

Rosslyn Academy

Middle School Student/Parent Handbook 2024 - 2025



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Letter from the Principal

August 2024

Dear Rosslyn Academy Middle School Parents,

Welcome to another amazing year of relationships, growth, and learning at Rosslyn Academy Middle School! Our year verse is Proverbs 3:5 and 6:

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths.”*

Trust takes a relationship. Why do we trust in the Lord and not on ourselves? We trust in the Lord because of who He is. We depend on the fact that our Creator knows us better than we know ourselves. We will learn more together this year about trusting in God and as we do, I pray that we will all grow in wisdom. It’s a joy to be on this journey together!

This handbook contains many aspects of Rosslyn Academy with some emphasis on the Middle School. This book will help you develop your own understanding of our school and answer many questions. Parents, please pay special attention to the Statement of Support that all parents are expected to sign and return to school.

Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to “inspire and equip each student to develop their God-given gifts for Christ-like service in the world community.”

Sarah Arensen
Middle School Principal
Rosslyn Academy

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Statement of Support (Copy for reference only)

(The actual Statement should be submitted on E-Collect with other forms submitted at the beginning of the year.)

Preface:

As part of the enrollment and re-enrollment process each year, parents and students (Middle School and High School) are asked to sign a Statement of Support, affirming their intention to support the school mission, values, and behavioral guidelines. A copy of the Statement of Support for the 2024-25 school year is included below:

Statement of Support:

Rosslyn Academy's educational philosophy is a holistic one, rooted in the aim of students' Christ-like development intellectually, spiritually, morally, socially, and physically. Our philosophy is also rooted in the principle of partnership, believing that these holistic aims are best achieved when there is a strong and mutually supportive partnership between the school, parents, and students.

That partnership begins by ensuring that the aims and expectations of the school and those of parents and students are aligned. To ensure that we are "on the same page", we ask that, prior to beginning a new school year, all parents and students (Middle School and High School) have read and have signed their support of our mission, core values, and behavior expectations listed below.

Rosslyn's Mission Statement:

"Rosslyn Academy inspires and equips each student to develop their God-given gifts for Christ-like service in the world community."

Rosslyn's Core Values:

- Christ-likeness at Rosslyn means – imitating Jesus Christ in all that we do and say as individuals and as a school. The life and teachings of Jesus Christ instruct us on how to have a relationship with God as well as provide us with the model of right behavior, values, and healthy human relationships. For this reason, students are challenged to develop and deepen a personal faith and Christ-like character. (Philippians 2:1-5)
- Community at Rosslyn means – cultivating a welcoming and supportive family of diverse members united behind the school's mission. We believe that, next to the home, the school is the most important training ground for the social skills and values necessary to become a healthy and positive contributor to the world community. As a Christian school, we are intentional about instilling in our students Christ-like social values such as kindness, integrity, mutual respect, and compassion. (Ecclesiastes 4:9, 1 Peter 4:10, Psalm 133:1)
- Service at Rosslyn means – modeling Christ's example of selfless support of others. We believe that Christ's example of serving with love and humility is a powerful model for Christians today. Teachers and students are encouraged to seek out opportunities to serve others within our school community as well as in Nairobi and the world beyond. (Romans 12: 9 & 13, Matthew 20:28, 1 John 3:16-18)
- Intellectual Virtue at Rosslyn means – developing God-honoring thinking habits that result in an earnest pursuit of truth. We believe that God is the author of all that is true, good, and beautiful. As a result, we seek to integrate faith and learning by helping our students develop a deep and wide base of knowledge about God's world, and the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to interpret and utilize that knowledge ethically. But we also want to see a transformation in the very character of our student's minds. In other words, we want our students to become God-honoring in the way they think as demonstrated by consistently honest, careful, tenacious, courageous, and humble thinking habits. (Philippians 4:8, Matthew 22:37)
- Excellence at Rosslyn means – the extent to which individuals and institutions have maximized their God-given gifts and talents to His honor. We believe that when the Bible

says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord" there is an implied mandate for excellence in whatever God has called us to do. (Philippians 4:8, Colossians 3:23-24)

Behavior Expectations:

On-campus expectations: Expectations while at school are spelled out in the parent/student handbook for each school available online [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). When signing this partnership agreement, you are declaring that you are familiar with, and support, those expectations.

Off-campus expectations: Rosslyn Academy believes that the primary responsibility for a child lies with parents and that what happens off-campus is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Nevertheless, it is also important to recognize that student behavior off-campus can sometimes have a significant influence on the school culture and, therefore, impact the ability of the school to achieve its Christian educational aims. For this reason, it must be understood that students involved in major misconduct off campus may be subject to disciplinary action.

Summary:

A healthy school culture depends on our commitment and agreement around our Mission and Core Values, as well as open and honest communication among students, parents, and the school. Such a culture will be defined by the kindness and trust we show to each other, even in challenging circumstances. We will truly live out the Rosslyn Academy Mission as a community when we all commit to these ideals and to our partnership.

Middle School Schedule 2024/2025

MONDAY ALL PERIOD DAY (APD)

Time	Duration	All Periods
8:30-9:20	50	Period 1
9:25-10:15	50	Period 2
10:25-11:15	50	Period 3
11:20-12:10	50	Period 4
12:10-12:45	35	Lunch
12:50-1:40	50	Period 5
1:45-2:35	50	Period 6
2:40-3:30	50	Period 7

WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY GREEN DAY

Time	Duration	Green Day
8:30-10:00	90	Period 1
10:10-11:35	85	Period 2
11:35-12:25	50	Lunch
12:30-1:55	85	Period 6
2:05-3:30	85	Period 7

THURSDAY SILVER DAY

Time	Duration	Silver Day
8:30- 8:37	7	First Thing (1st)
8:40-10:05	85	Period 3
10:15-11:40	85	Period 4
11:40-12:20	40	Lunch
12:25-1:50	85	Period 5
2:00-2:45	45	Chapel
2:50-3:30	40	Activity

TUESDAY SILVER DAY Early Release

Time	Duration	Silver Day
8:30-8:37	7	First Thing (1st)
8:40-10:05	85	Period 3
10:15-11:40	85	Period 4
11:40-12:25	45	Lunch
12:30-1:00	30	Homeroom
1:05 -2:30	85	Period 5

History And Organization

Rosslyn Academy began as Mara Hills School in northern Tanzania in 1948 as a school for children of Mennonite missionaries. In 1967 the school was moved to its present location in Nairobi, and the name was changed to Rosslyn Academy. The Baptist Mission of Kenya became co-owners and managers in 1976, and the Assemblies of God became the third sponsoring agency in 1988.

Today, Rosslyn is a day school that provides an American-based, K-12 educational curriculum with an enrollment of approximately 650 day-school students. Students experience minimal academic difficulty in transferring, at any grade level, from Rosslyn Academy to schools in North America. Rosslyn Academy is distinctly Christian, yet inter-denominational.

Governance

The policy-making body for Rosslyn Academy is the Board of Governors. It consists of two members from each of the sponsoring agencies, and one member selected by the Board from the private sponsor community. The sponsoring mission agencies are: the Baptist Mission of Kenya (IMB), Eastern Mennonite Missions, and the Assemblies of God.

Accreditation

Rosslyn Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) and by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). The school is also a member of the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) which provides an opportunity for our students and teachers to participate in athletic and cultural events with other schools that cater to international students in Africa.

Educational Philosophy

Mission Statement

“Rosslyn Academy inspires and equips each student to develop God-given gifts for Christ-like service in the world community”

The purpose of Rosslyn Academy is to provide a (Pre-K-12) North American and Christian-oriented educational program for children of the Owner Agencies and of other mission agencies. Children from privately sponsored families are invited if they are in sympathy with the philosophy of the school.

Concurrent with its Christian and academic emphasis, Rosslyn Academy seeks to cultivate in students an appreciation for, and understanding of, other peoples in order to prepare them for service in the world community. Through a broad range of academic, social, physical and spiritual activities, the school gives opportunity for students to pursue personal growth to the fullest extent.

Spiritual - Spiritual values are the foundation of a person’s character. The life and teachings of Jesus Christ define a personal relationship with God and provides the model for teaching behavior, values and human relationships. For this reason students are challenged to develop or deepen their personal faith in Christ and Christ-like character. Rosslyn intentionally and purposefully seeks to integrate a spiritual emphasis into every program. This includes CFS, athletics, guidance and all academic classes.

Intellectual - The intellectual focus of education emphasizes specific knowledge of various subjects and includes the development of analytical and problem-solving skills. Knowledge by itself has no ethical value. Personal faith integrated with knowledge becomes relevant and conversant in the secular environment and enables a positive contribution to society.

Social - Education prepares students for productive participation in society. The school is a learning community in which students of various backgrounds develop skills of understanding and cooperation, thus preparing them to live in and contribute to the world community.

Emotional - Through the biblical integration of faith and learning in an atmosphere of positive social interaction between staff, students, and parents/guardians, students will be helped and encouraged to develop a sense of personal worth and dignity in order to become responsible persons in society.

Physical - Concern for the whole person includes a sense of the value of the body and its proper and wise use. Knowledge of the body and the importance of physical fitness development are an integral part of a balanced education.

What is Middle School (Grades 6-8)?

The Middle School provides a learning environment and experience that attempts to bridge the gap between the self-contained structure of the Elementary School and the departmental and individual class structure of the High School. The Middle School assists students in making the transition from childhood to adolescence. These are normal years of exploration and wanting to be involved in many experiences, of the development in independent thinking, of rapid physical growth and maturational spurts, and of intense feelings and opinions.

Through a balanced curricular and co-curricular program, there is continued emphasis on the spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical development of students. Students are encouraged to develop a personal identity based on a proper understanding and acceptance of themselves as unique individuals, created in the image of God. They are also encouraged to nurture positive interpersonal relationships and acquire a Christian worldview, as they learn to integrate Scripture with life.

Rosslyn's curricular programs emphasize the natural relationship among academic disciplines; this facilitates cohesive learning experiences for students. Academic skill emphasis within a well-defined continuum is used as the basic guide in each curricular area. Exploratory opportunities are provided through special interest courses and various social, skill building, fine arts, and academic options.

Middle School Objectives

Each person is divinely equipped with a unique set of abilities and potential and is worthy of respect and dignity as an individual. The school is concerned for the whole person and strives to develop each segment of the student's life: intellectual, social, emotional, physical and spiritual. The school strives to help students become disciplined, creative learners who learn to balance the pursuit of personal development with service-oriented values within the home, church and society.

General Objectives

- To give each student the opportunity to excel in the areas of his/her personal abilities and to the height of his/her potential.
- To cultivate appreciation for and an understanding of other peoples and cultures.

- To emphasize and give opportunity for service-oriented learning.

Spiritual Objectives

- To present Christ in an invitational way which is not purposefully offensive
- To teach Biblical principles which nurture a Christian understanding and promote a personal philosophy of life based on Christian beliefs and values.
- To employ a teaching staff whose Christian faith and commitment exhibit God's love and provide an example of Christ-like behavior in daily tasks.
- To stimulate and reinforce spiritual development by giving opportunities for student interaction with parents and other spiritual leaders.
- To help students establish ethical and moral values in relation to learning, thus integrating faith with academic knowledge.

Intellectual Objectives

- To provide a quality, accredited education using an American-based curriculum.
- To enable students returning to North America to successfully transfer to other schools, pursue further education and/or explore other life endeavors.
- To provide a wide variety of co-curricular activities, which are designed to enrich and enhance the basic curriculum at all grade levels.
- To provide learning experiences that will enhance individual strengths and focus on particular weaknesses, with consideration given to the various learning styles, skills and abilities of the student.
- To provide an opportunity for expression of individual interests and the development of skills that may be used in future occupations or professions.

Social Objectives

- To encourage the development of social skills that will help students to function harmoniously and responsibly in society.
- To provide cross-cultural experiences that foster understanding and appreciation for various peoples and cultures.

Emotional Objectives

- To promote the development of an appropriate and positive self-image and respect for the worth and dignity of every person.
- To encourage a realization of individual strengths and give positive recognition for effort as well as achievement.
- To facilitate creative, individual and responsible development in each student.

Physical Objectives

- To provide an opportunity for regular physical exercise and the learning and practicing of physical skills.
- To present and teach health issues and concepts relating to the individual and the community.
- To provide opportunity for students to participate in intramurals and in interscholastic sports.

Rosslyn Academy Parent Teacher Fellowship

The Rosslyn PTF is a great way for parents to get involved in the Rosslyn community. Every parent, guardian, teacher and administrator is encouraged to join PTF and is welcome to attend our monthly meetings. There are many ways to get involved, volunteer and show support. Our two main goals include fostering community here at Rosslyn and fundraising for initiatives outside the school budget. The PTF runs a Spirit Store where you can purchase your PE uniforms and Rosslyn branded merchandise. We appreciate the teachers and staff during the month of April with an appreciation week. To raise funds for this special week we sell items from the Spirit Store, hold monthly Farmers' Markets and host several community events during the year. Whether you are able to volunteer for one small event or want to help out with many of the events, we welcome you! For more information please send questions to ptf@rosslynacademy.com.

Academic Policies and Procedures

The Middle School utilizes a semi-departmentalized program. Students move through several different classrooms each day, where they meet and interact with various teachers. The school generally utilizes North American textbooks and classroom resources that are designed to prepare students to enter the college preparatory program in our high school. Consistent attendance and completion of academic work are critical for successful achievement.

Middle School teachers are divided with each grade having a teacher team. The teacher team tracks student progress, works together to achieve grade-level and school goals, contacts parents, and addresses individual student needs. Parents are encouraged to contact the teachers with questions, comments, concerns, or requests for meetings.

Each year a student is enrolled in the following core courses: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and Christian religious education.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Teachers are responsible to:

- Clearly indicate to students how the assignment is related to the topic under study.
- Indicate the purpose of the assignment.
- Define how the assignment might be best carried out.
- Stipulate what the student needs to do to demonstrate successful completion of the assignment; this involves communicating carefully at the beginning of the assignment the criteria which clarify the teacher's expectations.
- Evaluate and give prompt feedback.
- Rarely ask parents to play a formal academic teaching role in homework. (This does not refer to 'review' i.e. verse memorization, spelling words, reading aloud, mathematics tables, etc.)

Parents are responsible to:

- Create a home environment that facilitates student self-study – a place to study, quiet, eliminate distractions, encouragement.
- Be open to direct involvement through listening, helping review, and, especially with the primary grade child, reading aloud and helping them with memorization.
- Monitor completion of homework for students. The amount of monitoring may be determined by the student's self-discipline and/or accomplishments.

- Observe and be aware of the amount of applied time spent on homework and alert the appropriate teacher(s) if the weekly average stays high.
- Give feedback to the teachers/principal.

Students are responsible to:

- Write down and/or have a copy of their homework assignments.
- Complete their homework to the best of their ability.
- Turn in homework on time – normally at the beginning of class.
- Follow up with the teacher as soon as possible if unable to complete or understand the assigned work.
- Complete any make-up work or missed work due to absence.
- Complete any late/missing work *no later than* one week before the end of the marking period.

When teachers, parents, and students work together to fulfill their responsibilities, homework will be valuable and generally free from high levels of frustration.

