



DELPHI ACADEMY[®] *of Florida*

Award-Winning Private School in Clearwater, FL

Parent & Student Handbook



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PHILOSOPHY

OUR MISSION

To make a better world by graduating young leaders who work for the greater good by creating the life they want to live and the world they want to live it in.

At Delphi, our mission is accomplished through our logo points. They are at the core of our school and are what sets us apart from other schools: Knowledge to competently work in life, Ethics to survive better, Integrity to view life honestly, and Leadership to accomplish all of your goals. Throughout our program, you will experience a greater understanding and application of each of the points. They are the foundation from which we launch education.

With our logo points in hand, our graduates are achieving:

- A high level of literacy, mathematical skills, and living skills.
- An ability to study independently and to continually further one's education.
- A practical understanding of academic subjects and their relevance to living an effective and meaningful life.
- A strong sense of personal integrity and ethics.
- A firm grounding in logic and data evaluation.
- Competent leadership, organizational skills, and communication skills.

The school owes a debt of gratitude to American philosopher and educator L. Ron Hubbard, whose extensive writings include many treatises concerning education and career preparation, as well as the development of responsibility and ethical strength. It was through the application of the ideas in these materials and the trial-by-fire of real classrooms that the philosophy of the school came to maturity.

TEAMWORK

An essential aspect of being a part of the Delphi community is teamwork and communication between the parent, school and student. On occasion, your family may experience what could be referred to as “weathering a storm”, where a child may run into something challenging at school. This is when the parent-teacher-student team must be stronger than ever and is needed the most.

Our dedicated faculty is here to help you and your children through any rough “weather” and get everyone back to sunny skies. If a situation arises, contact your child’s teacher first, as they will have the best understanding of what might be happening. If you need additional help, your School Director or the Dean can also assist. The fastest approach to any concern or challenge is directly with the school. We are here to help, so please reach out to us when needed.



A MESSAGE TO OUR STUDENTS

Becoming a part of the Delphi community will offer you many opportunities. Not only can you expect to get a rich academic education, but you will discover new interests, make lifelong friends, and accomplish things you never thought you could.

One of the things you will experience at Delphi is the importance of having a purpose for your study. Such a purpose enables you to evaluate the data you encounter and determine its usefulness to you. As you discover your purpose, you will work on projects and practical activities directly related to your goals. At Delphi, we balance studying, homework, and fun to support your overall advancement in your educational program. We want to help you get into life as soon as possible, and, with the Delphi program, you can determine how fast that happens.

Much of Delphi's success, and the success you will experience as a student here, is based on the team spirit of the school as a whole and the ability of everyone to work well together. We emphasize our logo points to help achieve that. Knowledge, Ethics, Integrity, and Leadership are the foundations of our school's moral code. You will learn a good deal about these concepts through seminars and courses. The Way to Happiness, The Ethics Book, and The Ethics & Integrity Handbook for Teens are courses and seminars that will broaden your perspective on how to navigate life at school, at home, and within all your groups. We value our logo points and what they represent, and we hope you will also come to incorporate them into your life.

Communication is another key aspect of being a student at Delphi. Our faculty is always available to help you. Your teacher or director is here to help you get the most out of your education and assist you with any challenges, and they also love to hear about your successes. We all work with the common goal of keeping our group strong, taking responsibility for ourselves and others, and keeping our agreements. Good communication is a part of successfully doing that. Always seek help from our faculty if you need it.

Finally, a note on manners. Good manners in communication with others are a basic requirement of our student body. This includes your teachers, directors, coaches, administration staff, and fellow students. We are all on the same team, working towards the same goal, so please treat others with kindness and use respect and manners in your communication.

We are excited to have you join our student body, and together, as a team, your education will be exceptional. We look forward to your journey!

A MESSAGE TO OUR PARENTS

When you enroll your child at Delphi, you have joined our team in educating your son or daughter. Together, we will embark on an exciting journey towards your child's graduation. You may have a very young child and think that it is a faraway goal, but that is the goal of education: to successfully launch your child into life.

Teamwork will depend on a good understanding of the school's educational methodology, expectations, policies, good communication, and the Delphi program. To help us stay aligned, we publish two essential documents for you to read annually. The first is this book, The Parent-Student Handbook, which contains information about our mission, student life, and the parent-school partnership, in addition to our school's moral, ethical, and disciplinary guidelines. The second is the school's Orientation Pack. This document is reissued annually and contains the school calendar, campus map, drop-off and pick-up information, lunchtime and food service details, attendance policy, school contact list, dress code, electronics policy, weather information, emergency protocols, and guidelines for illness. These are essential reads and should be consulted yearly, as many of your questions are answered within. It is vital to note that if you have a Preschool student who graduates and enters the Academy (Beginner 1 through High School), a separate Orientation book is available for your review.

