

**TWIN FALLS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**  
**798 EASTLAND DRIVE NORTH**  
**TWIN FALLS, IDAHO**  
**733-1452**

**Elementary—High School**  
**Handbook**

**Mission Statement**

**The mission of Twin Falls Christian Academy is to assist the Christian family and/or the Christian student by providing Bible-based, Christ-centered education that inspires each student to pursue excellence in leadership, moral character, academics, and service to others.**

**Mr. Brent Walker, Principal/Administrator**

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## **INTODUCTORY INFORMATION**

Twin Falls Christian Academy was first founded and opened its doors in the fall of 1975. Today, our accommodations include a multi-purpose building with an auditorium and stage, a gym, classrooms for Senior High, music rooms, a large playground, library, and several elementary classrooms.

Twin Falls Christian Academy, a ministry of Grace Baptist Church, is a clean, modern facility with a well-trained Christian staff, dedicated to the worship of our Lord Jesus Christ and the training of young Christians. Ours is a traditional type of school which emphasizes sound Biblical discipline, character training, and high standards in academics.

### **PURPOSE**

Our school board, administration, and teachers are dedicated to the purpose of providing the highest possible educational standards with the following three-fold emphasis:

1. To train your child to love and respect the Word of God. Because we believe the Bible to be the foundation stone of truth, every child will be taught a Bible course daily by born-again Christian teachers. The philosophy of life as taught by the Word of God will permeate all aspects of the child's learning and daily school activity.
2. To instill into your child standards for living which are noble and pure and include, among other things: a respect for the rights and property of others, love of country, obedience to law, self-discipline, and the importance of the individual.
3. To give your child the finest in academic training. The growth of the intellect is a part of education just as is the development of character and soul.

Twin Falls Christian Academy is primarily for those people who are interested in training up their children in the way they should go, according to Proverbs 22:6. It should also be the desire of each student to be trained in the same manner (II Tim. 2:15)

An important aspect of this training is the teaching of biblical standards of separation, discipline, behavior, and morality. It is an important part of education at Twin Falls Christian Academy to teach our young people to live lives that will glorify God according to I Cor. 10:31.

The Bible teaches that it is important that all Christians learn to live God-honoring lives (Matt.5:16). Since this is a part of our teaching endeavor (Col. 1:28), we will expect our students to observe the following code:

1. Respect and support the purposes, standards, beliefs, and spirit of Twin Falls Christian Academy (James 3:16; Matt. 12:25).
2. Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and chemicals or any similar devices that would be harmful to your health and Christian testimony. (I Cor. 6:19, 20).
3. Be supportive of our position and teaching against the harmful effects and influences of pornography and obscene literature.

Students are expected to abide by these standards throughout their enrollment. We believe that within this atmosphere of definite and positive Christian standards, good scholastic planning, and personal interest between faculty, students and parents, we have a fine opportunity for the development of strong Christian character (Eph. 4:14).

## **SOCIAL INFORMATION**

Attendance at Twin Falls Christian Academy is a privilege, not a right. Anyone, therefore, who is not willing to cooperate with the standards or objectives of this institution will be dismissed. As a private institution, Twin Falls Christian Academy reserves the privilege of setting and maintaining its own standards of students conduct, dress, cleanliness, and scholarship. The school maintains the right to refuse admittance to anyone it so chooses, and to suspend or expel anyone who is not willing to cooperate with the program or whose parents choose a lifestyle that is blatantly opposed to the dictates of God's Word and this institution.

The administration shall determine, without override, when and how to discipline offenders of both written rules and objectives of this institution. Along these lines, the Academy reserves the right to examine lockers, desks, or personal belongings.

Our desire is to develop spiritual character in the lives of our students. Of course, accepting Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord and Savior is the first prerequisite (John 1:12). The next step is to surrender control of their lives to the Holy Spirit (Rom. 12:1 & 2). This being accomplished, we can begin to teach godliness and righteous living.

### **Sanctity of Human Life**

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps. 139.)

### **Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct**

The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Twin Falls Christian Academy's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our board is Twin Falls Christian Academy's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

### **Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality**

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen. 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10.)

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Twin Falls Christian Academy as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Twin Falls Christian Academy members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Twin Falls Christian Academy in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22.)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11.)