Report Cards and Grading

The academic year is divided into two semesters, with report cards issued two times each semester. The report cards are issued at the end of first quarter, the end of first semester, the end of third quarter, and the end of second semester. The report cards issued at the ends of Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 are **progress reports** as those grades continue until the end of the semester.

It is recognized that not all assignments are of equal value and therefore the teacher will determine the weight given to various assessment tools (i.e., quizzes, tests, writing assignments, projects, and homework). The total weight of written tests/quizzes will be no more than 40% of the grade other than math which may be up to 50%.

Grading Scale: Letter Grade & Percent

A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	73 – 76
C-	70 – 72
D+	67 – 69
D	63 – 66
D-	60 – 62
F	45 – 59
F-	0 – 44

Note 1: Percentages and/or letter grades may be used on graded assignments.

Note 2: 60% passing presupposes that the student has learned 60% of the material that has been presented/taught in that class. However, for successful progress, an average of 70% or better is expected.

Promotion

The ultimate aim of Rosslyn Academy is to do what is best for the student socially, spiritually, psychologically, and academically. In most instances, this results in promotion. In some cases, however, this may mean retention in the same grade for another year or not being able to re-enroll for the next school year.

The following guidelines facilitate decisions regarding promotion:

1. Each case will be evaluated individually.
2. The case will be evaluated by a number of individuals (which may include the parents, the teachers of the student, and a counselor) who make a recommendation to the principal. The principal dialogues with and officially communicates any school decision to the parents.
3. In most cases, appropriate mastery of the material as reflected by a student's earned grades will be the primary factor in determining promotion. A "C" average (i.e. grade of 70 or better) with no F averages in core courses is indicative of basic successful accomplishments even though a "D" is passing.
4. Our goal is that a promoted student has the knowledge and ability to achieve successfully at the next grade level.
5. All recommendations and decisions are made with the student's best interests in mind.

Academic Probation

Rosslyn Middle School students with one F or more than two D's after a grading quarter will be put on academic probation for the following grading quarter. If after one grading quarter the student does not pull his/her grades up, he or she may not be allowed to continue enrollment at Rosslyn. (Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis.)

Assessment and Homework

Assessment can be a 2-hour final exam at the end of the year (summative assessment) and assessment can also be a teacher asking a class how well they understood the paragraph they just read together (formative assessment). There is a wide range of assessment practices a teacher uses.

Analogies from athletics or the arts can be useful. Assessment is a bit like rehearsals and productions, or like practices and a game. Much of teacher assessment is formative (rehearsals and practices) and should provide teachers, students, and parents with an idea of how well things are going and which areas need some work. Some assessment is summative (drama productions and athletic games) and is a final indication as to what degree the learning objectives were met.

Both formative and summative results are used to determine a final grade. However just because a formative result (using checks, letters, or numbers) is recorded does not indicate that it will necessarily be used to determine the final grade. Teachers determine which formative feedback is useful along with summative results to best describe the level of the student's mastery of the content and skills.

Homework as assessment. One type of (usually) formative assessment that impacts students is homework. Some feedback should be given to students on every piece of homework assigned, though this feedback may not necessarily be a "grade".

It is important and useful for parents to know how things are going with their child's learning and whether or not there are areas that need extra work. Formative assessment, including homework, can show that. That is one reason why homework is an important tool. While everyone agrees with this idea in principle, it is often the practical side (how much time is spent on homework) that produces stress.

Homework should provide useful feedback to teachers and students. Homework should be limited (on average) to:

- **Kindergarten:** An average of no more than 15 minutes per night
- **Grades 1-3:** An average of no more than 30 minutes per night
- **Grades 4-5:** An average of no more than 45 minutes per night
- **Grades 6-8:** An average of no more than 60 minutes per night
- **Grades 9-10:** An average of no more than 90 minutes per night with an increase of up to 30 more minutes for each AP class.
- **Grades 11-12:** An average of 120 minutes per night with an increase of up to 30 more minutes for each AP class.

Notes:

1. Individual music lesson practice is not included in these academic totals.
2. Parents whose students are spending significantly more time on homework are encouraged to keep a weekly chart of applied time per subject, and then talk with the appropriate teacher.
3. No NEW homework will be given on Fridays. However, if a student has incomplete homework, a project or test due the following week, they are expected to prepare and complete the unfinished assignment.
4. Short-term homework (assigned one to three school days before due) will not be given over calendared vacation times that are two school days or longer (e.g. Christmas Break, Spring Break, etc.). These 'breaks' are a good time for students to work on incomplete or make-up work, as well as on any long-term projects. When assigning homework, teachers consider various tournaments, retreats, and special event weekends, especially when a large number of students are affected. Long-term projects will not be due the day after a vacation of two school days or longer.

A/B and Block Days

Rosslyn Middle School (along with the high school) operates on a modified block schedule. On a regular 5-day school week, Mondays will be an all-period day, Tuesdays and Thursdays will be "Silver" block days, and Wednesdays and Fridays will be "Green" block days. The A/B courses will alternate Mondays. (i.e. Aug. 12 will be an A Day/Aug. 19 will be a B Day.) On block days, students will attend both their A and B day classes. *Typically*, when there is a short week, the all period day will be canceled and we will run two Green and two Silver block days alternating.

Middle School Academic Subjects

Christian Religious Education

Over the course of three years in CRE, students will gain biblical interpretation skills and explore the overarching narrative of God's revelation of himself through his Word. Students will reflect on their own lives through a biblical worldview and be encouraged to pursue a personal and transforming relationship with God, empowering them to live a Christ-like life of love and service.

- Grade 6: Understanding the Bible: God's Revelation of Himself
- Grade 7: Knowing God Through His Redemptive Story: God's Plan to Be With Us
- Grade 8: Knowing God Through His Redemptive Story: Covenantal Love

Math

In middle school mathematics, the focus is on building a strong foundation of mathematical skills to prepare students for more advanced concepts in high school. The desired outcomes include developing critical thinking skills, problem-solving strategies, and a deep understanding of mathematical concepts. The goals are to enhance students' numeracy skills, promote logical reasoning, and foster a growth mindset towards overcoming challenges in mathematics. Students are engaged in tasks that push their mathematical abilities while providing ample support and guidance.

There are five mathematical domains that are focused on throughout the three grade levels: the number system, ratios and proportional relationships, expressions and equations, geometry, statistics and probability.

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Advanced</u>
<u>6th grade:</u>	Math 6	Math 6+
<u>7th grade:</u>	Math 7	Bridge and Math 7+
<u>8th grade:</u>	Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1

Science

Middle School Science is three, integrated, one year courses that are taught through a combination of labs, lectures and other inquiry-based discovery methods. Students are encouraged to engage their scientific processing, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Emphasis is placed on creation and its creator with students gaining a greater appreciation for God and His handiwork.

Topics Covered

6th Grade

Scientific Method	Classification	Plants	Animals
Earth's Surface	Natural Resources	Space	Matter & Atoms
Electricity	Magnetism		

7th Grade

Scientific Method	Cells	Reproduction	Genetics
Human Body	Chemistry	Periodic Table	Energy & Heat
Earth's atmosphere	Earth's Weather		

8th Grade

Describing Motion

Laws of Motion

Understanding the atom

Elements and chemical bonds

Chemical Reactions

Stars and Galaxies

Minerals and Rocks

Social Studies

Over the course of three years in Middle School Social Studies, students will learn about ancient civilizations, Western Hemisphere and the Eastern Hemisphere. Units are organized around Location, Space and Time: Ancient Past, Recent Past and Present. There is an emphasis on Project-Based Learning.

- Grade 6 Ancient Civilizations: Geography, History, and Culture
- Grade 7 Western Hemisphere (Americas, Europe): Geography, History, and Culture; Impact Project
- Grade 8 Eastern Hemisphere (Africa, Asia, Middle East, MUN): Geography, History and Culture; 20% Project

English Language Arts

MS ELA develops students' English skills in their reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and vocabulary. A variety of methods, activities, and assessments are used including studies on novels, fiction and nonfiction writing, presentations, quizzes and tests, and in-class discussions.

- Grade 6: *Wonder*, short stories, Narrative and Argumentative writing, Mythology, *Tuck Everlasting*
- Grade 7: *A Long Walk to Water*, short stories, Narrative writing, Explanatory writing, *The Giver*
- Grade 8: Spoken Word poetry, Research writing, *The Outsiders*, 20% Project, *Twelfth Night*

Art

Over the course of three years in Middle School Art, students will learn about art and artists from around the world. While practicing new skills and techniques, they will experiment with a variety of styles and mediums. Students will combine the creative process with an understanding of sound design as they explore the ways in which they are uniquely “created to create.”

- Grade 6: Art as Communication Tool
- Grade 7: How the Renaissance Changed Art
- Grade 8: A Study of Contemporary Art, A-Z

Technology

Technology 8 covers 3 main topics

- Digital Citizenship
- Introduction to Coding
- Photoshop and Image editing.

Physical Education

To achieve curricular goals and outcomes, the theme for Middle School Physical Education is team sports. A variety of team sports will be taught on a rotating basis. By the end of Middle School, a student will have learned the basic skills, rules, and strategies of major team sports, and how to participate as a cooperating team member. Each physical education period contains extended

periods of running or other strenuous activity. Fitness tests are given with a pre-test in August and a fitness test in December and May.

Units Covered by the end of Middle School:

- Soccer, Flag Football, Basketball, Touch Rugby, Field Hockey, Court Hockey, Softball, Track and Field, Volleyball, Health, Swimming all 3 years of MS.

All students are required to participate in Physical Education activities unless excused by a physician, the principal, or the school nurse. **Students are required to dress out in their purchased PE uniform for class unless excused by their PE teacher.** Lack of dressing out affects the PE grade. Students must change out of their uniforms after PE or after their A/B classes.

World Languages (Kiswahili, French and Spanish)

The MS World Languages program offers students an introduction to another language. While we are hoping and working for more in the future, it is not currently designed to be the equivalent of the first year of language in high school. Concepts are introduced at a more relaxed pace, with emphasis on gaining familiarity with the sounds and basic patterns of the language as well as the cultural contexts in which it is spoken. We have found that this eases the transition to the more rigorous vocabulary development and grammar study that is the hallmark of high school language study.

Students who demonstrate required and satisfying skills for HS language 1 (in Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking) will be promoted to HS language 2 through the language teacher recommendation. All new students joining MS in Grade 7 and 8 language class will be assessed for the respective MS language placement.

There is no language placement in Grade 6 as this is a course designed for complete beginners.

- Grade 6 - Discovering world language Level A: Greeting people and socializing (Simple expressions).
- Grade 7 - Discovering world language Level B: Talking about the present, asking and answering questions, describing people, places and things (Simple description).
- Grade 8 - Discovering world language Level C: Describing future plans and narrating past events (Simple narration).

Music

Band is offered as a voluntary option to students in Middle School. The school has some instruments, which may be rented. Participating in Band is an excellent preparation for High School Band or instrumental ensembles and personal musical talent development.

Choir is one of two music opportunities required of students in Grades 6 to 8. This is excellent preparation for High School Choir and/or Rosslyn Singers.

The Middle School participates in the Band and Choir concerts before Christmas and at the end of the school year. Attendance is mandatory.

Learning Support Program and Services

The Middle School Learning Support (MSLS) department offers push-in and pull-out support for students with diagnosed needs and IEPs or 504 Accommodation Plans. LS staff collaborate with core teachers for push-in support, delivering subject content tailored to each student's accommodation plan either in the classroom or through directed instruction. Pull-out support involves students

working on their IEP goals at the MSLS center, with tasks aligned with core teacher assignments. Additionally, the MSLS team partners with teachers to promote inclusive environments, provides test locations and conducts IEP and 504 meetings throughout the year involving parents, teachers, MSLS staff, and administrators.

Parents of children who need special services should check very closely to determine if the modest levels of service that Rosslyn provides are adequate and to make sure that space is available. Rosslyn can only accept a very limited number of students who need special services.

A more complete description of special services along with the requirements and expectations for receiving these services is available in the Guidance Office or in conversation with an administrator.

Multi-Language Learners

The English as an Additional Language (EAL) Department strives to provide English-learning students with both in-class and out-of-class instruction and support in learning English. For our EAL students, our department teachers help with reading, writing, listening, and speaking English in direct instruction classes and guided study halls. Additionally, our teachers push in during core classes such as Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies to help our students succeed by scaffolding assignments and giving one-on-one support.

Behavioral Expectations and Consequences

Attendance

Regular attendance is important and necessary because it is basic to the student's ability to succeed in school. While missed assignments may be completed, the dynamics and learning that result from classroom interaction can never be replaced; thus, regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Attendance Rule and Appeal Process Anytime a student is absent from school, the parent is to present/send to the office or classroom teacher a notice explaining the purpose/reason for the absence. A child's absence will be considered as UNEXCUSED unless:

- - S/he was participating in a Rosslyn-sponsored activity.
- - S/he was ill or receiving emergency medical treatment.
- - There has been a death in the family.
- - The administration has pre-approved their absence at least three or more school days in advance of the absence.

Parents need to be sensitive in the scheduling of appointments during the school day since students absent from classes miss a considerable amount of material. All absences hinder the learning process and accomplishment. As much as possible, non-emergency medical appointments should be made after school hours or during weekends or vacations.

Tardy Policy

Students are expected to arrive at school and to all classes on time. This is a matter of courtesy and responsibility. Classroom teachers will communicate to students their specific expectations and consequences. Some teachers may require students to be seated at their desks when the bell rings, while others may require students to be in the classroom. Whatever the case, students are expected to meet the teachers' expectations. When, at the beginning of the school day a student is late (after 8:30), MS students must get a blue pass from the Middle School Office before going to their classroom. If a student is late to ANY class on ANY day, they can expect the following consequences:

3 tardies in a week - 1 lunch detention

5 tardies in a week OR

2nd week of 3 tardies = 2 lunch detentions and a phone call to parents

7 tardies in a week OR

3rd week of 3 tardies = 1 day of ISS and conference with parents

*The consequences will start over at the beginning of each semester.

After a student has served a day of ISS and a conference with parents, the principal will implement additional disciplinary actions as needed.

Absences

When a student is absent for any reason, it is the responsibility of the student to make up all missed work. Teachers are not expected to set up plans in advance for students who anticipate absences. For school-related absences, all scheduled assignments and tests are due as scheduled. For other excused absences, students are granted two days of make-up grace for each day of absence for up to one week of grace. This is to enable the student, upon returning to class, to complete the current daily work on time.

An absence is considered excused when the absence is the result of student illness or death in the family. A parent note, e-mail, or phone call is expected to verify the reason.

Excused absences may also be approved, at the principal's discretion, if a parent notifies the school at least three school days in advance of a pre-planned family responsibility or travel need. Normally the school evaluates the request and then notifies the parent of the expected result of the absence.

Absence for reasons of illness

Parents are asked to notify the school that day to report that their child is home-sick by sending an email to attendance@rosslynacademy.com and natashac@rosslynacademy.com. (Natasha Costa-Bir is the Middle School Administrative Assistant) A student who has a fever should remain at home until the temperature has returned to normal for 24 hours.