Communication will be the cornerstone of maintaining our team's strength. Your teacher, director, your child, and you are all part of this core team. We are always available to you, and we encourage you to share any concerns or successes with us. We request that all communications be conducted with courtesy and respect. We share a common team goal of providing the best education for your child in a safe and supportive educational environment, and we are here to help.

School parent meetings can be requested at any time; however, we also have a required meeting at the beginning of every school year, as well as a parent orientation night. Both are crucial for aligning us to move forward as a team in each school year. Please do your best to attend, as changes to school procedures and policies will be covered. Knowing what to expect that year is a key component of your child's success.

When visiting the Delphi campus during the day, please check in at the office and obtain a visitor pass. This is essential to maintaining our school security.

EDUCATION

OUR PROGRAM GOAL

Delphi's goal is to have students truly "own" their education, which means taking a very *active* and *personal* role in it. Our curriculum is designed to help students reach full conceptual understanding of subjects.

We can take this approach by using L. Ron Hubbard's Study Technology as our foundation. Mr. Hubbard identified barriers to study that individuals face when trying to learn something new, but more importantly, he developed methods to overcome these barriers, which any person can apply. With these methods, Delphi students learn how to recognize when they don't understand something and what to do about it.

At Delphi, we refer to each level as a Form, and the abilities and knowledge the student acquires at each Form are mapped out in explicit graduation requirements. Forms provide specific goals along the educational road. Students can advance a Form at any time during the school year. This structure enables a student to progress to a higher Form regardless of the projected time it takes to complete the current Form. Below you will find our Age/Form structure.

Ages 2-3	Preschool
Age 4	Beginner 1
Age 5	Beginner 2
Age 6	Form 1
Ages 7-8	Form 2
Ages 8-9	Form 3
Ages 10-11	Form 4

Ages 12-14	Form 5
Ages 14-15	Freshman
Ages 15-16	Sophomore
Ages 16-17	Junior
Ages 17-18	Senior

The Delphi curriculum contains courses, both required and elective, designed to help students attain the graduation requirements of each Form and High School level.

Students will primarily work in a classroom environment but will transition to studying their courses independently in Forms 3 and above.

Our academic program is built around a comprehensive curriculum with over 350 courses covering the full spectrum of subjects, developed specifically for the Delphi curriculum. Many of the courses are required, but students also choose additional elements of their program based on personal interest. The curriculum includes many elective courses on a wide range of subjects and levels.

In addition to our rich academic program, a key goal in the Delphi Program is to help each student acquire a range of practical skills and abilities, through various enrichment activities, that they can use in life. The activities are designed to give students firsthand experiences that will improve their life skills, as well as cultivate interests in new areas. These activities complement the academic subjects and provide a well-rounded educational experience.

Preschool students participate in daily activities rich in art and music, as well as outdoor play.

Lower School students enjoy a variety of classes in art, crafts, music, woodshop, STEM (science, technology, engineering & math), and outdoor play/PE classes.

All students, from Elementary through High School, can choose from a wide variety of daily elective classes, which are selected quarterly based on student interest. Typically, these classes include woodshop, art, pottery, music, cooking, sewing/crocheting, gardening, computer & science labs. For High School students, this time may also be used to explore career interests or hone life skills through apprenticeships or projects.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued to parents for each term of the school year through your Blackbaud Parent Portal. For High School students, a transcript that will list the child's GPA and credits will be issued from the report cards upon graduation. The transcript is also available by request at any time during a child's High School enrollment. Please contact the High School Director with this request.

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Delphi has a very active Arts program. Our Arts program starts in the Lower School (Beginner 1 through Form 2) and continues up through High School.

Our Music program begins in the Lower School and focuses on cultivating a love for music by introducing the students to many different genres of music, and music history, as well as the basics of rhythm and song.

As a part of our Performing Arts program, students have the opportunity to perform in professional-level dramatic and musical shows each year, as well as various performances throughout the year. In addition to acting, dancing and singing, students can get involved in stage production, including set design & production, props & costumes, and stage management, including sound & lighting.



STUDENT RESOURCES

THE STANDARDS DIVISION

The Standards Division is a unique aspect of the Delphi Program® and significantly contributes to the program's success. The faculty from Standards work with students to ensure they are getting the expected results from their education, and when they are not, they will find and correct the situation. In Standards, students demonstrate competence after each course through examination, actual demonstration, or both. There is also a major review after every Form. The established standard is that every student has a usable understanding of the material studied and that learning is completed. Anything missed on the examination is sorted out before the student moves on to their next course or Form.