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Twin Falls Christian Academy.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### Administration

Principal/Administrator: Mr. Brent Walker  
Chancellor: Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church  
School Board: Deacons of Grace Baptist Church

### Dress Standards

Because the ultimate goal of a Christian is to glorify God (I Cor. 10:31), we must consider modesty and appropriateness of dress at all times. Our inner spirit is most noticeable in our countenance. Hence, our dress should draw attention to Christ's abiding love in our hearts.

It is the school's firm belief that Christian young people must dress and act differently than the world (I Peter 2:9). In order for students to mature spiritually, the teaching of Biblical principles is a vital part of the school's program. We expect our girls to look feminine and our boys to look masculine. We would appreciate the cooperation of parents in these matters.

### Elementary

Girls: Girls are allowed to wear dresses or pants any school day except Wednesdays. On that day dresses are required. Dresses need to be below mid-knee at all times. No sweats or tight, form-fitting pants are acceptable. Girls tops are to be kept at a modest neckline at all times and should be loose fitting and long enough to cover their mid-section, front and back.

Boys: Modesty in dress is also expected of boys. No necklaces, extremely tight trousers or shorts are allowed. Boys in grades 1-6 may wear denim jeans that are still in good condition and not faded. The same would apply to denim jackets. Any shirt made to be worn tucked in must be worn in this way. Pullover shirts are acceptable but not tank tops or shirts designed to be worn as underwear. Shirts with printing or writing on them should display good taste.

Boy's hair must be short and should not hang over the collar. Hair is to be neatly combed and cut so that it is no lower than the middle of the forehead. Faddish, non-uniform cuts, multi-colored styles, and hair sculpturing are not acceptable.

## Junior and Senior High

Girls: Girls are allowed to wear dresses or dress slacks any school day except Wednesdays. On that day dresses are required. Dresses need to be below mid-knee at all times. No denim, tight, or form-fitting slacks are acceptable. Girls' tops are to be kept at a modest neckline at all times so as to avoid any shadow of cleavage. Tops should be loose fitting and long enough to cover their mid-section, front and back. Undergarments should not be visible or evident under sheer material. Ear rings are to be kept to two per ear maximum. No bars, chains, gages, or anything that the administration considers garish is allowed.

Boys: Requirements for boys in junior and senior high would be the same as those for boys in elementary, except for the following:

1. Denim jeans of any color are not permitted at school or school-sponsored programs except for athletic events.
2. Beards or mustaches are not permitted.
3. All shirts need to have a fold over collar.

Anything the administration considers a fad or extreme such as tattoos and body piercing will not be permitted. Boys and girls are not permitted to dye their hair. All dress code standards are to be observed at any time the students are on the school grounds before or after the school day, or at any school sponsored event. It should be noted that the school faculty and administration will be the sole authority in determining what constitutes a violation of the dress standards.

Parents will be notified of inappropriate dress or appearance and will be given the necessary steps for correcting the problem and the amount of time allowed for correction.

## Admission

After an interview with the principal, students may be tentatively accepted at Twin Falls Christian Academy. Final acceptance would require receipt of application form and may also be contingent upon the result of testing, evaluation of previous school records, and the fulfillment of the admissions policy standards. No student shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.

## Attendance

Supervision is provided on our playground beginning thirty minutes prior to the opening of school. Inasmuch as no supervision is available before that time, students should not come to school before 8:00 a.m.

Students must stay on the school grounds from the time they arrive, even if the first period has not yet started. The doors open at 8:35; classes begin at 8:35 for 9th-12th grades and 8:45 for 1st-6th grades and end at 3:15. Please pick your children up by 3:45 as supervision ends at that time and they will be put into daycare with appropriate charges accumulating.

In order to gain the most from school, each student should be regular in attendance. Parents will be responsible for calling the school office before 9:00 a.m. on the day their child is absent and each succeeding day thereafter in order to keep the school up-to-date and properly informed. This is a precaution to protect all parties involved.

## Absences

All absences will be classified as either excused or unexcused. Some examples of excused absences are as follows:

1. Sickness of child.
2. Bereavement in immediate family.
3. Other reasons considered appropriate by the administration.

Any planned absence from school or any school activity where students are required to be, should first of all be cleared with the administration. Any school missed to participate in a salaried position will be unexcused. Schoolwork missed due to an excused absence may be made up without penalty; however, no credit will be given for homework or any tests missed during an unexcused absence; demerits will also be issued.