Absences for reasons other than illness

Except for absences caused by illness, students are expected to attend classes when school is in session. Requests to be absent are to be made to the principal in writing before the absence occurs. This procedure gives the opportunity for the school to reflect to the parents the possible effects of the absence and/or together make some alternative study arrangements. Knowing classwork and assignments ahead often enables the student to turn in work before leaving and/or soon after he/she returns. Students whose work is marginal should be aware of the possible consequences of missing school, such as poor or non-passing grades. In most cases, simply completing missed homework may not result in as high a grade since vital classroom participation is missed.

If unexcused absences exceed five days per semester, the principal may recommend termination of enrollment to the superintendent.

Bullying

Bullying is a deliberate and willfully repeated behavior by one or more people with the intent of harming others. Kindness and respect are the positive opposites and are the way God treats us and expects us to treat others. (Ephesians 1:5, 2:7, 4:32) Bullying reflects an attitude that indicates a lack

or loss of respect for another human being and thus devalues human life while wounding the other person's spirit. Bullying comes in different forms:

1. Physical

- acted out violence and attacks
- aggressive behavior
- hitting, kicking, pushing
- getting others to hurt someone
- stealing (including 'borrowing' without permission) of money, food, books, cell phones, PE items, and other personal items

2. Verbal

- Name calling and put downs including racism.
- verbal taunts and teasing
- talking bad about people behind their backs (rumors)
- also includes the above through use of the internet, cell phone, or other electronic communication devices

3. Emotional

- exclusion from a group (isolation)
- behavior which is seen as threatening
- intimidation
- invasion of personal privacy

4. Cyber

Campus Care

Students are expected to treat all of Rosslyn's grounds, property, and facilities with care and respect. Abuse or defacement of buildings or property is not tolerated. Waste materials and cans are to be discarded in the trash containers provided. Students who disregard these standards should expect corrective discipline.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable at Rosslyn Academy and cover a wide range of offenses. An impulsive peek at another student's paper during a small quiz is cheating. Using a "cheat sheet" during a major test is considered cheating. Both are wrong and are considered major infractions; however, they will be addressed in varying degrees.

At a minimum, students and parents should always expect a grade of zero (0) on the assignment or test with notification of the parents and Principal for a first offense.

Cheating on exams or blatant plagiarism may result in a school suspension or a comment placed on a student's permanent record. Premeditated and/or serious cheating on a major project or final exam may also result in the student receiving no credit for the course. Students and parents should be very familiar with the school's writing guide and make particular note of the section on plagiarism.

Like cheating on tests and quizzes, cheating on homework also covers a wide range of offenses. On many assignments students are encouraged to work together at the direction of the teacher and to help each other out. Usually these types of assignments are not graded heavily but rather are intended as practices and study helps. Other homework assignments may receive specific admonition from teachers that students should not request or give any answers to other students. Teachers should make it very clear what degree of "help" is permissible. Homework not completed

faithfully according to the directions will be addressed in an appropriate manner. Cheating, or the appearance of cheating, is to be avoided.

Students must follow teacher's guidance on the use of AI on assignments. More details to an AI policy will be created later in this (2024/25) year.

Dress Code Guidelines and Expectations

Students at Rosslyn Academy can select clothing and accessories that reflect their personal taste and style as long as it remains within the school's guidelines of modesty, cleanliness, safety, and sensitivity to Christian values. The dress code helps to ensure an environment where staff and students can focus on teaching and learning and assist students in a maturing view toward the appropriateness of specific attire for certain occasions. Middle School students should be developing good dress and hygiene habits that help lead to dressing for success in university and career. The dress code is not an exhaustive list but serves to provide a framework for honoring the Christian and academic environment of Rosslyn Academy.

General Standards:

- Dress code standards apply to both male and female students in a fair and reasonable manner.
- Students should dress and groom themselves in a neat, modest, and respectful manner to themselves and the school.
- Students should wear a shirt or the equivalent (top) with opaque fabric that covers the entire front, back, and sides.
- Low necklines, enlarged armholes, bare shoulders/back/midribs, or tops that show bare midsections are not allowed. The midriff should be fully covered when the arms are down.
- Undergarments are to be worn at all times. Undergarments should not be seen.
- Shorts and skirts shall be of appropriate length (mid-thigh or longer).
- Leggings or similar-looking pants are not appropriate by themselves. Leggings and spandex are permitted under longer shirts or with shorts/skirts/dresses (that meet the dress code and are at least mid-thigh in length).
- Students should not wear clothing that displays messages or images inconsistent with the Christian lifestyle.
 - All clothes must be free of questionable language and phrases and include no derogatory statements about people groups.
 - Clothing or accessories that advertise or promote products that are prohibited on campus.
- Students in Physical Education classes are to wear the designated PE clothing purchased through the school.
- Dress Code standards apply to extracurricular activities after school hours and school-sponsored trips and activities.
- Specific sports teams and select Physical Education classes may have a certain dress allowance that is specific and appropriate to the context. In these cases, the coach or teacher will provide further information on the allowable dress code for that activity.

Specifically, the following are prohibited:

- Midriff shirts, crop tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts

- Visible undergarments or see-through clothing.
- Garments revealing bare back, bare shoulders, low necklines,
- Shorts or skirts higher than mid-thigh level
- Leggings or similar-looking pants worn by themselves

Apparel not meeting these expectations will be inappropriate at Rosslyn Academy or school-related activities or events. The administration reserves the right to determine as inappropriate for school any clothing or accessories that detract from the educational process, purpose, and values of the school.

Discipline

Students are expected to treat others kindly and with respect. Students are expected to be good role models. Students are expected to contribute positively to their classes. Behavior that distracts from the educational process can usually be categorized as either a minor offense or a major offense.

The following are examples of minor offenses (this list is not exhaustive):

- General rowdiness, rough play, yelling, running on sidewalks and hallways
- Classroom behavior that is distracting or disrespectful
- Improper use or care of school property
- Littering / leaving lunch trash
- Inappropriate displays of affection
- Driving to school without permission
- Violation of school dress code
- Possession of lighters or matches

The following are examples of major offenses (this list is not exhaustive):

- Repeated minor offenses
- Skipping class
- Dishonesty
- Disrespect or disobedience
- Cheating and plagiarism (see section below for details)
- Aggressive or threatening behavior or words
- Mocking, harassment, bullying, hazing of other students either in person or through the Internet, text messaging, etc.
- Inappropriate behavior on field trips or while representing the school
- Lewd, obscene, offensive speech, conduct, or materials
- Sexual misconduct
- Violation of the school's acceptable use Internet policy
- Theft or vandalism
- Unauthorized leaving of the school campus
- Possession of fireworks or using a lighter/matches
- Possession of a weapon
- Possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia or under the influence of an illegal drug or alcohol
- Possession of tobacco products
- Breaking the laws of Kenya

Consequences of minor offenses include a number of options and may be assigned by any staff member. Generally, the process of addressing minor offenses will follow any or all of these steps:

1. Address the offense through counseling with the student
2. Assign consequences such as lunch time detention, picking up trash
3. Request a parent conference to advise them of the concern and to seek their help
4. Loss of privileges

Consequences of major offenses are normally assigned from the Principal's office and form part of the student's school records. Consequences for major offenses may include any of the following though this list is not exhaustive:

1. Parent conference with the Principal
2. In-school suspension for a period of time less than 10 days
3. Out-of-school suspension for a period of time less than 10 days
4. Loss of privileges, including extra-curricular activities
5. Assigning of restitution, fines, service requirements
6. Referral to law enforcement authorities
7. Recommendation for expulsion

Rosslyn Academy is a tobacco, alcohol and drug-free environment. Illegal drug use or possession results in an immediate 10-day suspension and recommendation to the superintendent for expulsion. Tobacco and/or alcohol use or possession results in a 3-10 day suspension for any first offense.

Normal grades may be earned for work completed during in-school suspension. Those in out-of-school suspension may have their work discounted up to and including a 100% reduction.

Green, Amber, Red Days

Emails and SMSes will be sent to parents when there is a disruption in a normal school day. Status of days are defined below.

1. Green - All School Events and Buses run as normal.
2. Amber - All School events and buses will run. However, attendance for school and activities is left to the discretion of the parents. No grade or attendance penalties will be given.
3. Red - All School events and buses are canceled.

Harassment

Rosslyn is committed to maintaining an academic environment in which all individuals treat each other with dignity and respect, and which is free from all forms of intimidation, exploitation and harassment, including sexual harassment and bullying. Rosslyn is prepared to take action to prevent and correct any violations of this policy. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of enrollment or dismissal of employment. Harassment between employee/adult volunteer and student, student and student, and adult/student are all prohibited under this policy.

Students who feel that they have been subjected to conduct of a harassing nature and individuals who observe conduct of a harassing nature are encouraged to promptly report the matter to one of the school officials. Employees/volunteers who are aware of conduct of a harassing nature are required to report the matter to one of the school officials. All complaints will be promptly investigated.

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated and is the basis for discipline up to and including dismissal from school (Administrative Policy Manual 260). A complaint form is available in the Superintendent's Office.

Leaving campus during the school day

The school is responsible to parents for a student once he/she is put in the school's charge (i.e. boards the school bus or is brought to campus). For this reason, same day permission to leave must be obtained from a school administrator, preferably the appropriate principal. In this case a parent or guardian can only take their own child. In order to take other students there must be direct parental notification to and permission from school authorities.

Late Entrance/Early Leaving

Returning students entering Rosslyn after the start of the school year, or students who have to leave early, are considered as an excused absence up to the point of return and/or after withdrawing.

Parents'/Guardian's Temporary Absence from Nairobi

All Rosslyn students are expected to be living at home with either their parents or a guardian. In circumstances where parents or guardians must be gone from the residence for prolonged periods of time (1 week or longer), arrangements need to be made to have the student(s) living with other adults or having a responsible adult residing (not just during the day) with the student(s). In any case where the parents/guardians are going to be absent overnight or longer and out of telephone contact, Rosslyn Academy is to be notified of the name of the adult responsible before the parent/guardian leaves and how to communicate quickly with him/her in the case of an emergency.

Termination of Enrollment

Student acceptance is based on the assumption that programs being offered meet the needs of the student. When, in the judgment of the school staff, programs and personnel resources do not adequately meet the needs of a student, parents are notified and a conference may result. If further action is needed, a recommendation for termination of enrollment will be made by the principal to the superintendent. The principal will notify the parent(s) after receiving authorization. Parents may appeal to the Rosslyn Board in writing within one week of notification.

Technology Use & Policies

Cell Phone Policy

- All cell phones must be turned into the MS offices between 8:00-8:25am every day.
 - Cell phones are not allowed in backpacks, lockers, or on a student at any time during the school day
 - Students may have access to their phone to make calls or recall information with permission from a teacher or the MS Administrative Assistant.

Other Allowed Devices

- MP3 Players / iPods may not be used between 8:30am and the end of school.
- E-readers

Not Allowed

- Tablets, Laptops, & Computers
 - EXCEPTION - If students are given permission from a teacher or principal.

The use of electronic devices at Rosslyn Academy is a privilege which may be removed if students are found to be in violation of the Acceptable User Policy and/or Rosslyn Academy's Student Expectations & Discipline.

If a student's personal device (for example; phone, tablet, e-reader, computer) is used in a manner that violates the above policies, Rosslyn reserves the right to confiscate and search the device if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the search could turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either Kenyan law or the rules of the school.

Student behavior, whether on or off campus, and including Internet postings, reflects on the name of Christ and the reputation of Rosslyn Academy. Therefore, students involved in major misconduct on or off campus and including on the Internet, that reflects negatively the name of Christ, Rosslyn Academy, or substantially disrupts the work and discipline of the school, may be subject to disciplinary action, including expulsion.

Rosslyn Academy reserves the right to monitor and log the use of its technology and computer network, monitor network utilization by users, and examine user files and materials as needed. Therefore, users cannot expect absolute privacy from the school's technology personnel as it relates to the use of Rosslyn's computer network. Users must recognize that there is no assurance of confidentiality with respect to access to transmissions and files, by persons outside or from persons inside Rosslyn Academy. Rosslyn Academy reserves the right to deny individual users access to specific technology as a consequence of misuse.

Withdrawals

Early withdrawal occurs when a student leaves school before the final school day, at the end of May. It is the belief of the Rosslyn Academy Board of Governors and the administration that any early withdrawal from school is harmful to the overall welfare of the student. Extra work requirements placed on the faculty are also of concern.

Excused early withdrawal may be allowed for reasons of illness or death in the immediate family. Should early withdrawal be desired for any other reason, parents complete the Early Withdrawal Application Form available in the main office. All texts, workbooks, library books and materials, music, instruments, and PE equipment must be returned, and financial accounts must be settled. In order to obtain clearance for each of these items, the appropriate individual must initial the withdrawal form, which is to be turned into the Business Office on the student's last day of school. The records of withdrawing students will be withheld until this form is received with all the required initials filled in. School charges continue until the withdrawal form is completed and filed in the Business Office.

If the student withdraws within the last ten days of school, he/she may, after making special arrangements for completion of the semester's work, receive full credit for the semester.

A student who departs earlier than ten days before the semester's end will be given grades only for work done up to the time of the withdrawal.

There are three categories of early withdrawal:

1. Level One - includes students excused for reasons of illness or death in the immediate family. Since this is an emergency situation, exams or makeup work will not be given, and the report card grades will be an average of the work completed to the date of departure.

2. Level Two - when it has been decided in a particular case that exceptional circumstances merit an excused early withdrawal, the principal, in consultation with the teachers, will decide how the student's final evaluation will be determined.
3. Level Three - unexcused early withdrawal - a grade of "0" will be given for all work missed. The date of withdrawal is indicated on the final report card.

*Financially, withdrawal charges include full tuition for the quarter in which the withdrawal occurs.

Middle School Activities

Co-Curricular

Co-curricular school programs are intended to encourage students to make full use of the talents and gifts God has given them.

Student participants serve as representatives of Rosslyn Academy as they perform before our community and compete with other schools; therefore, they are expected to maintain high academic and behavioral standards.

Groups, clubs, and organizations that meet on campus, are promoted on campus, and/or use the school's name must receive permission by the administration before activities commence. All groups, clubs, and organizations are expected to meet basic Rosslyn expectations:

- Purposes and activities must be in line with the school's mission.
- The raising of money or other gifts must be pre-approved by the appropriate principal; all money raised or used must be handled following the normal school accounting procedures.
- Adult sponsors must supervise official activities.
- Membership or selection criteria for the group, club, or organization must be pre-approved by the principal.

Students who accept a position or place in an extracurricular activity are making a commitment to the school and their teammates, cast members, or group members. Students who join an organization or team are expected to attend all practices, performances, meetings, and games associated with the activity. Special appointments should be scheduled so there are minimal conflicts; these should be identified with the school well ahead of time. Students who fail to meet their obligations as a member of the team, cast, or group may be dismissed from that organization. If the failure to fulfill an obligation is blatant and deliberate, that student may be deemed ineligible to participate in future extracurricular activities.

Clubs

Various club opportunities may be offered to students during the activity period. These clubs are very dependent on volunteers and in the past have included football, word games, ping pong, chess, coloring, water color, and worship team for chapel. Clubs not only allow the students to learn a new hobby or skill, but also encourage them to develop stronger relationships with their peers and a variety of adults.