Occasionally, a situation arises with a student that requires help from the Ethics Department prior to resolving an academic difficulty. The student would then work with Ethics until they are ready to return to Standards.

AFTERNOON STUDY HALL

Afternoon Study Hall is an independent study time made available to students as a way to complete homework or other assignments or catch up. If the student is behind or on a tight schedule to complete his or her program requirements, Study Hall may become mandatory. Not attending the assigned Study Hall most likely will cause further academic backlog.

STUDENT PROGRESS REVIEW

Students who fall significantly behind in their academic work may be given a Student Progress Review. The purpose of the Progress Review is to review the student's progress in detail formally and to determine if the student should be placed on Academic Probation. If deemed necessary, the Progress Review must recommend the specific terms and expectations of the probationary period, which typically lasts three months. A student's invitation for re-enrollment may be dependent on performance during the probationary period.

GRADUATION AND BEYOND

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The school's standards for graduation from each Form, and from the complete program are maintained by requiring students to meet specific academic and practical graduation requirements. Each student's program will have been designed to help that particular student achieve these abilities. Please meet with your child's teacher to ensure that your child is on track to graduate from his or her program on time, review your child's program, and ensure any questions you may have regarding our program are answered.

COLLEGE AND DUAL ENROLLMENT

Students are encouraged to carefully consider college as a valuable resource for achieving their life and career goals. By the Freshmen/Sophomore level, students should have some idea about their plans for the future, and we encourage parents to begin having conversations in that direction. Our College and Career Advisor will coordinate with parents on the steps required for college or dual enrollment application. Although it is the responsibility of both parents and students to carry out these steps, Delphi will provide resources to help along the way. Student programs will be aligned to ensure students are well prepared for higher education. Dual enrollment is available for colleges offering the dual enrollment program in the area. Our program can launch your child into a field of entrepreneurship, university or trade school. If you are interested in more information, please contact the school's College Counselor.



ETHICS - SURVIVING WELL

ETHICS, GROUPS AND YOU

A significant benefit of being a student at Delphi Academy is being part of a community that is aligned toward thriving as an educational community, highly supportive of one another in this regard, and sharing a broad consensus about the importance of ethics and personal integrity. An understanding of the basics of ethics will help you maintain a high level of personal survival while being part of a group that can support you in achieving your goals.

In order for us to work together as a team towards maintaining our logo points, we recommend that you obtain *The Ethics Book* and/or *The Ethics & Integrity Handbook for Teens*. These books lay out the principles and tools for successful living, as well as the ethical and moral expectations of our student body.

Ethics consists simply of the actions one takes upon oneself to improve one's survival and success in all parts of one's life. It is a personal thing. When one is ethical, one is making decisions that have a positive effect on oneself and others.

Morals are the rules of good conduct laid down by a group. Your group is Delphi, and our group's moral code is evident in our school's logo points. Ethics, Integrity, Knowledge & Leadership are held in high regard at Delphi. The standard we hold actions to is whether an act is more constructive than destructive, more helpful than harmful, as it relates to our group's survival. Though ethics and morals are not the same, ethical conduct includes following the moral codes of the group.

When individuals fail to make ethical decisions or fail to follow the moral code of our group, a student may be seen by the school's director or an ethics committee.

When it comes to keeping our group strong, if there is a situation of an ethical or moral code misstep, we do expect our students to work with the school's director or ethics committee honestly and respectfully to resolve the issue.

Parents and students alike are expected to read and fully understand our school policies contained in the Orientation pack. If you do not have a current year pack, please request one from your child's teacher or visit our parent resources page on our website. In this pack, you will find the most updated attendance, lateness, dress code, electronics policies, and a note on teamwork. This pack, as well as your child's classroom guidelines, obtainable from your child's teacher, can keep us all tracking on what the basic student expectations are at Delphi.

LEVELS OF DISCIPLINE

At times, the school may apply the following levels of discipline to actions that break the school policies or classroom guidelines, or violate our moral code or the law.

Category 1 Level of Discipline

The teacher and/or school director handle Category 1 offences in conjunction with the parents. The student may be asked to review their behavior and sign an agreement regarding acceptable conduct. The student may be asked to look at their current condition in life and change it for the better. The student will be asked to work with not only the school to resolve any issue, but also with their parents. These actions are intended to help the student improve their behavior and become stronger members of the Delphi group. If a Category 1 offense is repeated or is of a higher magnitude, it will be reclassified as a Category 2 offense.

