforcement

- ✓ Students should not request positive reinforcement. Please trust that good behavior will be noticed in time.
- ✓ The back courtyard and picnic tables are a privilege for students with exceptional behavior.
- ✓ Popsicles or lollipops may be awarded to students who model positive, helpful, or kind behavior.
- ✓ Older students who demonstrate good judgment may be invited to join the Peer Ambassador team or assume leadership roles.



Staff, Admin & Teacher Guidelines

Staff Responsibilities

- ! Always have two adults present when discussing or handling sensitive matters with a student. Document the event with Admin.
- ! Familiarize yourself with student allergies and special needs. Ensure everyone can participate in treats.
- ! Be aware of behavior plans and special accommodations. A shared folder with confidential info will be available as needed.

Admin Responsibilities

- ! Manage and maintain the walkie-talkies daily. Supervise staff break times. Complete the Daily Log for all incidents.
- ! Medical escalations go to SD, LK, or JR. Sign students in or out using the Attendance Form.
- ! Teachers communicate via walkie-talkie when a student leaves class. Only one student may leave at a time.
- ! Immediately remove disruptive students. Use gentle discipline and aim for reintegration.

Teacher Responsibilities

- ! Release students on time. Allot last 5 minutes for clean-up.
- ! Save personal calls for after class. Let LW or Admin know if you need coverage.
- ! If a child cannot participate, contact Admin to remove them. Teachers are not responsible for discipline.



Emergency Protocols



Evacuation

- Familiarize yourself with building exits.
- Meet in the back parking lot.
- Teachers bring walkie-talkies and use class lists to account for all students.
- Admin to notify emergency services.
- Note AED location.



Shelter In Place

- Advance to the nearest windowless room (office vestibule, supply closet, sanctuary safe room).
- Maintain walkie-talkie contact.
- Account for all students.
- Admin to notify emergency services.



Missing Child

- Notify Admin immediately.
- Check common areas.
- If the child is not found in 5 minutes, all classes report to Fellowship Hall.
- If the child is not located in 15 minutes, immediately contact authorities and parents.



Medical

- **Minor:** Contact Admin.
- **Emergency:** Dial 9-1-1 first, then contact Admin.
- For severe allergies, locate the EpiPen (using an EpiPen always requires calling 9-1-1 immediately after).
- Admin will contact the parent/guardian/emergency contact.



Staff Non-Compete

Teachers are asked not to share curriculum or lesson plans created by us — or by third parties for us — with other homeschool organizations, or use them for personal profit during the same school year. If you are employed by — or volunteering for — another homeschool organization, please inform us.