Chapel

Rosslyn encourages the development of the whole person which includes the spiritual. A weekly chapel is designed to support this goal. All students are required to attend chapel; parents are welcome anytime. Students are encouraged to carry their Bibles to chapel.

Middle School chapel occurs weekly and is led by our chaplain. Services include worship, prayer, singing, drama, sermons, object lessons, storytelling and/or guest speakers – all focused around Scripture. Students hear about God’s love, which is most clearly seen in Jesus Christ, and they learn about ways they can respond to and reflect His love.

The chapel program is intended to challenge students to think about their relationship with Jesus Christ and the choices they are faced with. Students are to come before God with reverence, and they are encouraged to use their special abilities to contribute to the worship experience and chapel service. Parents and friends are invited to attend.

Students are to be respectful during chapel assembly times and/or whenever in the auditorium. They are expected to find their seats quickly and quietly – often in sections assigned by class. Students are to keep their feet off the backs of the seats, benches, and armrests and are not to climb over seat rows. Respect and courtesy is expected to be shown to whomever is on stage. Hats are not to be worn during chapel assembly times. Food (including candy), drinks, reading material, or radio/electronic devices are not to be brought into chapel nor into the auditorium facility. Assignments are not to be done during chapel.

Christmas Project

The Christmas Project is an annual event where the Rosslyn community voluntarily provides financial and other help for a worthy local charity. Through this we show God’s love and our love and caring for others who are less fortunate. Care is used to identify particular ‘projects’ which will help change lives and to see that all the funds given are used as projected. In the past few years, we have been able to help a number of charitable organizations.

Cultural Field Studies (CFS)

The Cultural Field Studies program focuses on various aspects of Kenyan or African culture and is a component of the curriculum for Grades 5 - 12. CFS has a long and positive history as an experience that richly impacts students. All students are required to participate in this program. Grades 6 – 8 go to pre-arranged sites that are usually not too far from Nairobi, for a period of 3 school days.

Their special focus is to:

1. Develop cross-cultural awareness and skills,
2. Heighten understanding and appreciation of the Kenyan people,
3. Encourage group bonding, and
4. Increase spiritual awareness and growth.

Drama

Students may audition for a role in the Middle School play and/or volunteer to be a part of the crew. The middle school produces one play during the school year, with the performance being in February. Those involved will sign up for the drama club that will meet once a week during the 3rd quarter, in addition to attending scheduled after-school rehearsals. Sometimes students are recruited to participate in the High School’s play/musical performance each semester.

Eighth Grade Promotion / Fifth Grade Step Up Day

A program is held at the end of the school year to recognize the eighth graders' completion of Middle School. Traditionally, the seventh grade class and parents host a tea for the eighth graders, their parents, and their teachers after the Promotion Ceremony.

During May, the fifth graders spend part of a day in the sixth grade, to better prepare them for their move to Middle School. There may also be other transition activities.

Field Trips

Field trips are encouraged as an important enhancement of the educational program. They enable students to see, apply, explore, and/or experience what is being studied in the classroom. Teachers plan for these carefully and parents are informed about them beforehand. Written parental permission (i.e., a signed permission slip) is mandatory for students participating in field trips. Since field trips are generally 'during school and an educational experience,' all students are expected to go on them unless the parent has contacted the principal beforehand in order to have their child excused. We encourage, and often invite, parents to join us.

Care is taken to use as safe a means of transportation as possible. In general, an adult supervisor will be provided for every eight to ten students.

Field trips not only take the student to a location of special learning but also make the school very visible to the public. This requires that student conduct be exemplary at all times. Negative behavior jeopardizes the safety and success for many people; any student misconduct on field trips will be addressed as a major infraction.

MUN (Model United Nations)

Being in Nairobi and near the United Nations center for East Africa provides special opportunities. A select group of 8th graders study the United Nations and its programs during the first semester of Social Studies. They also study its procedures and prepare to participate. Early in the 2nd semester they go to the center and spend most of a week participating in a Junior Model United Nations program with about 500-600 other middle school/junior high students from schools throughout Nairobi and East Africa. This is an exceptional opportunity to learn logic, do research, make presentations and exhibit leadership.

Private Lessons

In addition to the school's music program, Rosslyn Academy works with families to support private music lessons. Rosslyn Academy provides students with space and time to engage in private lessons. However, not more than one may be taken by any student during the school day.

Most lessons occur before school, during lunch or after school. Arrangements for fee payments are normally made directly to the instructor, who is usually not an employee of Rosslyn Academy. Students may rent instruments from the school; these fees go into a reserved instrument fund. The school in no way accepts responsibility for missed lessons. Enrollment for these lessons is coordinated by the school's Private Music Coordinator and Activities Office. Students participate in a recital at the end of the academic year. Procedures for this involvement are available upon request.

Special Programs and Events

*Rosslyn Academy events are for Rosslyn students. Any Rosslyn student wishing to bring a visitor to a school event must get prior approval from the Rosslyn administrator responsible for the event.

Middle School approval will be considered under the following stipulations:

1. While our general stance is that non-Rosslyn students are highly discouraged from being a part of MS special events as they are intended to build community amongst the Rosslyn students, we are aware that some special circumstances may arise.
2. An exception needs to be pre-approved by the Student Leadership Team advisor, the SLT and the MS administrator.
3. These exceptions will only be made for homeschooled or other special circumstances children pending approval (not for students from other Kenyan schools).
4. A Rosslyn community member adult needs to vouch for the visiting child's character.

Sports

Rosslyn offers a wide variety of clubs, teams, and groups outside of the regular classroom, and students are encouraged to participate. Participation in any of these areas is a privilege, and should enhance and enrich a student's school experiences.

Intramurals are intended to be organized team sporting activities for any student interested in participating; as such, there is no academic barrier to participation. Additionally, properly registered home-schoolers may participate if there is space. Guidelines for selection and participation will vary among the programs and activities. Intramural sports are designed to include everyone with an interest in playing that sport.

Sports Seasons

- First Season: Boys' Soccer, Girls' Basketball, Co-Ed Swimming, Co-Ed cross country
- Second Season: Girls' Soccer, Boys' Basketball, Co-Ed Swimming
- Third Season: Volleyball, Co-Ed Under-15 Rugby, Tennis, Water Polo

Intramural Sports - All students are expected to be granted equal playing time and experience friendly competition. A goal of the intramural program is to develop Middle School cohesion among students and provide team opportunities for students of all skill levels. It is hoped that players will develop some skills necessary for success in the athletic program at the high school level, as part of the program some skill instruction is given. The team supervisor/coach is responsible for equal amounts of playing time for all participants. Parents are encouraged to observe their child in intramural action and volunteer to assist in supervising/refereeing if possible. MS intramural games are held two days a week after school. Volunteers coach and referee.

Interscholastic Sports - The purpose of this program is to enhance skills and fundamentals among students, especially those interested in pursuing high school athletics. Middle School sports teams for interscholastic play are selected after the intramural season and from among those who participated in intramurals. Being a member of an MS team does not guarantee playing time. Those selected, and who choose to join the team, (a) will need to complete and return the medical permission slip, and (b) are expected to stay with their commitment for the season unless withdrawn by the parent (with principal's knowledge), by the school, or by academic ineligibility. This team is expected to practice advanced fundamentals and skills in preparation for interscholastic games (normally 6-10 in a season). Rosslyn is committed to trying to arrange for competition that is close in

vicinity for MS students so that they do not get home too late. Only a few early dismissals are used – when there are schools further away such as Rift Valley Academy, Hillcrest, etc.

Participation in Rosslyn’s interscholastic sports program is a privilege for students. To qualify, students must be in good academic standing. All students participating in sports will have a grade report run by the Athletic Director on the 9th week of the quarter. If a student has 3 D’s or 1 F in any of his or her classes, they will not be allowed to practice or participate in games for the next two weeks. The student will not accompany the team to away games. If, after two weeks, grades have not improved, the student may be removed from the team.

The MS Principal, with input by the Grade level teachers, coach and Athletic Director (AD), may make the exception to allow a student to continue with regular participation in the extracurricular activity during or following the probationary period even if the above stated requirements are not met. Factors to be considered in making this decision will be the student’s academic ability as well as the effort that the student has put into achieving success in the course(s) in question. This exception may only be made on the judgment that remaining on the sports team is in the best interests of the student.

MS athletes are not usually permitted to play on any High School interscholastic teams other than Cross Country or Under 15 Rugby unless an application for an exception is filed and approved. The exception application may only be made for high school sports which are not included in the MS program that school year. In order to be approved, the exemption application must have principal, parent and AD permission.

These policies and procedures are intended to enhance playing time for marginal athletes, encourage and strengthen MS competition at the MS level, reduce the chances of physical injury due to size differentials, and to balance the time demands/pressures on our younger students.

Student Leadership Team (SLT)

The Middle School Student Leadership Team is under the supervision of our Secondary Chaplains. This group gives feedback to the administration as to student feelings, interests, and ideas. It organizes various events and activities for Middle School students. These may include game afternoons, movie nights, service involvement, and/or banquets.

Membership on the Middle School Student Leadership team is a privilege reflecting the leadership ability of those selected. To be eligible for this responsibility, students must demonstrate leadership, integrity, and maintain good academic standing in all subjects. A member who falls below these standards is subject to removal from his/her position. A student with one or more F’s or more than 2 D’s at any reporting period is not in good academic standing and will be placed on extra-curricular probation for two weeks, allowing time for the student to work at improvement in the course(s) in question. If the course teacher does not indicate adequate improvement by the end of the probation period, the student will be removed from the position. During the probationary period, the student will be allowed to attend required meetings but not take any active responsibility in SLT functions.

Parents must be aware of and prepared for their child to accept various responsibilities which are outlined in the permission slip they sign that allows their child to run for a SLT position.

Spiritual Emphasis Week (SEW)

Spiritual Emphasis Week is held once during the school year. Students are encouraged to respond to God's personal claim on their lives and/or to renew their personal spiritual life during these special times. This is in addition to the weekly chapel time and may include speakers or presentations by individuals or groups from Nairobi or abroad. SEW may include daily chapels during an entire week, or special seminars and workshops for a full day; all programs are Biblically centered and devoted to spiritual, moral, and character-building themes. All students are required to attend these programs.

Rosslyn Academy's Services

Campus Use

Students, families, and alumni of Rosslyn are permitted to use many of the school's facilities during non-school times, including weekends, holidays, and after-school hours. The Rosslyn campus is also "home" for many of our faculty and staff. Efforts are made to offer these faculty and staff as much privacy and peace as possible. It is recognized that campus use during off-school hours may compromise the privacy of families living on campus and/or overall security. In order to address this, the school requires the following guidelines to be observed:

1. Visitors (non-Rosslyn families) are asked to sign in at the gate and may be required to leave their National Identity Card. Visitors should have prior approval to use any campus facilities, or have a scheduled appointment with school personnel. Visitors may use certain school facilities when accompanied by a Rosslyn family.
2. Pets of those not living on school grounds are not permitted on school grounds at any time.
3. Bikes, roller skates/blades, scooters, and skateboards are not to be ridden on sports courts; on sidewalks pedestrians have right-of-way.
4. Groups wishing to use any school facilities are to complete an application form, available from the Business Office. The event will be scheduled when permission is granted.
5. Families are asked to be sensitive to the privacy of staff living on campus by remaining only on the NORTHERN side of campus which includes the following areas: all three sports fields, the concrete basketball court/upper Elementary playground area, and the northern side of all Elementary buildings.
6. The toilets in the High School/upper gym area are left open and available to the public during daylight hours.
7. Rosslyn attempts to keep the campus equipment in good condition, but cannot accept liability for accidents occurring anywhere on campus during off-school hours.
8. Use of facilities also demands that attention is given to appropriate use and care of our resources. At times, certain fields may be considered off-limits in order to improve the quality of the grass.

On weekdays, after school use by students who are not involved in scheduled activities presents a unique and delicate situation. In general, Rosslyn prefers students to be involved in and supportive of our extra-curricular activities. Having students "do their own thing" can work against the activities we are trying to promote. At the same time, we recognize that students may be able to concentrate on an area of particular interest that is not presently being offered as an activity. In trying to support individual healthy lifestyles while at the same time also supporting the school's extra-curricular activities, Rosslyn has developed the following guidelines to regulate facility and equipment usage by students who are not involved in an approved school activity:

1. Students wishing to stay after school to use facilities, equipment, or for any other reason must have approval from the high school administration.
2. Priority to all facilities and equipment is first given to any scheduled activity.
3. When the gym is in use for any game at any level, the weight room may not be used.
4. The weight room is not to be used by middle school students.
5. Any equipment needs (balls, cones, keys, etc.) or facility requests for outside activities should be made in advance. Students must not ask and expect coaches to supply them with equipment on short notice.
6. Any use that detracts from scheduled activities is not permitted.

Drinking Water

Specially-filtered Nairobi City Council water sources are scattered around the campus. There are two reverse-osmosis filtered water taps in the Middle School area. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to class.

Counseling

Counseling helps young people to find solutions to emotional, social, and behavioral problems they are struggling with. Counselors can provide knowledge, instruction and direction in many areas of students' lives in addition to that which relates to the academic classroom. This relates especially to helping them develop positively in the emotional, relationship, and ethical/moral areas of their lives. This is done with individuals and in group situations. Thus the counseling program is developmental, preventative, and responsive.

Our primary student-adult relationships and mentoring/modeling come from the daily teacher-student interaction in and outside of classes. Besides this, Rosslyn has counselors and chaplains on its staff; all of these are available to meet with students. The Middle School counselor and chaplain work together to respond to and prevent emotional/behavioral, coping, and transition issues. In order to best serve our students, the Middle School counselor and chaplain will consult with the Administration, Learning Support Team and Transition Coordinator. Parents or students may be able to request a meeting with the chaplain or counselor at any time.

Insurance

Rosslyn Academy does not provide student health insurance covering the school day. Insurance coverage is expected to be provided by the parent. Proof of such coverage is part of the admissions/re-enrollment process.

Learning Support Program and Services

In order to help students be successful, Rosslyn provides some special services for students with mild learning disabilities (LD's), attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders (ADHD), Multi Language Learner (MLL) needs, and/or reading difficulties (Reading Lab). Resources in these areas are limited and enrollment in any of these programs is dependent on proper identification through evaluation as well as the availability of specialized personnel, space and need.

Parents of children who need special services should check very closely to determine if the modest levels of service that Rosslyn provides are adequate and to make sure that space is available. Rosslyn can only accept a very limited number of students who need special services. A more complete description of special services along with the requirements and expectations for receiving these services is available in the Guidance Office or in conversation with an administrator.

Lockers

Locks and lockers are provided for Middle School students at the beginning of the year. These are the property of Rosslyn Academy and should be treated as such. Students are told not to share the combination to their lock with anyone. Parents can help the school by reminding their child that once a combination is shared, it may be shared again and again, thus rendering a lock useless. Lockers, once issued to a student, are considered to be 'personal property areas' but an administrator reserves the right to enter a locker if he/she deems it necessary.

Students are permitted to hang "decent" posters and photos inside the locker, but nothing may be fastened to the outside of the locker. If this happens, it will be removed. Damage to the lock or locker will result in an assessed fine.