When a student returns after an absence, please send along a written excuse stating the reason. This will greatly aid the homeroom teacher in keeping accurate records. Make sure the excuse states the date, reason for absence, and proper signature.

If an occasion should arise making it necessary for the student to leave school early, the parents should notify the school office as early as possible. If you wish your child to stay after school or meet you at a different time, please call the office and make the proper arrangements.

If parents need to drop off items or pick up children during the school day, they need to stop by the office first. This will insure that classroom disturbances are kept to a minimum.

If at all possible, schedule your child's appointments for before or after school. If you wish to keep your child in from recess/P.E. for health reasons, or bring birthday treats, please send a note with your child to their homeroom teacher.

A student will be considered tardy at 8:45 a.m. Three unexcused tardies will be considered equivalent to one unexcused absence and all penalties will apply.

## Private Transportation

It is the policy of the school not to release a student to anyone other than the parents or their regular ride without permission. This is a precaution designed especially for the protection of the child. If there should happen to be a change in procedure, please notify the school office either by note or phone. The Academy does not provide bussing services; however, Trans IV does provide services but you must contact them privately to make arrangements.

## School Visits

All parents are welcome to visit the school at any time; however, if you plan to visit your child's classroom, please make the necessary arrangements in advance. Arrangements can be made by first calling the office.

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled at the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters. Feel free to set up any other conference times you feel are warranted.

## Telephones

The school phone in the office is for business only. Students calling out-of-area are required to call collect. Students may carry cell phones but may only use them during breaks and lunch time.

### Program Participation

Programs in which the students participate will be presented throughout the year. Because individual absences can affect the performance of the group as a whole, attendance at such functions (concerts, plays, etc.) is required and school policies regarding attendance at such will be enforced. The dates for these programs are given on the school calendar. **Appropriate school dress is required at all school activities.**

### Lunch Time

Twin Falls Christian Academy does not provide a daily hot lunch program. The concession stand is available to Jr. & Sr. High students.

### Library

A student library is provided as a service for our students. Books may be checked out for a period of two weeks. A fine of 5 cents a day will be charged for overdue books. Over due books may not be renewed. Proceeds from overdue books will go toward the library fund. Students will be charged for damaged or lost books.

### Personal Property

All personal belongings, lunch pails, removable clothing such as sweaters, jackets, boots, etc., should be plainly marked with the child's name. Twin Falls Christian Academy will not be held responsible for lost articles.

Any personal belongings found on the premises will be held in the school lost and found. Unclaimed articles will eventually be disposed of or given away.

### School Property

Our school facilities, equipment, and books represent an investment of the Lord's money. We would expect our students, therefore, to show respect for those things the Lord has provided. Students will be held responsible and charged accordingly for the destruction and misuse of any school property.

### Health Service

A sick room is provided for students who become ill at school. The school is not allowed by law to prescribe or give medicine on its own. If a student must take medicine during the school day, that medicine, along with the doctor's directions, should be given to the child's teacher as the student arrives at school.

Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or above will be considered sick and the parents will be notified.

The State of Idaho requires that each child be immunized. Failure to immunize prohibits school attendance.

The Academy does provide health or accident insurance for its students.

### Athletics

Long shorts, a modest T-shirt, and tennis shoes are standard P.E. dress.

Organized sports begin in Junior High. Uniforms are provided and practices are required. As “ambassadors of Christ” (II Cor. 5:20) we will expect our athletes to properly represent Jesus Christ in their personal testimony and attitudes during practice and game time. Anything said or done, especially during a game, will either bring reproach or praise to His name.

The State Athletic Board requires all participants of organized sports to have a physical examination prior to their first high school sport. These forms are kept on file in the school office.

### Student Drivers

Student drivers should park in the front parking lot, unless other privileges are granted. Once vehicles are parked in the morning, students are not permitted to return to them until they have been dismissed.

## **ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

High academic standards are a priority at T.F.C.A. Children need to be taught perseverance (Rev. 2:10), dependability (Prov. 20:6) and diligence (Phil. 3:14) in pursuing academic excellence. With the help of dedicated parents, our Christian staff hopes to fulfill this challenge.

### Elementary

The elementary program is primarily designed to develop learning skills in all basic subject areas, including daily Bible instruction.

