

## **Thoughtful Thursdays Guidelines for Parents and Students**

### Parent Commitment:

1. Be a member of HCCHS. Scholarships are available if needed, but you **MUST** be a member to participate.
2. Pay a one-time *per semester* non-refundable facility fee of \$10 per child to Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, either with a check or cash, on the first day of classes for your child. (\$25 max per family) If paying by cash, please bring exact change.
3. Attend a mandatory meeting at the beginning of the year or semester as indicated.
4. Serve as the monitor once or twice during the school year as needed. Monitors serve from 11:00 – 1:00 and from 1:00 – 3:15 each Thursday to help ensure students are safe and the facility stays clean. Parents will be given an opportunity to sign up for monitoring during the mandatory meeting at the beginning of the school year. Monitoring duties will be discussed at the meeting and will also be e-mailed to parents before the day they serve as monitor.

Please note: Once you sign up for a particular monitoring slot during the year, you are responsible for finding your replacement for that slot as needed, even if your family must leave Thoughtful Thursday classes before the end of the school year. Please notify the Thoughtful Thursday committee member in charge of supervision if changes occur.

### Parent Commitment to our Teachers:

1. Pay your child's teachers at the first of the month for that month, or according to the schedule otherwise provided by the teacher. Whether your child shows up for class or not, you are still responsible to pay the teacher for the entire month, unless class is cancelled by the teacher or because of inclement weather.
2. Please have your child arrive on time for class.
3. Communicate with your child's teachers as needed, letting them know if your child will be absent.
4. Please abide by our sick policy outlined below.

### Parent Commitment to the Church:

1. Park in the back parking lot and use the entrance at the first floor covered area which opens to the welcome center where we will have important information posted and where you can find assistance from the monitor. Please do not use the main entrance upstairs.
2. Parents and students should not venture beyond areas designated for Thoughtful Thursday classes. While on campus, parents are welcome to stay in the study hall or on the playground. If a room designated for our use is vacant during a particular class time, please check with the monitor before using that room.
3. Older children (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up) may go to their classes independently but they must be responsible to go to their classes directly and on time. Younger children should be directed from class to class, especially when they walk to room 2201 for music lessons.

4. Students of any age are not allowed to stay on campus (including the study hall) unless they are with you, another parent designated by you, or in class under the supervision of a Thoughtful Thursday teacher.  
We understand that Thoughtful Thursday teachers are in a unique situation. Therefore, Thoughtful Thursday teachers may use a sitter to supervise their children, as long as the sitter is approved by the Thoughtful Thursday committee and completes a brief training session with a Thoughtful Thursday committee member.
5. Playground and parking lot guidelines:
  - a. Please do not allow students to climb the back wall of the playground, climb on top of the playground equipment, or climb on the trees around the parking lot.
  - b. No food is allowed inside the building for Thoughtful Thursdays. Food will be allowed ONLY on the playground. Please always remember to clean up afterward.
  - c. Students are not allowed in the parking lot unattended. There are vehicles coming and going at all times. This is a safety issue for your child.
6. We hope families will keep in mind that in all our actions we are guests at the church. Please treat the facility with the same respect you would have while visiting at a friend's house. So please take dirty diapers with you rather than leaving them in trash cans, and please do not bring pets to campus, etc. We hope that as representatives of the homeschooling community, we will act in ways that will be a blessing to the church and not present difficulties for them.

**Student Commitment:**

1. Please come prepared for your activity, and be respectful and obedient to your teacher. Be kind and encouraging to other students.
2. Stay with your parent or with another parent designated by your parent when you are not in class. The only exception to this rule is older students who serve as sitters for teachers' children. All sitters must be approved by the Thoughtful Thursday committee and complete a brief training session with a Thoughtful Thursday committee member. (If you have not had this training, then you may not serve as a sitter.)
3. Always stay in areas designated for use by Thoughtful Thursdays. Please use the bathrooms on the first floor only.
4. A note about technology: We encourage students to leave all electronic devices at home. If electronic devices are required for educational purposes (off-line only), please bring ear buds or headphones so as not to disrupt the learning environment for other students.
5. Food and drink are allowed ONLY on the playground.
6. Please clean up after yourself as needed.
7. Have fun!

**Dress Code:** All members of our Thoughtful Thursdays community should be considerate and careful in selecting proper attire for our classes. We encourage our students to dress modestly and cover all areas that, when left uncovered, might compromise the climate of respect that we encourage in our classes.

Please make sure that young ladies wear skirts and dresses that are no shorter than four fingers above the top of the knee when standing. For shorts, use the "fingertip rule." Stand with your arms straight down your sides, and place your hands on your thighs. Where your longest finger touches is the shortest length your shorts should be. Please make sure tops provide appropriate coverage from all vantage points (even when bending over) and please avoid clothes that are too tight-fitting. Spaghetti-strap tops are not allowed; as a rule of thumb, straps should be at least two inches wide. In general, please make sure all members of your family select clothes that will honor God, not be a distraction during class, and will be respectful to all those in attendance. Students wearing revealing clothes will be asked to return home to change into more appropriate attire.

**Sick Policy:** For the protection of your child and the other children, we request that parents not bring a child who appears to be ill. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Control of Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a child should not be taken from home when any of the following exists:

- A. Fever - currently or within the previous 24 hours
- B. Vomiting or diarrhea within the previous 24 hours.
- C. Any symptom of a childhood disease such as scarlet fever, German measles, mumps, chicken pox or whooping cough.
- D. Cold symptoms (continuous cough, discolor of nasal discharge, sore throat).
- E. Croup and other respiratory infections.
- F. Any skin conditions: unexplained rash, boils, ringworm and impetigo.
- G. Pink eye or other eye infection.

Please pray for all aspects of the Thoughtful Thursdays program as we seek to provide enrichment opportunities for HCCHS students. We appreciate your participation.

**Snow days:** During the 2018-2019 school year, Thoughtful Thursdays will make our own independent decision about whether to cancel classes for the day due to snow or snow predictions in the forecast. In years past, we followed the Watauga County School's cancellation policy, but we feel that it's best now for our co-op to make our own decisions regarding canceling due to snow. **A DECISION WILL BE EMAILED OUT BY 8:30AM ON POTENTIAL SNOW DAYS. WE URGE YOU TO PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR FAMILY.** Nothing is as important as your family's safety, so please, if you feel the need to stay home or leave early, we fully support that decision!