Lost and Found

Discarded personal items, including textbooks, found on the school grounds or in the buses will be taken to the MS Lost and Found. Periodically, after announcing and displaying the items, unclaimed items will be removed from Lost-and-Found and donated to a needy cause or sold to raise money for a special use, i.e. sports equipment, etc.

Lunch

Students eat in the designated MS eating areas designated by the Middle School Principal. Middle School students may carry a 'bag lunch' or choose to buy the hot lunch from the Commons. Students sign up for the hot lunch option through the Titan portal. Students must have their picture ID in order to purchase snacks from the Commons. Drinks are not provided with the hot lunches but there are some available for purchase.

Media Centers and Media Labs

Secondary Facilities

Both the Media Center (library) and the Media Lab (computer lab) are intended to support and enhance the educational program of Rosslyn Academy. School-related use of these resources will always take precedence over personal use. Guidelines for personal use are posted in all locations; the Media Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each school day.

Personal use of the library and computer labs is a privilege, not a right. Students whose behavior is disruptive or distracting in any way will be asked to leave. For students in Grades 6 to 12, use of Rosslyn's computer network, including the Internet, requires the student to have viewed and signed the Technology Use and Standards Guidelines

No books or magazines are to be taken from the Media Center without being checked out according to the procedures posted at the circulation desk. Students are allowed to check out a maximum of 10 items.

Students are expected to respect library materials and the needs of others by returning items on time. Fines are Ksh.10 per day per item for books and magazines and Ksh.25 per day for reference books. Any student with two overdue items or a fine amounting to Ksh.200 will not be allowed to check out library materials. All items can be renewed twice.

Lost books should be reported immediately. If the book is not located by the end of the grading period, the student who signed it out will be expected to pay the replacement cost of the book

(including shipping). Report cards may not be sent home until all books have been returned and all fines have been paid.

Students may come to the Media Center from classes to do research or read magazines, but not to email or do assignments that can be done in the classroom. To do this they use a teacher provided 'Pass'. The Media Center is not a place to socialize, play games or do anything that disrupts the study atmosphere. Students should work quietly and always walk, not run, in the Media Center. Book bags, backpacks, food and drink are not permitted in the Media Center.

Materials ordered shall support the philosophy and objectives of the school and media center. Emphasis is placed on providing materials that promote Christian teaching and values, but we do not attempt to isolate students from all controversial materials. Rather, we encourage students to read critically, to evaluate their findings in light of Christian principles, and to exercise discrimination in selecting appropriate materials according to their individual values, family values, and maturity levels. Therefore, materials containing parts which may seem contradictory to school values may be included in the collection if the overall purpose and message supports the curriculum and the school philosophy. If a parent has a question as to why a book was chosen to be in our library or in our classroom, please speak with the appropriate principal.

School Pictures

Digital pictures are taken at Rosslyn during the first semester for yearbook purposes. Photo packages may be offered for those who wish to purchase individual, class, or school pictures.

Technology Use and Standards

THE PURPOSE FOR OUR TECHNOLOGY: Rosslyn is striving to provide state-of-the-art technology to its staff and students with the aim of preparing its young people for the challenges of the 21st century. This technology includes ready access to computers and software, use of the Internet, e-mail, use of the campus network, and other hardware and systems. This worldwide forum of informational resources available through the Rosslyn system is to be used for educational purposes. Information Technology (I.T.) use is a privilege and not a right. This privilege carries with it specific responsibilities that must be maintained for the sake of individuals using this technology, for the integrity of the equipment and systems themselves, and for the good of the school.

We expect all persons using Rosslyn technology and systems to exercise the highest level of respect for themselves, others, equipment/systems and copyright laws. Failure to comply with the written policy and/or not using the school's systems of technologies in a respectful manner will result in loss of use of the system and additional consequences as appropriate to the seriousness of the event.

A: PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY: E-MAIL AND INTERNET

All persons given the privilege of using the system are individually responsible for the material they research, use, send, and receive. All MS and HS students are given an individual account. All parts of the school's network are subject to review and monitoring at any time. Unfortunately, there are ways the system can be abused. There are modes of use that are not educational. There is information available (via e-mail and the Internet) that is totally inappropriate in our setting as an educational institution, especially since our school looks to honor God as Creator and King. System users are to always strive to use the technology appropriately, wisely, educationally, and honorably.

Note and follow the bulleted guidelines below. Some of the topics that typically arise that are not educational in nature and do not belong in our school setting are listed below. This is not an

exhaustive list. Students that include the listed items in their technology use or fail to follow the guidelines in this document will lose their technology privileges and/or be subject to disciplinary consequences. It is understood that some school research projects may require limited visitation to excluded or non-educational sites; however, in such a case, the teacher making the assignment will notify the technology supervisory staff in advance.

- The following is a partial list of unacceptable or non-educational topics/sites/activities:
 - Pornography or obscene material
 - Music & Movie sites
 - Teacher/Other User files or folders
 - Software / Music downloading
 - Chat /Drugs /Cheating
 - Security/Hacking
 - Gambling
 - Sites dedicated to violence, hatred, racism, terrorism, or weapons

- Personal responsibility for actions and messages is mandatory; anonymity is not permitted, nor is representing another at log-on or in correspondence. All mail must reflect the sender's account identification. Using someone else's account, password, or someone else's email is not permitted. Violations of system security must be reported as well as abuses of the system. This is necessary to maintain the integrity of the system and insure maximum efficiency for all people using the system.
- While "social gathering" sites such as Facebook, and Twitter are not intrinsically "bad," because of the potential for inappropriate content we ask that you only visit these types of sites at home under parental supervision.
- Browse responsibly. With over 200 computers on the network, our bandwidth can easily become saturated. It is important our Internet connection be reserved for educational purposes. Any personal browsing should be done from home. This includes any personal activities that utilize our Internet connection.
- Individuals are responsible for the mail maintained, sent to them, or stored in their account as well as the material received while using the Internet. This means that system users make sure that the material they receive and mail they keep is decent, appropriate, educational, and will in no way harm the system or its software. The use of web-based email, such as Hotmail, Yahoo Mail, etc. is not permitted from school computers.
- E-mail may be accessed before/after school, during breaks, and at lunch time. You may not use your mailbox during class time.
- Mass mailings to general audiences, chain mail, email tag, spam, and chat are not included in the heading of "educational purposes" and are not allowed. Personal information should never be given or revealed to unknown parties on email, web pages, or the Internet.
- Each student given an account is allotted 10 Megabytes of server storage space for the purpose of keeping school related files and documents. The storing of music files (MP3s), video clips, and programs of any type on the school's servers or workstation hard drives is not allowed. Saving files to any location other than the personal storage space provided is strictly forbidden. Individual mailboxes shall not exceed 2 Megabytes in size. Individuals who fail to comply with these limits run the risk of losing the privilege of having storage space on Rosslyn servers.
- Network and mailbox password changes are to be made only by the I.T. Staff.
- Rosslyn Academy assumes no liability for problems, damages, or prosecution that result from e-mail or Internet use; these risks are assumed by individual users.
- Middle School teachers will no longer be accepting assignments emailed from non-Rosslyn email accounts.

B: RESPONSIBILITY TO OTHERS

- Use courtesy and kindness in your content and language usage when using the Internet or e-mail. Racial, religious, personal, or ethnic attacks will not be tolerated.
- Always give credit to thoughts and/or work that are not your own – don't plagiarize.
- Respect the privacy of other peoples' email and files; if such an item is found open, close it.
- Erase your own files only. Do not change settings, degrade programs, or cause system disruption.
- Do not share your password. Do not borrow or pass on passwords. Use only your account.
- System problems or problems encountered via e-mail/Internet (faulty operation / threats / harassment) must be reported to technology staff immediately. All users have a duty to maintain system integrity.

C: RESPONSIBILITY TO EQUIPMENT/SYSTEMS

- **** NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN THE LABS ****
- Leave computers, printers, and work areas clean and in good operating condition. Do not move equipment.
- The system software used shall only be that which the school can legally use i.e. freeware or programs/licenses the school owns.
- Computer users shall make every effort to keep the system virus free. Report any virus warning or suspicious email attachments before opening them. Flash drives brought from home must be checked for viruses by the Rosslyn IT staff before you use them on any Rosslyn computer.
- Computer settings, (desktop icons, wallpaper, toolbars, etc.), will be changed by technology staff only.
- Game playing is not allowed in the labs except with staff permission. This includes before and after school.
- To encourage responsible use of resources, each student is given a \$25 printing quota for the school year. Black and white copies are charged at \$0.03 and color copies are \$0.50.
- Listening to music in the computer labs, with or without headphones, is not permitted.
- Hidden or encoded files are not permitted. Local hard drive storage may be done only with staff permission.

D: RESPONSIBILITY TO COPYRIGHT LAWS

- Students must recognize and honor the intellectual rights and property of others.
- Students must cite informational sources and comply with restrictions regarding copying and plagiarism.
- Use of the system for business purposes or private gain is not permitted.
- Copyrighted music and/or software shall not be copied, borrowed, or shared on school grounds.

Special thanks to Woodburn School District, Oregon and ISK, Kenya for the use of their Technology guidelines in the formation of this document.

Student Health Services

Students must have all required immunizations properly documented and on file in the office as part of their health records. Students may not attend school after September 1st (or after February 1st for new students in 2nd Semester), without necessary immunizations.

Parents must also complete a confidential student health record which lists emergency information which may include: blood type, allergies, results of physical examinations, and other medical information such as routine medications the student needs.

Medications

When a student is under treatment by a doctor and requires medication while at school, the principal should be contacted. Written documentation detailing the purpose for the medication, dosage, and other pertinent information will be needed.

All prescription medicine is to be kept at the Wellness Center. Students may not keep prescription medicine on their person or in lockers unless specifically approved in writing by the school nurse and/or administration. This policy allows asthmatic students to keep personal inhalers in their possession. Non-prescription medication (such as Aspirin, Panadol, Tylenol, etc.) will not be given to students unless parents have given written permission. This permission form is part of the student's health record form, which is completed by parents at the beginning of the school year.

Illnesses and injuries

In case of an accident or illness at school, the child will be brought to the Wellness Center. A short period of time will be allowed to see if an upset stomach or headache improves. If after 15 minutes a student is not able to return to class then parents will be contacted to come and pick their child up from school. Students are not to refer themselves to the clinic, but must have a teacher complete a Wellness Center student pass, which the student must take with them.

When necessary, basic first aid (ice, splints, bandages, etc.) will be administered. In the event of an emergency, and if the parent cannot be reached, the school will take appropriate action to ensure the child's well-being. It is important that the school have the parents' current home and work telephone numbers, as well as those for an emergency contact in case parents cannot be reached. Students who require immediate emergency care will be transported to the closest hospital, which is the Aga Khan Hospital near City Park on Limuru Road or Gertrude's Children's Hospital on Muthaiga Road. In such cases parents meet school personnel at the hospital and take care of hospital administrative and financial matters.

Rosslyn Academy does not have insurance for students and all costs associated with emergency care are the responsibility of the parents. Parents are advised to have their own insurance policy.

Students with a communicable disease are to remain home until the disease is no longer communicable.

Transportation

Students arrive and depart from Rosslyn Academy in a variety of ways. Some use the school bus service, others arrive in personal transport, and still others live within walking and/or bicycling distance of the school.

Rosslyn often transports students who are involved in athletics, field trips, and other school related functions. Safety is the overriding consideration in establishing transportation guidelines.

School Bus Service

Parents who are interested in participating in the school's bus service may pick up an application in the main office. Application packets will include information about the fees, bus stops, and times for pick up and drop off.

Rosslyn Academy has established the use of student bus monitors to help maintain an orderly and safe transportation environment. Students are expected to obey and show respect toward the driver and the monitor. Students failing to follow directions will be referred to the principal and may lose riding privileges, in addition to other disciplinary action. Students who are suspended from using bus service for disciplinary reasons are NOT entitled to a refund.

Bus Guidelines for Students

Conduct on the bus follows the same general rules that apply within the classroom. Safety is of primary importance.

Students shall:

1. Wear the provided safety seat belts when the vehicle is in motion.
2. Show respect for the authority of the driver, monitor, and/or any teacher or parent who may be riding.
3. Board and leave the bus in an orderly manner as directed.
4. Go directly to the bus after classroom dismissals. Students shall NOT:
 1. Display rowdy or rude behavior on the bus or at the bus stop.
 2. Shout out the windows.
 3. Drink from or carry glass containers.
 4. Drop litter or throw things in the bus or outside the windows.
 5. Stand at any time when the bus is in motion. Only the monitors may stand up at such time as necessary due to discipline or an emergency.
 6. Put hands, arms, or head out of the window.
 7. Play music devices without headphones. Music devices or smartphones with music with headphones and small electronic games are permitted on the bus provided the sound is turned down very low. Note, however, that music devices, smartphones with music and games and other forms of electronic games may not be used by Kindergarten through 8th graders on the Rosslyn campus during the school day (from arrival at school – 3:30). If they are used during the school day, they may be confiscated.

Infractions

If, after appropriate warning by the monitor and/or the bus driver, a particular rule continues to be broken, the student will be reported to the school administration. In the event of a repeated offense or if the offense is serious, the parents of the student involved will be contacted and the student will

be disciplined (e.g. unable to ride the bus for one week, or asked to clean the bus, etc.). Any such suspension includes suspension of late bus privileges as well.

If negative behavior by the student persists, he/she may be suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school semester/year. In such a case the bus fees will not be refunded.

Late Bus (Activity Bus)

A late bus leaves the school at 5:45 (or after a home game) as scheduled Monday through Thursday, unless students are otherwise notified. The late bus takes students to several combined bus stops. Information sheets with the specific locations and times are published and available in the main office. If the parent/pick up person is not present, the driver waits no longer than 5 minutes and the student is returned to Rosslyn at the end of the bus run. Bus drivers have RA issued cell phones; these numbers are available to parents. The weekly schedule is also published in the Rosslyn Reporter.

Only students who are participating in a supervised after-school activity (including academic assistance from a teacher) are eligible for late bus service. If there is space, spectators at a school game may ride.

Personal Transportation

Parents who elect to transport their own and other children to school must display the Rosslyn-issued window sticker on their car if they wish to drive into/park on the campus. School driving and parking guidelines must be followed. Parents must be particularly careful to drive slowly and to unload and load students only in the designated areas.

Walking, Scooters, Bikes, or Skateboards

Students who walk, use scooters, or ride bikes to school should enter through the gate closest to faculty housing and continue their way to campus using the walkway that leads to the track and staying to the side of or off the roadway. Bikes are to be kept locked in the bike racks during the school day and not ridden. It is better not to bring scooters to school unless a way of locking them to the bike rack can be arranged. They are not to be ridden during the school day.

Skateboards are not to be used on campus unless the student is signed up for the Skating Club. If a Skateboard is used as transportation to school, it must be housed in the Principal's office during the School Day. If it is used during the school day, it may be confiscated.

Transportation for School Activities

Even students who are not signed up for daily transportation from home on Rosslyn buses often find themselves using school transportation for a variety of reasons, including athletic games, class field trips, or other groups and clubs.

These kinds of programs and activities are an important enhancement of our educational program. School transportation into the community carries with it special responsibilities. Student conduct and dress must be exemplary at all times. Negative behavior jeopardizes the safety and success of many people and any student misconduct while using school transportation will be addressed as a major infraction.