The primary level, grades 1-3, constitutes the basic foundation of learning for every child. A child’s study habits, learning skills, and basic attitudes are being formed during these years. Our system of discipline engendered by Bible principles will help to provide the necessary skills and encouragement your child needs.

In the upper elementary, we seek to review, extend and reinforce what the child has learned during the foundation years. English, spelling, reading, math, science, history, and Bible are taught in grades 4-6.

Other important aspects of the elementary curriculum will include program participation, chorus, and physical education.

### Junior and Senior High

In order to further maintain high academic standards, Twin Falls Christian Academy insists that its students in junior and senior high continue to receive the best possible training in the basic concepts and skills of reading, English, mathematics, science, history, and Bible. Our curriculum will be confined primarily to academic courses to give the best possible preparation for colleges and universities.

Accreditation: All state required classes, health and safety standards are met. TFCA diplomas and credits are accepted at all colleges and universities. There have been a few local high schools who do not accept TFCA credits upon transfer at present. TFCA is presently at

candidate status for accreditation with ACSI and the state. Each student will be required to satisfactorily complete forty-six credits of work in order to graduate.

### Chapel Time

Twin Falls Christian Academy is a Christian school, therefore, the Word of God is held in high regard. Regular chapel time, therefore, is an important part of our curriculum, and all students are required to attend chapel services.

### Homework

Homework is an important part of Twin Falls Christian Academy's academic emphasis. It should always be done neatly, accurately, and on time. Homework is not to be regarded as busy work. It is to be given by classroom teachers for specific purposes. Students will be taught and held responsible to take note of any assignments given and to see that they are properly completed and turned in on time. Any student who fails to complete his assignment on time will be subject to lower grades.

Students who are absent must check with classroom teachers immediately upon returning to school, to get all assignments missed. Because of the importance of homework, we have developed a *late work policy* for the student.

Students will have as many days as they have been absent to turn in missed work and make up tests. After this the grade will be a zero. If extra time is needed due to unusual circumstances, the student is to make special arrangements with the teacher.

### Progress Reports

Student progress reports, in the form of green slips, will go out every third week during the year except at the end of each quarter when report cards are sent home. The purpose for these reports is to keep our parents and students up-to-date and properly informed as to the progress which is being made in academic achievement and character development.

All progress reports must be signed by the parents and returned to the teacher. Dates for issuance of Progress Reports are given on the school calendar.

### Grade System

Each student in grades 1-6 is evaluated in the following three areas:

1. **Academic Achievement:** A grade based upon the actual work done on homework, quizzes, tests, exams, etc.
2. **Academic conscientiousness:** A grade based upon the teacher's evaluation of student's behavior in regard to effort.
3. **Important Habits and Attitudes:** A grade based upon the teacher's evaluation of student's spiritual, social, and personal behavior.

Junior and senior high students will be evaluated only in the areas of academic achievement and academic conscientiousness. In each area of evaluation, grades are related to the school standard as follows:

100%.....A+	82-84.....C+
96-99....A	79-81.....C
93-95....A-	75-78.....C-
90-92....B+	73-74.....D+
87-89....B	70-72.....D
85-86....B-	68-69.... D-
0-67.....F	

### Honor Roll

At the end of each quarterly grading period, three separate honor rolls will be compiled: one for academic achievement, one for academic conscientiousness, and one for important habits and attitudes. Each honor roll will be made up of the following:

**‘A’ Honor Roll:** Students who have made all A’s and have received no less than a C average in any other areas of evaluation.

**‘B’ Honor Roll:** Students who have made all B’s or above, and have no less than a C average in any other area of evaluation.

### Demerits

The demerit system is a guide for discipline at Twin Falls Christian Academy. All demerit categories are predicated on Biblical definitions. The positive side of discipline is stressed according to Proverbs 22:6. Unfortunately, there is often a negative side to character development. Occasionally students must be punished. Our desire is not to hurt them, but to chastise them toward obedience.

The administration expects students at Twin Falls Christian Academy to be different and to maintain the highest standards of behavior at all times. Upon occasion the Administration may find it necessary to search a student’s locker, car, laptop, or cell phone in order to enact fair judgment.

Demerits for a student are recommended by the teacher or other school personnel to the administrator who will make the final decision as to whether the full amount of demerits will be issued. Many of the demeritable offenses apply whether they occur at school or not. The testimony and reputation of the school must be considered. Students receive demerits according to the written guide on page 16.

