

## **BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES**

Westbury Christian School takes seriously the growth of students academically, personally, and spiritually. To fulfill our mission of preparing students for here and eternity, the following biblical principles guide and direct our practices, expectations, policies, and decisions for our Board of Trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students. We seek to partner with families who support these principles.

Our faith impacts our lives by shaping our thoughts, decisions, actions, words, and behaviors. The transforming work of God's Word and Spirit results in our submission to His authority in our lives. Scripture teaches that love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control mark lives and relationships in the Christian community (2 Cor. 10:5; Eph. 5:1-20; Titus 3:8; Gal. 5:22-23).

These principles below are tangible expressions of the path to Christian wholeness. These Biblical principles are not intended to burden believers, but to alleviate the brokenness of the human condition by pursuing God's perfect design for identity, relationships, and creation (*Rom. 7:7-12*).

- A Christian life must be lived for the glory of God, daily conforming ourselves to the image of Christ and recognizing the Lordship of Christ in all aspects of our lives (*Matt. 22:36-38; 1 Cor. 10:31; Eph. 4:22-24; Rom. 12:1-2*).
- The love of Christ sets the standard for our actions, relationships, and motivations. Our desire to be like Him shapes our interactions with others, including dealing with conflict and accountability (John 15:12-17; 1 John 4:7-12; Matt. 18:15-17).
- Our faith compels us to meet the needs of others through service (*Matt. 25:31-46; Gal. 5:14, 6:10; Eph. 2:10*).
- Avoiding destructive and sinful attitudes and behaviors, including greed, jealousy, pride, lust, needless anger, an unforgiving spirit, harmful discrimination, prejudice, theft, lying, cheating, plagiarism, gossip, slander, profanity, vulgarity, transgenderism, homosexual behavior, premarital sex, sexual promiscuity, pornography, drunkenness, gluttony, immodesty, and occult practices (*Gal. 5:19-21, Eph. 4:17-19; 1 Cor. 6:9-10*).
- Our actions should be God-honoring, so we seek wisdom in personal choices, recognizing the influence of our decisions impacts the school and broader community. (*Rom. 12:2; Phil. 3:18-20; Jam. 1:27*).
- Scriptures makes clear that God creates life in the womb of a mother and that life, being divinely ordained, is sacred and should be protected and preserved by a Christian community. The Bible also affirms that the sexual nature and identity of a person is determined by God at conception. This God-given gender is recognized and verified by a legal document at the time of birth (*Ps. 139:13-16, Ps. 22:9-11, Gal. 1:15*).
- All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and therefore, redemption, forgiveness, and spiritual cleansing is available for all sins. While these principles guide our lives, perfection in all is not expected. WCS students, faculty, administration, trustees, and staff must welcome and treat with respect, compassion, and sensitivity all who struggle with sin or confess immoral acts but are committed to resisting temptation, refraining from sinful behaviors, and conforming their behavior to be more like Christ (*Matt. 11:28-30; Rom. 3:22-24; Eph. 2:1-10; 1 Cor. 10:13; Heb. 2:17-18; Heb. 4:14-16; 1 John 1:9; 2 Cor. 3:18*).