Offenses:

- Disturbing or being disruptive in any class
- Disturbing or being disruptive to other students
- Being discourteous to faculty or staff
- Falsely attesting to an academic step
- Neglect of the duties of a student service job
- Being disruptive while doing a student service job
- Lying or making false reports about another student or faculty member
- Misuse of AI to produce school work
- Teasing, taunting, or defamation of faculty or other students
- Falling 10 days behind academically due to neglect of studies
- Failing to attend an assigned study hall
- Contributing to a Category 2 offense
- Failing to report a Category 2 offense
- Impeding an ethics handling
- Repeated lateness to class
- Violation of the electronics policy
- Violation of the dress code policy
- Repeated violation of the class guidelines
- Misconduct leading to faculty intervention
- Intentional misuse or entry into a non-birth gender restroom

Category 2 Level of Discipline

Category 2 offenses are handled by the school director or the ethics committee, depending on the severity of the offense. Due to the nature of Category 2 offenses, an on- or off-campus suspension can result, where the student and parent will be asked to work together with the school to raise the student's level of responsibility. This is intended to be an enlightening and educational experience where the student gains a deeper understanding of the group they have chosen to be a part of, as well as themselves.

Offenses:

- Repeated Category 1 offenses
- Destruction of school property
- Damaging the school's reputation
- Sexual harassment or advancements; sexual innuendos or sexual-in-nature gestures; sexual photographs; sexual jokes, displays, drawings or comments; unwanted requests for sexual favors; bringing sexual objects or materials on campus; showing or making sexual-in-nature videos or photos
- Social or cyber harassment of another student or faculty, including defamation and malicious or reputation-damaging text messages between students regarding other students or faculty
- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Fighting or any physical altercation with the intent to harm another student or faculty member
- Threatening another student or faculty with harm or using aggressive intimidation tactics
- Falling 20 days behind academically due to neglect of studies
- Stealing
- Any disruptive act that disturbs the school community as a whole
- Contributing to a Category 3 offense
- Speeding or unsafe driving while on campus or in the posted school zones around the campus
- Failing to report a Category 3 offense
- Dealing in harmful rumors or lies to destroy the authority or reputé of the school, faculty, or students
- Causing disturbances that result in disrepute

- Illegal use of tobacco (smoking, vaping, or chewing) while enrolled
- Illegal use of alcohol at any time while enrolled
- Promoting or encouraging actions or conflicts with the school designed to damage the standards, ethics, or disciplinary procedures of the school
- Failure to follow local, state, or federal laws while enrolled
- Discriminatory or derogatory comments or jokes regarding a student's or faculty's race, gender, age, disability, religion, economic standing, or group affiliations
- Repeated and excessive violations of our electronics policy

Category 3 Level of Discipline

Category 3 offenses are handled by the ethics committee. Due to the nature of Category 3 offenses, an on off-campus suspension will most likely result. Dismissal is possible, depending on the offense or repeated offenses and their handlings. The parent will be contacted immediately to come in for a meeting.

Offenses:

- Repeated Category 2 offenses
- Extreme destruction of school property
- Drugs or alcohol on campus or possession and/or use off campus
- Physically harming another student
- Bringing weapons on the school campus, on a field trip, or any school vehicle
- Sexual acts on campus, a school trip, or in a school vehicle
- Placing Delphi, its faculty or students at risk or in a position of liability
- Felony offenses that break the codes of the state or the nation

Reports

We expect students to take responsibility for their fellow students, the school, and uphold the rules and moral code of the school. If a student is aware of another student violating these rules, we ask the student to either try to handle the situation directly, if easily resolved, or to write a report that contains the facts of the situation as known, not embellished, and turn it in to their teacher or the school director. The teacher or school director will then look into the situation and help resolve the issue.

Suspension on Campus

When a student is suspended on campus, the student works on various projects around the school during the day. Parents are encouraged to work with their child at home to increase their responsibilities to the groups they are a part of.

Suspension off Campus

When a student is sent home on suspension, it is usually because the situation is so serious that the school feels the parents and student need to thoroughly go over what occurred, and that the student needs guidance and help from their parents on making good choices.

Dismissal

Dismissal occurs when the student has shown no regret or interest in improvement, repeated suspensions have been issued, or when a serious offense has been committed. If the student has brought drugs, alcohol or weapons onto our school campus at any time, dismissal is immediate and mandatory.

The school reserves the right to dismiss at any time students whose conduct, influence, attitude or poor academic performance are considered to undermine the welfare of other students or the school as a whole.

The school reserves the right to dismiss any student whose family has shown to violate our policy of cooperation. Families who have shown themselves to be excessively or repeatedly aggressive or conflictive in behavior or who publicly demean the school or any of its faculty or students, via social media platforms, word of mouth or otherwise, will be dismissed. We reserve the right to dismiss any family that has caused harm to the reputation of Delphi or any of its affiliates.



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