Miscellaneous

Drills: Security and Emergency

Threatening or emergency situations could arise, which may require concealment or evacuation of students and staff from particular buildings or from the campus proper. In a situation such as this, quick, calm, and orderly action is required, which is why Rosslyn regularly practices evacuation, intruder, and fire drills. Classroom teachers will train students in the procedures used for these drills; directional routes for exiting a room or building are posted in each classroom. Visitors on campus during a drill will be expected to participate.

Passes

All students arriving at school late (after 8:30) are to get an entrance pass from the Middle School office before going to class. They present this to their teacher upon classroom arrival. Middle School students are to get and carry a pass signed by the teacher responsible for the student's whereabouts anytime they leave the classroom during class time unless the class is going together.

Supplies

The school office provides parents with a basic list of required supplies for their grade or course at the beginning of the year. It is the students' and parents' responsibility to have these supplies as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to have required daily supplies with them.

Selling of Goods during the School Day

Students are not allowed to bring items to school and sell to their classmates without permission from the principal. If the funds or project is school related, students can request an appropriate time and place to sell their goods.

Textbooks/Workbooks

We expect our students to take extremely good care of these books since they are the property of Rosslyn Academy. The costs of purchasing and shipping are built into the tuition costs of attending the school. In order to offset the costs of textbook abuse and loss, we issue fines to students for various infractions.

Writing (including underlining) in textbooks is not permitted unless directed to do so by the teacher. Fines for damaged textbooks will usually be 10% - 50% of the cost of the book.

Damage to a book that severely restricts its use or diminishes its life by more than one year will result in a charge equal to the replacement cost. Most textbooks have a replacement cost to the school of about US \$75 (including purchase, air mailing and sometimes a customs charge). Parents who borrow school textbooks for a period of time provide a deposit of US \$75 per textbook.

FINES:

Lost book - \$75

Heavy Damage / Mold - \$45

Water Damage - \$20

Damaged corners or writing - \$5

Yearbooks

Rosslyn produces a school yearbook each year, which is usually ready for distribution by the end of the school year. Each Rosslyn family receives a yearbook. There is no additional charge for the yearbook unless additional copies are ordered.

The yearbook is a school production. Although much of the work and many of the ideas are generated by high school students, it is not solely a student production. Rosslyn Academy retains full editorial control over the content of the yearbook.

Visitors

From time to time, students have friends or relatives that they wish to bring to campus or have visit classes. Visitors may be permitted to visit for up to 1 school day, during lunchtime, or after school. Normally, the principal will limit classroom visits to ½ of a school day, however, exceptions may be made in various circumstances. Visitors normally receive a VISITOR badge upon arrival and are required to sign in at the main office. When visiting at lunchtime visitors are to abide by the same guidelines as Rosslyn students. Student visitors must have prior approval (at least one day's notice) from the principal or his/her designee before spending time in class(es).

School / Home Communications

Note: The Rosslyn administration requests that parents notify us promptly of major events that happen at home (such as sickness, accident, family death, etc.). Such notification helps the school to understand and appropriately respond to the student's feelings. We want to support the student and help them cope better; this might include giving words of encouragement, making an exception, and/or adjusting an expectation or requirement.

Assignments: Responsibility and Procedure

Assignments are communicated clearly to students in class and also posted on Google Classroom. Teachers take the responsibility of clearly identifying assignments, how they are to be completed, and when they are due. Students are responsible to know the assignment given, when it is due, and then to turn it into the teacher on time.

Complaints and Grievances

A grievance is a claim based upon a condition, incident, or recurring event between two differing parties. A general principle to guide discussions between people who have differences is that the person "offended" should speak personally to the one who has offended him or her (Matthew 18:15-17). All grievance issues are to be handled confidentially by all involved parties. The school administration will not allow or tolerate reprisals of any kind toward participants in the grievance procedure by reason of such participation. The following procedure shall be applied in handling parent or student concerns:

1. A parent-teacher conference. If appropriate, the student could be included.
2. Without a resolution of the differences, a parent-teacher-administrator conference will be held. The student could be included if the teacher and parent consent.
3. There may be times a parent prefers to go directly to the administrator. If a parent goes directly to the administrator, the student concerned will not be allowed in the conference.
4. If there is no resolution between the parent and the administrator, or if the parent comes to the administrator a second time regarding the same issue or teacher, the administrator shall bring the parent and teacher together in his or her presence for a conference.

5. If there continues to be no resolution, the matter proceeds to the Superintendent for an appealed decision.
6. The Board of Governors will only consider matters or issues to determine if due process has been followed and that it is consistent with school policy.
7. The administration and staff of Rosslyn Academy will make every reasonable effort to create a supportive, non-coercive school environment. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated and is the basis for discipline up to and including dismissal from school (Administrative Policy Manual 260). A complaint form is available in the Counselor or Guidance Office.

Parents should never go directly to the Board of Governors or to a school board member with a complaint about a teacher.

Compassionate Leave

Every now and then a student may need to go on a compassionate leave which requires them to be absent from school for an extended amount of time. This may be for reasons such as a death in the family, mental health reasons, or family reasons. This may be mandated by the Principal or parents may make their request to the Principal in writing. Our policy in these cases is that the student will be excused and teachers will provide the minimum amount of homework/assignments needed to maintain the integrity of their course.

PowerSchool

PowerSchool is a secure web-based student management system designed to strengthen communication between the school and home by providing parents and legal guardians access to their child's attendance records and academic progress online.

Parents, students, and teachers each have their own PowerSchool login. Parents and students have different types of accounts, and thus separate logins. Parents can view multiple students at once while students can only see their **OWN** grades, attendance, assignments, and more. PowerSchool logins are granted by the school.

Open House

Each school holds an Open House at the beginning of school. The goals of the Open House are:

1. For parents and teachers to become acquainted.
2. For teachers to present goals and objectives, discipline policies, grading procedures, and their expectations for their classes.
3. To give parents the opportunity to ask questions.
4. To allow parents to become more familiar with school practices and facilities.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teacher conferences are held once during the first semester near the end of September. These conferences are a means of two-way communication between teacher and parents about a child's progress academically, socially, spiritually, and emotionally. Ongoing communication, both written and verbal, between parents and teachers is vital.

Parental Visits

Parents are encouraged to visit the school to confer with the teachers and/or the principal. They are expected to make an appointment before coming to school, in order to arrange for the most suitable

time. By prior arrangement with the principal and teacher, they may spend time in their student's classroom. Parents and guests are encouraged to attend chapel and assembly programs at any time. Parents are welcomed to help with the club program, to coach intramurals, and to assist in other ways. We encourage parent involvement in the school.

The "Rosslyn Reporter"

The "Rosslyn Reporter," a weekly announcement newsletter, is emailed to parents and posted on the website on Mondays. This newsletter includes information about upcoming school functions, activities, policy changes, sports scores, social events, and other miscellaneous items. Parents are urged to read the "Reporter" promptly, as it includes important information concerning school events.

APPENDICES

Rosslyn Academy Movie, TV, & Digital Media Policy

Movies, TV, and other digital media are very powerful teaching tools and should be used with careful consideration in the classroom. Teachers must meet the following criteria for all movies, TV shows, and digital media in order to ensure compliance with copyright laws and meet the cultural and academic expectations of a Christian school with a North American curriculum.

Note: Teachers are responsible for all of the content shown in the classroom. Teachers are to use **EXTREME sensitivity when showing any digital media in their classroom due to the different religious and cultural backgrounds as well as the emotional well-being of our students.**

Movies, TV, and other digital media must:

- Have an educational purpose and should be connected to an objective in the teacher's curriculum.
- Have been previewed by the teacher in its entirety to ensure it meets the cultural and academic expectations as a Christian school with a North American curriculum.
- Have been given prior approval from your school principal to show a movie that would qualify it to need parent permission.

Rosslyn Academy will use the movie and TV rating systems from the United States. Below are links to the respective systems of rating.

[Motion Picture Association](#)

[TV Parental Guidelines](#)

Permitted Ratings of Digital Media by Grade Level

- Elementary School (Grades K-5)
 - Movies: G
 - TV: TV-G
 - PG and TV-PG movies may be shown in upper ES only if a brief written description of the movie and its purpose for showing is sent home with the student and returned with signed parental permission.
- Middle School (Grades 6-8)
 - Movies: G or PG
 - TV: TV-G or TV-PG
 - PG-13 movies or TV-14 shows may be shown only if a brief written description of the movie and its purpose is sent home with the student and returned with signed parental permission.
- High School (Grades 9-12)
 - Movies: G, PG or PG-13

- TV: TV-G or TV-PG, TV-14
- R movies or TV-MA may be shown only if a brief written description of the movie and its purpose for showing is sent home with the student and returned with signed parental permission.

Digital Media Notes

- Digital Media supplied by Curriculum Publishers or 3rd party publishers purchased by the school (BrainPop, Nearpod).
 - Teachers should feel free to use this content as needed.
 - Teachers should anticipate any concerns from parents that could arise from the content of the media
- Digital Media found on the internet:
 - Teachers should use a high level of discernment when deciding to use any digital media from YouTube or any other website.
 - Clips from a digital media source can be shown only if they do not include:
 - Comments from other users
 - A “next up” list of upcoming videos
 - Teachers should anticipate any concerns from parents that could arise from the content of the media.
- Teachers should evaluate the digital content through the rating systems described above to ensure that the content is appropriate to be shown in their grade level.

Special Notes:

- Movies may be shown for social events in school. They must follow the same limitations and rating restrictions indicated above. Because class time is valuable for instruction, movies shown during class time for a purely social purpose should be extremely rare. Please consult the school principal for guidelines on this.
- Comments and “next up” suggestions have the potential to inadvertently expose our students to inappropriate content since most 3rd party websites have a limited filtering system to block inappropriate content. (Child Safety)
- ***If a movie is shown for educational purposes and the student/parent is NOT comfortable with its content, no academic penalty is permitted**

Rosslyn Academy Child Safety Policy and Procedures

Child Safety Policy:

R.A. Child Safety Policy can be found on the website for parents and in the Child Safety Google Folder for Staff. This policy should also be read in conjunction with the *R.A. Bullying & Harassment Policy* and the *R.A. Suicide, Self-Injurious Behaviors, and At Risk Behaviors and Prevention Policy*.

Overview of the Child Safety Policy:

Rosslyn Academy's core vision is to inspire and equip each student to develop their God-given gifts for Christ-like service in the world community. When a child's safety is threatened or there is a probability of harm, a child's learning is significantly impacted and their ability to fully develop their God-given gifts is put at risk. Rosslyn has a child safety policy in place that is reviewed frequently to ensure our student's safety. For more information than what is provided in this handbook, please refer to *Rosslyn Academy's Child Safety Policy 2020*.

Rosslyn's policy includes definitions for abuse that are usually applied when dealing with situations involving students and a person who is 3 or more years older than the child or when there is a difference in responsibility, trust, or power. The policy includes definitions for the following: Physical, Emotional, Sexual (verbal, physical, visual, and sexual exploitation), neglect, grooming, bullying and harassment, inappropriate behavior, and child-to child cases.

All staff and volunteers who have roles with children are expected to interact with children in a mature, capable, safe, caring, responsible manner, with a high level of accountability. All staff and volunteers should maintain a proper teacher-student relationship, even on a friendship level. All conduct should foster proper respect for the faculty or staff member's God-given authority over the student. When this is forfeited, there can be damage to the educational experience as well as to the student's respect for God's authority. All adult staff and volunteers are responsible for giving and accepting feedback from others in order to maintain our high level of professionalism. **The Code of Conduct follows the three principles of increasing accountability, decreasing isolation, and ensuring an appropriate balance of power.**

Reporting Procedures:

Any parent, staff member, or volunteer who 1) has an indication or suspicion of concern regarding child safety, 2) discovers alleged abuse amongst staff and/or students, regardless of where it may have occurred, must contact the Child Safety Officer using the *Concerns Referral Form* which can be found on Rosslyn's website.

Parent Child Safety Training:

Each year a parent training is held for parents of the new students and students in the transition years (Kindergarten, 6th Grade, and 9th Grade). This training is mandatory for Rosslyn parents. This training is usually done through new student orientation or in video format. The training covers an overview of the following information:

- Child Safety Policy and Definitions
- Code of Conduct
- What to Report and Who to Report to
- Child Safety Program in each school
- Child Safety Developmental issues in each school related to Physical Development, Mental and Emotional Health, and Relationships
- Technology and Internet Concerns
- Emergency Plans

Procedures related to Child Safety:

Student Missing:

When a student does not show up to class, teachers should notify the Student Support Team. Members of the student support team will follow up to verify if the student left campus with or without a guardian or verify the current location and safety of the student. Teachers may also reach out to other teachers who currently teach that student for other information.

Student Injured:

If a student is injured, the supervising teacher should call the Health and Wellness Center immediately for assistance. Arrangements should be made for the student to be transferred to care of the Health and Wellness Center while continuing to supervise and remove the other students present. Please see the *Student Health Services* section for more information pertaining to student injuries/illnesses and medications.

Reporting a Student Concern:

If a student or a teacher has a concern for a student and their safety or overall well-being, they should complete the Google Form - *Student Concern Form*. This form will be emailed to teachers at the beginning of the year and provided to parents on the school's website. Additionally, if the form is unable to be accessed for any reason, please contact the Child Safety Officer.

If a teacher has concerns regarding a student behaviorally or academically that does not need to be taken to the child safety officer or the counseling department, they can seek additional information by emailing the Student Support Team and the students current teachers (please

see Powerschool for this information). It is not appropriate to send an email to all of the teachers in their designated school.

Volunteers in the Classroom:

All volunteers (serving in an ongoing capacity) in the classroom should be cleared by the Administrator in charge and should not have contact with students until they have completed the necessary Child Safety requirements. Volunteers who are acting as guest speakers for a day and will have limited access to students unsupervised do not need to complete the Child Safety training requirements.

Mentoring of Students:

Rosslyn Academy defines mentoring as meeting regularly with a student for discipleship and intentional relationship in order to assist the student's development in their spiritual, academic, physical, social, and emotional lives. Relationships that fall into this category are those within the Mentoring Program, as well as similar relationships in which an adult regularly meets one-on-one or with a small group of students. These one-on-one meetings or small group meetings often occur for the purposes of pouring into a child spiritually, academic tutoring, or mentoring a student in their social and emotional lives and are relationships not already encompassed through regular classes or other groups/programs approved by the school. Mentoring relationships may occur on or off campus, during school or outside of school hours.

Anyone teacher who mentors must come under the authority, permission, and screening of the Rosslyn Chaplain Department and the appropriate Principal. No one associated with the school may mentor a Rosslyn Academy student without permission from the appropriate Principal (in conjunction with the Chaplain and Child Safety Office). The Chaplain department will monitor and provide accountability for the mentoring throughout the year. Any concerns or problems should be reported to both the Chaplain Department and the Principal.

For further information, please refer to the *Rosslyn Academy Mentoring Guidelines 2020*.

