



NEW LIFE CAMP • RALEIGH, NC

# — LEARN ACADEMICS —

## Student/Parent Handbook



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## About New Life Camp

### Mission

New Life Camp exists to love, accept, and introduce children and families to Jesus Christ and equip them to live lives that glorify God.

LEARN Academics exists to love and accept home-schooled students right where they are in a safe environment that emphasizes Biblical worldview through academics. It is designed to assist and equip homeschooling parents in the home learning experience they create for their children.

### Accreditation

We are accredited by the American Camping Association (ACA). ACA Accreditation means that we care enough to undergo a thorough peer review of our operation — from staff qualifications and training to emergency management. ACA collaborates with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth-serving agencies to assure that our current practices reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. We comply with 300 health, safety, and program quality standards.

[Click here for more details on ACA accreditation.](#)

## Expectations

LEARN Academics is a ministry of New Life Camp. As such, the activities we hold and the instructors we contract will emphasize Biblical worldview using academics as the spring board. The activities are intended to be a supplement to the education parents are providing for their children at home. They are not substitutions for that education. As such, each person involved in this program has distinct roles:

1. Instructor's Role
  - a. Prepare and deliver a syllabus and textbooks prior to the start of the semester.
  - b. Plan and instruct lessons for 1.5 hours each week that highlight important points or concepts that the student will need to learn as they progress at home.
  - c. Incorporate the following into their activities:
    - i. Expose students to the Gospel and give opportunity to accept salvation through Jesus Christ.
    - ii. Expose students to a biblical worldview using the subject material to highlight the greater truths of Scripture.
    - iii. Show the love of Christ through their words and actions.
    - iv. Create opportunities for students to learn and interact in a small group environment to build cooperation.
  - d. Clearly communicate with parents what work they are responsible for grading (weekly assignments) vs. what work the instructor will assess (tests, major projects, etc.). See [Grading](#) for further details.

- e. Report assessments for students to the parents using a method communicated to the parents prior to the beginning of the year.
- f. Respond to email contacts from parents and students within 48 hours to answer questions where a student may be struggling.
- g. Enforce the rules and regulations of New Life Camp. This includes, but is not limited to, the student behavior code.

## 2. Parent's Role

- a. Act as the primary instructors of their children. While they may expect solid instruction from the activities held at New Life Camp, parents should not expect an all-encompassing lesson each week from the instructors.
- b. Monitor their student's work regularly to know where they are succeeding and where they are struggling.
- c. While responsible for all final grading, there will be work communicated by the instructors to the parents to directly assess and grade themselves ([see Grading](#)).
- d. Record all grades on all student's work and prepare their own transcripts. As New Life Camp is not a school or academic institution, we will not provide any certificate of completion, transcripts, or other records for students. Parents are responsible to keep and record all work done by the student the same as if the student were completing any other course work at home.

## 3. Student's Role

- a. Attend the activities in which they are registered.
- b. Complete their work in the time designated under the supervision of their parents.
- c. Seek help early when struggling with certain concepts or projects.
- d. Add to the enrichment of each activity, not detract from it by either lack of focus or poor behavior.
- e. Follow New Life Camp's student behavior code ([see Student Behavior Code](#)).

# Academic Policies

## Communication

To achieve excellence for all involved, there must be great communication between the instructor, the parent, and the student. Failure to communicate on any individual's part leads to misunderstanding, frustration, and finally, discord. We desire open, honest, biblically-based communication between all parties that seeks the improvement of the individuals and thus, the program as a whole. Communication should be carried out through the appropriate steps:

### 1. Parents/Students to Instructors

- a. All concerns relating to academics should first be presented to the instructor by the students and/or parents. A respectful demeanor is required at all times.
- b. If the problem is not resolved, the parent and/or student may bring the concern to the Coordinator of LEARN. If the student brings the concern, they must have written permission from their parents to do so.

2. Instructors to Parents/Students
  - a. Instructors should respond to parent email messages within 48 hours.
  - b. Instructors will always send a carbon copy of any email with a student to the parents.
  - c. Instructors will send any weekly assignment work to students during activity time at camp. No assignments may be assigned outside of activity time. Major projects such as multi-page reports or tests must be scheduled in the syllabus. Any deviation from the syllabus must be communicated to the parents at least one week in advance.
  - d. If a parent and instructor cannot resolve a difficulty, the Coordinator of LEARN may be contacted.
  
