

Veritas Academy Attendance Policy

School attendance is a sign of commitment and involvement. Students who regularly attend school are in a position to be plugged into the life of the school—academically, socially, and spiritually. Students who begin to enter into a pattern of chronic absence from school are in danger of becoming disengaged from the life of the school (academically, socially, and spiritually). The Veritas Academy attendance policy aims to encourage maximal student involvement and to facilitate success at school.

I. Attendance standards

-The Veritas policy has two numerical components: (a) cumulative attendance for the year and (b) semester attendance.

- (a) For the year, Veritas requires less than 15% absence. This means that in the course of a year a student should not miss more than 25 days of school (excused or unexcused absences).

- (b) For any semester (two quarters), no more than 13 absences (again, not exceeding 25 total for the year).

II. Partial Day attendance

-The attendance of a student who misses two classes on a given day (excused or unexcused) will be designated as “partial day.” Two partial days in attendance will be counted as one day of absence towards the cumulative total. For instance, a student arriving third period or leaving fifth period would be given “partial day” status.

III. School intervention

-At ten absences in a given semester the school will contact the parents to discuss the situation and consider how the school and family might best facilitate compliance with the attendance policy. Unforeseen circumstances, such as extended illness or a tragic event, are obviously exceptional and will be graciously and mercifully considered.

IV. Consequences for chronic absence

-At 13 absences in a given semester (or 25 for the school year), school officials will meet to determine how the missed school will be made up, and what academic consequences there will be for any further absence. School officials will then meet with parents and inform them of any decisions that have been made.

V. Leaving school

-Any student leaving school early must have a legitimate excuse from parents. This should be in one of the following forms: a written note, a phone call to the school office, or an e-mail to the school office (receptionist@veritasacademy.com). Parents need to indicate the reason for leaving, and that reason should provide adequate justification for the early dismissal. Students should not have parents text to their phones (to be

shown to the receptionist), or have the parents give them verbal permission (to be then communicated to the receptionist). Permission to leave (without a stated reason) will be considered unexcused, and may not be granted.