Chaperoning of Students on Field Trips, Overnight Trips, and School Activities:

When planning an event that requires chaperones or supervisors, it is important that the staff member organizing the event ensure that the guidelines set up in the *Rosslyn Academy Chaperone Guidelines 2020* be followed. Care should be taken to ensure that the number of chaperones for the event meets the appropriate ratio of chaperones to students:

- Chaperones for any event must consist of a minimum of two adults and meet the appropriate ratio of chaperones to students:
 - a. *All On-campus events:* 1:15
 - b. *Middle or High School Off-campus/Overnight events:* 1:10

- c. *Grades P to 3 Off-campus/Overnight events:* 1: 6
- d. *Grades 4-5 Off-campus/Overnight events* 1:8
- e. *All events involving water (e.g. swimming)*
 - Follow the above guidelines but need to take into consideration and make arrangements for (whenever possible) a chaperone with lifeguarding qualifications if there will be no official lifeguard at the pool. Otherwise, please follow the hosts recommendations and be extra vigilant in supervising students.

Additionally, all chaperones, including parent and volunteer chaperones will need to complete the following steps *prior* to chaperoning an event:

- a. Attend a Child Safety training (or view the video)
- b. Sign and turn in the Rosslyn Academy Code of Conduct
- c. Complete and turn in the Rosslyn Academy Staff & Volunteer Information Form.

For more information, please see the full *Chaperone Guidelines*.

Private Lessons:

Private lesson rooms are equipped with cameras to ensure accountability for the one-to-one interactions. Additionally, the private lessons application allows for parents of younger kids to request the gender of the private lessons teacher based on the comfort level of parents.

After School Activities:

Except for school-sponsored activities, Rosslyn Academy does not provide any other direct supervision after the regular bus leaves campus (normally by 3:50 p.m.). Any students on campus who are not in a school activity after 3:50 p.m. are the responsibility of their parents (for exceptions, see “Activity Bus” and “Use of Facilities”). Students who stay after school should be in a supervised activity. All students who stay after school should stay in the designated areas (by the gym, sports fields, pool, or media center) or in their assigned location for their after school activity. Students should not be wandering down by the nature trail or residential housing areas.

Parents and students should note the times for the Activity Bus. Students who are not picked up or riding the Activity Bus will wait at the gate under the supervision of the security guards. This is a location that has security cameras and provides the most security for students. When a student has not been picked up, does not have a cell phone or is unable to reach their parents, the security guards will call the school administrator for help in notifying parents.

Closed Campus:

Rosslyn Academy is a closed campus. After students enter in the morning they are not permitted to leave campus unless a parent/guardian/authorized driver comes to the office and signs their child out. Leaving campus without permission is considered a major violation.

If a parent wishes their child to leave campus during the day other than through the procedure described above, a phone call/written note to the school principal is required.

Security and Emergency Procedures

Threatening or emergency situations could arise, which may require concealment or evacuation of students and staff from particular buildings or from the campus proper. In a situation such as this, quick, calm, and orderly action is required, which is why Rosslyn regularly practices evacuation, intruder, and fire drills. Classroom teachers will train students in the procedures used for these drills. Visitors on campus during a drill will be expected to participate. In the event of the situation, a communication officer will be designated who will contact parents (via the SMS Blast). Parents will be notified of a designated spot to pick their students up from once the campus has been secured.

Overview of School Specific Child Safety Program & Procedures:

Elementary School:

Outline of Child Safety Program

The Elementary child safety program follows the Second Step Child Safety Curriculum. The Elementary Counselor pushes into the classes each year to provide child safety lessons on Recognize, Refuse, Report. The curriculum also covers areas such as personal safety, assertiveness skills, and the touching rule. In addition to the classroom lessons, the Elementary counselor also provides parents with additional resources and links that supplement the program at school.

Playground Guidelines

For Elementary students, the key word on the playground at all times is adequate supervision. School day supervision begins before school starts at 8:00 a.m. All rules apply to playground usage at all times:

1. Students are to obey the teacher on duty.
2. The lower court and play area are for Grades 1-3. Students in Grades 4-5 are to use the upper court area and adjacent playing field. Kindergarteners and preschoolers have their own playground.
3. Only one person is permitted per swing. Swinging sideways and standing up are not acceptable.
4. Students are not to stand on slides or see-saws.
5. Monkey bars and jungle gyms have been constructed for climbing. Students are not to climb on fences, trees (the elementary climbing tree is an exception), buildings, walls, etc.
6. General wrestling or chicken fighting is not permitted.

7. Only balls are to be thrown. Rocks, sticks, etc. are not to be thrown.
8. Students are not to ride any wheeled items on the sidewalks at any time.

Child Safety Guidelines Related to Elementary Clubs

Elementary Club teachers will need to complete the child safety training by watching the video or attending a training and signing the Code of Conduct. The director of Elementary Clubs and Elementary Principal are responsible for ensuring that each teacher has adequately met the training requirements. Additionally, club teachers will be reminded to call the Nurse on duty for any physical injuries and to notify the administrator in charge and/or Child Safety Officer of any other child safety related issues. Care will be taken to ensure the principles of accountability, avoiding isolation, and maintaining appropriate levels of balance of power are maintained through adequate supervision of the program and the teachers as well as thoughtfully placing clubs in places that increase accountability.

Bathroom Procedures

The guiding principle is that staff members should not do things for a student that a student can do for themselves. Teachers work to encourage students to be more independent in areas of hygiene and self-care.

Swimming & Changing Rooms:

Parents are encouraged in the letter to parents during the swim unit to send their student to school with loose fitting swimsuits and clothes on swim days that are easy for students to get on and off themselves. For younger students, who may need more direct help, the female Teacher Assistants or swim coaches will go into the female changing rooms to help the girls; while the male Teacher Assistants or swim coaches can help the males. Again, the guiding principle is that staff members should not do things for a student that a student can do for themselves.

Lap Swim times will end with enough time for swimmers to clear the locker/changing rooms prior to students arriving and changing for their class. Lap Swimmers should not be changing in the changing rooms at the same time as students.

Middle School & High School:

Outline of Child Safety Program - Middle School:

The Middle School child safety program generally follows the Second Step Health social emotional learning curriculum with some additional child safety specific information provided through health classes, activity periods, and homerooms. Focus is on issues that pertain to friendship/relationships, physical development, bullying/cyber-bullying, and technology.

Outline of Child Safety Program - High School:

The Child Safety program in high school is designed to equip high school students with skills related to maintaining good physical and mental/emotional health as well as covering topics related to their safety both physically and relationally. Specific topics related to mental health and relationships is covered in the following:

- 9th Grade Fitness & Health class
- SEL Program that covers mental and emotional health, skills for regulating emotions, problem solving, managing conflicts and interpersonal relationships. Other topics include training for technology, substance abuse, child safety issues (including personal security tips), and harassment.

Child Safety Guidelines for Drama & Theater Program:

Safety throughout Rosslyn's programs is a priority for Rosslyn staff and administration. Every effort is made to provide a safe environment. Rosslyn Academy staff and volunteers participating in the Drama and Theater program should be following the child safety policy and code of conduct, which indicates that staff, coaches, and volunteers should be cognizant to decrease isolation, increase accountability measures, and be aware of the appropriate balance of power. All staff and volunteers should have attended a child safety training for that year or watched the video and signed the Code of Conduct. Additionally, they should also take care to abide by the following:

- An approved adult should be on location to supervise students at all times.
- No dating relationship is allowed between a minor-aged cast member and an adult staff member.
- Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Unless it is part of the staging directions for the show, cast members and crew should not be running or engaging in "horseplay" at any time.
- Those involved in the shows and rehearsals must stay in designated areas during rehearsals, before shows, and during intermission. Leaving the designated area is only allowed with permission of the supervising adult.
- Students will not be allowed backstage during shows that they are not participating in.
- Students should not be leaving campus during designated rehearsal and show times or taking anyone with them without permission of the supervising adult.

Child Safety Guidelines for Sports Program:

R.A. coaches should be following the child safety policy and code of conduct, which indicates that staff, coaches, and volunteers should be cognizant to decrease isolation, increase accountability measures, and be aware of the appropriate balance of power.

Additionally, they should also take care to abide by the following:

- An approved adult should be on each vehicle that is going to a location for an official athletic event. This includes the Fan Bus.
- All students must sit in a seat with a seatbelt. Only coaches and referees will be allowed to sit in the jump seats.

- Student's will not be allowed to Uber from the location of the sports event home unless they have verbal or written permission from the parents to the coach in charge. They should be picked up by either their parents or ride on the designated school vehicle to the pick up location.
- All buses and vans are fitted with forward and rear facing cameras for additional safety.
- When able the school will attempt to partner coaches of the same gender to appropriate teams as well as balance volunteer coaches with a staff member.
- Outside referees have been asked to use the Adult/Staff Bathrooms for changing or to use the changing rooms only once all teams have taken to the field.
- When athletic teams attend tournaments outside of the country, care will be taken to ensure there is an appropriate number of chaperones and that there is an appropriate gender balance of chaperones attending the event.
- Parents or non-staff members will not be allowed to work-out with students during PE/Sports classes.

Outline of Staff, Volunteers, Coaches, & Private Lessons Child Safety Training

Staff receive child safety training at the start of their initial contract and receive ongoing training yearly. The outline of training for staff, volunteers, coaches, and private lessons child safety training is as follows:

New Staff - New Staff receive an hour of child safety training during New Staff Orientation week. This training is for both the new direct and local hire professional staff and for the direct hire spouses. It encompasses an overview of the child safety definitions, protocols, code of conduct, and reporting procedures.

Ongoing Staff Training - The professional staff members receive ongoing staff training for an hour during every full staff orientation. This training focuses on targeted areas of focus including: reporting measures, balance of power, case studies, etc... and any changes to the program.

Administration Training - Administration will undergo ongoing training both through the full staff orientation week but also through a yearly video training targeted towards topics relevant to the administration: recruitment and interviewing, understanding of the levels of discipline, and further understanding their role in the child safety process.

Volunteers, Coaches, & Private Lessons Teachers - Volunteers, coaches and private lesson teachers will attend a yearly training offered both in the Fall and the Spring Semesters for the onboarding of new and old volunteers and coaches. In lieu of this training, volunteers, coaches, and private lesson teachers may also watch the annual video training (if available) and then sign the code of conduct prior to interacting with students.

Support Staff - Support Staff will attend an annual training on the overview of child safety as related to their positions. This training is held by the Human Resources Department at the start of the school year.

Child Safety Team - The child safety team will be provided the opportunity of ongoing training through attending the annual seminars held by the Child Safety & Protection Network.

Overview of Rosslyn's Bullying & Harassment Policy:

Rosslyn Academy is committed to a safe and comfortable educational environment for all students. We are committed to creating and maintaining a safe learning and work environment in which all persons who participate in school programs and activities can do so in an atmosphere free from all forms of bullying, harassment and intimidation.

“Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, when the intentional written, verbal, or physical act:

- Physically harms a student or damages the student's property; or
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; or
- Is severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Sexual harassment is different from flirting, playing around, or other types of behavior that one might enjoy or welcome. It can take the form of requests for sexual favors or unwelcome sexual behavior that makes one feel uncomfortable, scared, or confused. This can take the form of verbal, physical, or visual harassment.

Bullying, harassment, and intimidation occur when a person or group is intimidated, frightened, excluded or hurt by a pattern of recurrent behaviors directed at them by others. It may include setting up humiliating or insulting experiences. This can take many forms including verbal, physical aggression, emotional, and cyber-bullying.

The administration and staff of Rosslyn Academy will make every reasonable effort to create a supportive, non-coercive school environment. Bullying and harassment will not be tolerated and is the basis for discipline up to and including dismissal from school. Rosslyn is prepared to take action to prevent and correct any violations of this policy. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of enrollment or dismissal of employment. Harassment between employee/adult volunteer and student, student and student, and adult/student are all prohibited under this policy.

Students who feel that they have been subjected to conduct of a harassing nature and individuals who observe conduct of a harassing nature are encouraged to promptly report the matter to the Child Safety Officer via the school's Concerns Referral Form which can be found on the school's website and is sent to students, parents, and teachers at the beginning of the year. Employees/volunteers who are aware of conduct of a harassing nature are required

to report the matter to one of the school officials. All complaints will be promptly investigated.

If a student's personal device (phone, tablet, computer, etc) is used in a manner that violates policies and/or compromises student safety, security, and well-being, or if their use violates Kenyan law in any way, Rosslyn reserves the right to confiscate and to search the device.

Overview of Rosslyn's At-Risk Behaviors Policy:

Rosslyn Academy recognizes that depression and self-destruction are problems of increasing severity among children and adolescents. A student who suffers the psychological disability of depression cannot benefit fully from the educational program of the schools, and a student who has attempted self-harm poses a danger both to himself/herself and to other students.

Rosslyn Academy further acknowledges that all staff members have the responsibility to help keep students safe and to intervene when students exhibit any warning signs of suicide. The school, therefore, charges all personnel to be alert to the student who exhibits signs of unusual depression or who threatens or attempts suicide. Any such signs or the report of such signs from another student or staff member should be taken with the utmost seriousness.

Suicidal behavior is defined as any deliberate action that has a potentially life-threatening consequence. The intent of suicide can be communicated verbally: written or orally, or behaviorally.

Non-Suicidal Self-Injurious Behaviors are defined as any behavior that is deliberate, repetitive, impulsive, non-lethal harming of oneself. It is also referred to as self-mutilation, self-harm, or self-abuse.

Self-injurious behaviors may include: Cutting, Scratching, Burning, Punching self or objects, Bruising or breaking bones, some forms of hair pulling.

Reporting Procedures:

If a parent, student, or teacher is concerned about the safety of another student or themselves due to the risk of self-harm or suicidal ideation, they can report the concern by using the Concerns Referral Form that is located on the website and provided to parents, teachers, and students at the beginning of the year. Any time a staff member encounters a situation in which a student appears to be contemplating suicide or becomes aware of a student who has made reference to suicide, either verbally or in writing (i.e., poetry, journal entries, etc.) the following

If the student poses an immediate threat to themselves or others, the staff member will not leave the student alone and will notify the Principal and the Counselor immediately. If the student has already engaged in a behavior that is threatening to their life, the Student Health

and Wellness Center should be notified immediately, in addition to the Principal and Counselor.

Child Safety Policy - Technology

Introduction

The Internet allows for access to information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For schools (public and nonpublic), online capabilities not only create an entry to a vast amount of resources but also facilitate distance learning and collaboration between classes and students in different locations. Along with the benefits the Internet brings come costs such as new threats to students.

Some protections for children online are provided by Kenya and the United States laws and regulations, such as the Kenya Data Protection Act (2019) and the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). While these laws and regulations may help prevent students from accessing inappropriate content on the Internet, this will not protect students from the full range of online threats. To help address these, information is provided below on the most common online threats facing students and what schools can do before, during, and after an incident.

Online Threats to Students

As well as the threats that all users face when going online, such as computer viruses and email scams, students are at risk from the following:

- **Cyberbullying.** Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices such as cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through SMS, text, and mobile applications (apps) or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else, causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyberbullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behavior.
- **Inappropriate Content.** Adolescents and children can unintentionally come into contact with inappropriate content, such as sexually explicit material. Unsolicited obscene materials can also be received electronically.
- **Sexting.** Sexting is the sharing and receiving of sexually explicit messages and nude or partially nude images via text messages or apps. Sexting, while commonly occurring off school grounds, also occurs on school property, with the content being sent and viewed on cell phones. Of note is that possession of sexually explicit photos received by sexting can be considered a type of possession of child pornography from a legal perspective.