A student who accumulates more than twenty-five (25) in successive semesters may not re-enroll without approval of the administration. Parents will be immediately notified when a student receives demerits for any reason with a yellow demerit slip to be signed by them. Demerit status will also be indicated on report cards at the end of each quarter.

If the administration feels that demerits are not changing a student’s behavior, a paddling may be given in lieu of demerits or probationary requirements might be instituted.

### Dismissal

A student will be disenrolled from school when fifty (50) demerits are accumulated, or when they or their parents are found to be out of harmony with the rules and policies of the school. Students who are disenrolled from Twin Falls Christian Academy will not be considered for re-enrollment during the current semester and the one immediately following. Appeals may be made to the School Board after the current semester however.

### Prohibited Articles

Tobacco, alcoholic beverages, narcotics, playing cards or anything else that could be classified as being either harmful to the health, habit forming, or having the appearance of evil, as far as the Christian walk is concerned, is prohibited.

Knives, guns, matches, explosives of any type, or anything else that could be classified as dangerous, or a dangerous or deadly weapon is prohibited.

### DEMERIT CATEGORIES

<b>Improper Behavior</b>		<b>Willful Destruction of Property</b>	
2	First Offense	5	First Offense
3	Second Offense	10	Second Offense
5	Third Offense	15	Third Offense
10	Thereafter	20	Thereafter
<b>Vulgarity/Profanity</b>		<b>Unexcused Absence</b>	
5	First Offense	5	First Offense
10	Second Offense	10	Second Offense
15	Third Offense	15	Third Offense
20	Thereafter	20	Thereafter
<b>Cheating &amp; Lying</b>		<b>Stealing</b>	
10	First Offense	10	First Offense
15	Second Offense	15	Second Offense
25	Third Offense	25	Third Offense
<b>Disrespect for Authority</b>		<b>Fighting</b>	
10	First Offense	10	First Offense
15	Second Offense (plus 1 week suspension)	15	Second Offense (plus 1 week suspension)
25	Third Offense	25	Third Offense
<b>Smoking</b>		<b>Possession of Prohibited Articles</b>	
25	First Offense	10	First Offense
25	Second Offense	15	Second Offense
<b>Gross Immorality/Sexual Deviance</b>		25	Third Offense
50	First Offense	<b>Marijuana/Illicit Drugs</b>	
		50	First Offense

## **SCHOOL PLEDGES**

### 1. The American Flag

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands: One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### 2. The Christian Flag

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE to the Christian Flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands: one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again, with life and liberty for all who believe.

### 3. God's Holy Word

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path; I will hide its Word in my heart that I might not sin against God.

## **THE TFCA SCHOOL SONG**

Twin Falls Christian Academy  
This is the best school,  
The place we want to be.  
We serve the Lord,  
We stand for the right,  
For our Christian heritage  
We'll fight, fight, fight!  
Some trust in guns.  
Some trust in men.  
We trust in God,  
Our Savior and our friend.  
Doing our best  
For God and country,  
At the Twin Falls Christian  
Academy - - - RAH!

## SCHOOL VERSES

### Lower Elementary

II Timothy 2:15 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.”

### Upper Elementary

II Timothy 3: 16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

### Junior High

I Corinthians 10:31 “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

### High School

Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

### School Motto

Only one life,  
‘twill soon be past...  
Only what’s done  
for Christ will last.

### Concluding Statement

This handbook is provided for your convenience so that you can plan ahead and be more aware of what is expected in the days ahead.

The school and the home should endeavor to support one another. The faculty and staff of Twin Falls Christian Academy are not permitted to ridicule students' parents or their home rules in any way before the students. (Eph. 6:1-3) We would hope that parents, likewise, would make it a point not to ridicule teachers or school rules before their children. (Heb. 13:17)

It is our hope that each student, parent, and teacher will cooperate in a common effort to accomplish the goal of Christian education as set forth in this book. We would also ask that you would pray for your school on a regular basis and support it with your substance as the Lord would lead.

The Pastor, School Board, Administration and Faculty would like to welcome you and your child to Twin Falls Christian Academy. We pray God's blessings in the days ahead as we seek "to teach God's words diligently unto our children". Deut. 6: 6-7.

In Christ,  
Brent Walker  
Principal