- **Sextortion/Ransomware.** Students may also become victims of sextortion, possibly via ransomware, if they engage in sexting. Sextortion occurs when someone threatens to distribute private and sensitive material if not provided with images of a sexual nature, sexual favors, or money. Ransomware is a particular form of computer malware in which perpetrators encrypt users' files, then demand the payment of a ransom for users to regain access to their data. Ransomware can also include an element of extortion, in which the perpetrator threatens to publish data or (possibly sexually explicit) images if the victim does not do what the perpetrator wants, such as providing nude photos.
- **Oversharing.** Personal information that is sometimes shared by students includes their name, age, address, phone number, and personal identification numbers.
- **Online Predation.** Online predators put victims through “the grooming process,” a series of steps by which they build the victim’s trust by sympathizing with him or her or feigning common interests, after which they proceed to set up a face-to-face meeting with the victim and then move forward with manipulation and seduction.

Preparing for Online Threats to Students

Before an Incident

Rosslyn Academy has implemented several cyber policies and procedures to help keep students safe from online threats. Below is a sample of Rosslyn’s safeguards for students while they are online on campus and at home.

Acceptable User Policies (AUPs)

Rosslyn Academy has developed an AUP, also known as an Acceptable Use Policy before students are allowed to access the Internet at school via a school device or the student’s personal device. A copy of the most recent version of Rosslyn’s AUP is signed each year by both parents and students using Rosslyn’s internet or computers.

Filtering and Blocking Content

Rosslyn employs a number of hardware and software filters in order to provide an acceptable level of filtering and blocking inappropriate content. Teachers and staff can help determine what sites should be blocked. Regular audits are conducted to ensure that appropriate online educational material can still be accessed and to determine if blocked sites should remain blocked.

Digital Citizenship

Rosslyn has adopted a comprehensive curriculum where students develop skills on what it means to be a responsible digital citizen as part of a broader strategy of promoting a positive school climate. Our digital citizenship curriculum includes topics such as privacy and

security, relationships and communication, cyberbullying and digital drama, digital footprints and reputation, self-image and identity, information literacy, and creative credit and copyright citing.

Education and Training

Rosslyn develops student, teacher, and parent training about online safety and data protection.

During and After an Incident

Students also need to be aware of what to do if they are a victim of an online threat, cyberbullying, or any other instance of inappropriate behavior. They can be encouraged to report threats to a teacher, a school counselor, or another trusted adult. Rosslyn's Counseling Department has also provided an anonymous Google Form for students, parents, and teachers to report any kind of online threat or inappropriate behavior. If somebody is in immediate danger or a crime may have been committed, students, teachers, and staff should contact the school resource officer, police officer, or local law enforcement.

Rosslyn Academy's Technology Use and Standards for Students

Rosslyn strives to provide state-of-the-art technology to its staff and students. This technology includes ready access to computers and software, use of the Internet, e-mail, usage of the campus network, and other hardware and systems. This worldwide forum of informational resources available through the Rosslyn system is to be used for educational purposes. Information Technology (IT) use is a privilege, not a right.

We expect all persons using Rosslyn technology and systems to exercise the highest level of respect for themselves, others, equipment/systems, and copyright laws. Failure to comply with the written policy as indicated below and to use the systems of technologies at the school in a respectful manner will result in loss of use of the system and /or additional consequences.

THERE SHOULD BE NO EXPECTATION OF—NOR ANY RIGHT OF—PRIVACY. ROSSLYN ACADEMY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MONITOR ANY AND ALL COMPUTER USAGE INCLUDING GMAIL, GOOGLE DRIVE, AND INTERNET USAGE LOGS.

The school may discipline students for inappropriate content or communication on the school's devices, on their personal devices, or on their personal social media accounts if the school administrator feels the student's actions do not reflect the values of the school, violates Child Safety policies, and/or are creating an unsafe learning environment at Rosslyn Academy.

Internet Guidelines

Persons using the system are individually responsible for the material they use, send, and receive. The network is reviewed and monitored. Unfortunately, there are ways the system can be abused. There are modes of use that are not educational. There is information available (via e-mail and the internet) that is not appropriate in our setting as an educational institution, especially as a school that looks to honor God. System users must use the technology appropriately, wisely, educationally, and honorably.

While on the school campus, during school hours, students must only use the school-provided internet via Wifi or a network connection. Students may not use personal hotspots since they circumvent the content filtering provided by the school.

The following topics are not considered educational in nature and do not belong in our school setting. This is not an exhaustive list. Students that include the listed items in their technology use or fail to follow the guidelines in this contract use will lose their technology privileges and be subject to consequences as outlined in the Student Handbook. The following is a partial list of unacceptable or non-educational topics/sites/activities:

- Pornography or obscene material
- Cyberbullying
- Music and movie sites
- Gambling
- Teacher\other User files or folders
- Sites for cheating, plagiarizing work or manipulating papers to avoid plagiarism detection software
- Security/hacking
- Torrenting
- Sites dedicated to violence, hatred, racism, terrorism, or weapons

Students must browse responsibly. With over 200 computers on the network, our bandwidth can easily become saturated. Our Internet connection must be reserved for education purposes. Personal browsing should be done from home.

Email Guidelines

Individuals are responsible for the mail maintained, sent, or stored in their account, as well as the material received while using the Internet. This means that system users will make sure the material and mail they receive/have is decent, appropriate, educational, and will in no way harm the system or its software. E-mail may be accessed before/after school, during breaks, and at lunchtime. Students are not to use their email accounts during class time, including study hall unless preapproved and/or for a school purpose.

Personal responsibility for actions and messages is mandatory; anonymity is not permitted, nor is representing another at log-on or in correspondence. All mail must reflect the sender's account identification. Using someone else's account, password, or someone else's email is not permitted. Violations of system security must be reported, as well as abuses of the system.

Mass mailings to general audiences, chain mail, email tag, spam, and chat are not included in the heading of "educational purposes" and are not allowed. Personal information should never be given or revealed to unknown parties on email, web pages, or the Internet.

Each student is allotted a certain amount of server storage space to keep school-related files and documents. The storing of non-school-related music files (MP3s), video clips, and programs of any type on the school's servers or workstation hard drives is not allowed. Saving files to any location other than the personal storage space provided is strictly forbidden. Individuals who fail to comply with these limits will lose the privilege of having storage space on Rosslyn servers.

Network and mailbox password changes are to be made by the I.T. department. Rosslyn Academy assumes no liability for problems, damages, or prosecution that result from e-mail or Internet use; these risks are assumed by individual users.

Student's Personal Technology Guidelines

General Guidelines

Rosslyn Academy's desire is for its students to be 21st-century learners who can utilize technology with Christ-like attitudes and behaviors. Rosslyn has a responsibility to its students and parents to provide and maintain a spiritually, physically, emotionally, and socially safe learning environment for all students. The school may take proactive measures to maintain a safe environment when it comes to students' personal devices and social media presence.

- Students are responsible for safeguarding their personal technology while at school.
- Students are responsible for all of the content that is on their personal devices.
 - If the school receives a report of inappropriate content or communication (bullying/sexting) between students using a personal device, the school may confiscate the device and return it to parents.
 - Parents will be notified of the report and the principal may request permission to search the device for inappropriate content or communication.

- The school's search parameters will only pertain to specific applications or content that was reported. The school will not search other areas of the device for other inappropriate content.
- Parent permission will be acquired if the school's search of the device leads to other areas (apps or content) that point towards other areas of inappropriate content or communication

The school may discipline students for inappropriate content or communication on their personal devices or on their personal social media accounts if the school administrator feels the student's actions do not reflect the values of the school, violates Child Safety policies, and/or are creating an unsafe learning environment at Rosslyn Academy.

Personal Computers

High School students are required to bring a personal computer to use for school purposes. MS and ES may bring a personal computer to school for school purposes as a part of their IEP or 504 plan or with special permission from the principal for a clear curricular purpose.

Students must have an updated antivirus program installed on their computers.

Cell Phones

Students may carry cell phones but are not allowed to use them during class time as they are a distraction to the educational process, however, Rosslyn does acknowledge their usefulness for communication and security purposes and for limited educational purposes within the classroom. The guidelines for how students can interact with their cell phones and other technology devices is specific to each school:

1. Elementary School - In general, electronic devices from home, including MP3 players, iPods, phones, laptops and tablets, may not be brought to elementary school. If parents need for their children to carry phones for after-school use, they must be kept turned off and put away between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm. The school will not be responsible for the loss or theft of phones or other devices. They may use them during the school day (8:00 3:30) only with specific teacher/supervisor permission. Mobile phones are expected to be turned off during class time. If a call comes in during the school day (in or outside of class time) OR the phone is used by the student, the phone will be taken by the teacher. Please see the specific school handbook for information regarding discipline for breaking these rules.
2. Middle School - **All cell phones must be turned into the MS offices between 8:00-8:25am every day.** Cell phones are not allowed in backpacks, lockers, or on a student at any time during the school day. Students may have access to their phone to make calls or recall information with permission from a teacher or the MS Administrative Assistant. Other devices such as MP3 Players, iPods, E-Readers, Tablets, Laptops & Computers may not be used between 8:30am and the end of school without permission from a teacher or principal or

as allowed by a student's IEP. Please see the specific school handbook for information regarding discipline for breaking these rules.

3. High School - Students may carry cell phones but are not allowed to use them during class time as they are a distraction to the educational process. Thus, student cell phones are to be turned off during class time. If a student's phone is ringing or being used during class time, the phone may be confiscated by the teacher and turned into the principal. Please see the specific school handbook for information regarding discipline for breaking these rules. time.

Students must be aware that they are responsible for all of the content that is on their cell phones. The general internet guidelines apply for student's cell phones as well (see above General guidelines for Personal Devices and Internet Guidelines).

Music

Playing music publicly by students is not permitted. This includes time before school, during lunch, and after school. An exception to this is music played in a classroom by the teacher or in the weight room. Music selections for classrooms and the weight room may not contain lyrics that are considered offensive to Christian values.

Social Media & Online Presence

Rosslyn Academy believes that social media and our online presence are very powerful tools and as Christians, we use these tools to point others towards Christ and His lordship over our lives. We encourage Rosslyn students to use these tools responsibly and with humility.

Resources for Rosslyn's Technology Policy:

Black Forest Academy - *Parent and High School Training Materials*

Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA)

Center - *Cyber Safety for Schools Fact Sheet*

Kenya Government - *Kenya Data Protection Act (2019)*

United States of America Government - Federal Communications Commission - *Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) (2000)*

Summit Christian Academy - *Summit Christian Academy Social Media Policy* - Cedar Park, TX

Rosslyn's Position on Human Sexuality

(Updated May, 2024)

In order to help bring clarity to our community of parents, students, and staff, please see the following statements regarding Rosslyn's position on human sexuality issues. These statements arise from Rosslyn's understanding of biblical teaching that is consistent with the beliefs and values of Rosslyn's three sponsoring agencies.

- As an important starting point, Rosslyn believes that all people are created in the image of God and therefore have dignity and value. We are called to love as we show compassion, kindness, respect, and care toward one another (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes are not aligned with Rosslyn's beliefs and are subject to our normal disciplinary procedures on bullying and harassment.
- Rosslyn understands Biblical teaching on God's design for human sexuality to mean abstinence before marriage, and monogamous, heterosexual, marital relations.
 - Rosslyn recognizes that there are a variety of sexual thoughts and actions that are not part of God's good design for sex (including sexual activity between unmarried persons or persons of the same sex, adulterous relationships, and viewing of pornography). We recognize that we may all experience temptation in these areas and yet, God calls us to purity and self-control (1 Cor 6:19-20; 1 Cor 10:13; 2 Peter 1:5-9.) Rosslyn actively teaches and encourages people in our community to live according to the healthy boundaries clearly expressed in the Bible (Gen 2:18-25, Leviticus 18, Matt 15:18-20; Matthew 19:4-6; 1 Cor 6:9-10,18; 1 Cor 7:2-5; Heb 13:4.)
 - Rosslyn's theological convictions on issues of human sexuality lead to certain behavioral expectations within our community that align with reasonable parameters based on our understanding of healthy relationships. Some of these areas include but are not limited to:
 - Abstaining from any type of inappropriate sexual activity.
 - Refraining from inappropriate romantic public displays of affection.
- Rosslyn understands that God created two distinct biological sexes and that gender is determined by biological sex (Gen 1:26-27; Matthew 19:4).
 - Rosslyn recognizes that some people may experience either a temporary or long-term non-alignment between their biological sex/gender and their subjective gendered experience (what is often called gender dysphoria.) Rosslyn's theological convictions on the

issue of gender identity lead to certain behavioral expectations within our community that align with reasonable parameters related to biological sex. Some of these areas include but are not limited to:

- Using pronouns that are consistent with biological sex
 - Adhering to dress code in a way that reasonably aligns with biological sex
 - Using washrooms according to biological sex
 - Participating in single-gender sports teams according to biological sex.
- We recognize that there may be some in our community who experience same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria, and we encourage those individuals to pursue a deep relationship with Christ and an orthodox understanding of the Bible's teachings on sexuality and gender identity. As a community, we do not affirm unbiblical sexual temptation or activity, nor do we affirm thinking or behavior linked to a belief that one's gender and sex are unaligned. We aim to show compassion to the greatest extent possible while balancing this with a need to prevent and avoid harm to self and others.
 - Because we want to help our students navigate the many issues in our world, Rosslyn aims to create an environment where students can discuss issues of sexuality and gender with our trusted and caring staff in a way that aligns with Rosslyn's Core Tenets and our school's policies, including our policies on confidentiality. Conversations about gender and sexuality could be discussed in health classes, discipleship groups, homerooms, and other contexts in age-appropriate ways. Rosslyn's Counselors and Chaplains are a helpful resource for any students who may need additional social, emotional, or spiritual support.
 - Because Rosslyn is a community built upon a healthy partnership between the school and parents:
 - Rosslyn recognizes the rights of parents to be well-informed about their child's experiences and personal wellness at school. We also know that some students will at times ask difficult questions or express a need for support at school in the hopes that their parents might not be informed. Particularly in counseling settings, we explain to students that this confidentiality can be maintained unless there are ethical or legal requirements that limit confidentiality (i.e. student reveals information about harm to self or another person, student reveals information about abuse, or if the school's records are subpoenaed by courts.) We also encourage students to bring difficult questions and concerns to their parents directly whenever possible.

- Rosslyn is committed to listening and responding appropriately to concerns brought forward by parents related to the area of human sexuality within our community.
- Rosslyn hopes that parents will support the school's position on human sexuality and will have conversations at home in support of it. However, we recognize that not all Rosslyn families hold the same views expressed in this document. We are mindful of the autonomy of individual families to express their values and beliefs in the home. We also ask our parents and students, at a minimum, to respect Rosslyn's position and to not actively undermine the school's values and beliefs in other Rosslyn community contexts (at school, during school-sponsored activities, in community chat groups, etc.).
- If needed, Rosslyn will set appropriate boundaries and interventions for those in our community who may be actively seeking to undermine the Biblical values of the school or the principles expressed in this position statement.