3. Parents to Administration
  - a. Before approaching the Coordinator of LEARN, all academic concerns should first be presented to the instructor by the parents or student.
  - b. If the parents have concerns or disputes relating to something apart from academics (e.g., the operation of the program), they should bring their concerns directly to the Coordinator of LEARN.

## Homework Suggestions

In order for the student to build on their understanding of lessons and concepts each week, it is vital that they diligently complete their homework in the time frame given. Here are some suggestions from instructors to aid them in the timely completion of homework:

1. **Work Daily** – Each instructor is assigning a full week’s worth of assignments and study at home. These can hardly be achieved with excellence by waiting until the day before they are due. Working daily helps complete the workload in a much more efficient manner.
  
2. **Start Early** – In the case of reports and projects, the student must be responsible to take early steps in completing the work. They should consider planning their own due dates and steps to completion so that the project gets the attention it needs while not consuming their time as the instructor’s due date approaches.
  
3. **Don’t Wait to Ask for Help** – Students should approach their parents and instructors early when they are struggling with an assignment or concept. Contacting an instructor the day before an assignment is due is unlikely to achieve sufficient help in completing that assignment. As many courses build on concepts from week to week, it is important for the students to be grounded in each concept. Waiting two weeks to seek help may result in struggles to keep up with the learning.
  
4. **Write or Type Neatly** – If an instructor cannot read the student’s work, the student is unlikely to get good assessments from the instructor. Students should never fail to put their name on their work as well.

## **Grading**

As instructors are not the primary instructors of the students (that role falls to the parents), each instructor will communicate what work will need to be graded directly by the parents themselves and what work will need to be assessed by the instructors. Generally speaking, weekly assignments such as homework and quizzes will be graded by the parents. Major assignments such as tests, reports, or projects will be turned into the instructors for assessment. These assessments will be reported to the parents, who will assign the final grade at their discretion. The instructors will offer any answer keys needed to properly grade any assignment.

Parents are responsible to document and record all work and grades for their children for the purpose of transcripts and other requirements of non-public education in North Carolina. New Life Camp will not keep any records.

## **Helpful Things to Know**

### **Drop Off and Pick Up**

All students will be dropped off and picked up in the parking lot between the gyms. Please do not drive into the main camp area. If you need to pick your child early for any reason, please call our office in advance at 919-847-0764, so that we can notify the instructor and student.

### **Food, Snacks, and Sharing of Items with Other Students**

- Students are allowed to bring snacks, drinks, and meals to enjoy during class, provided they are not being a distraction. They must do so quietly.
- No food with nuts should be brought to New Life Camp, as it is a nut-free zone.
- On special occasions such as birthdays or holidays, parents may offer to bring snacks or candy to share with their student's class, provided they meet the following requirements:
  - It must be pre-packaged – no baked goods or snacks prepped at home.
  - It must be nut-free as New Life Camp is a nut-free zone.
- Instructors may offer to bring prepared food or snacks, particularly if it helps teach their subject. They will contact you a week in advance with ingredients used to prepare the food. You can respond if you do not want your child to partake. Instructors will serve the students the food or snack.

### **Lost and Found**

If an item is lost, the item will be taken to lost and found storage found in the Activities Center. If an item of considerable value is discovered (wallet, cell phone, etc.), that item will be taken to the Main Office for safe-keeping. If there is a need to search lost and found storage for an item, please contact the Main Office at 919-847-0764.

### **Phones**

Students may bring cell phones with them, but they may not have them out during activities. They must keep them on silent. If a student is seen with their phone or does not have it set to silent, an instructor or staff member may first warn the student to put it away. If the student in subsequent

weeks chooses to have it out again, the instructor may confiscate the phone and take it to the main office. Only the parents of the student may retrieve the phone from the main office.

## **Inclement Weather**

On days where inclement weather takes place, New Life Camp will determine whether a delay or cancellation of activities will take place. Such closings or delays will be announced on:

- WRAL (TV Channel 5)
- [www.wral.com](http://www.wral.com)
- [www.newlifecamp.com](http://www.newlifecamp.com)

If we anticipate a cancellation enough in advance, we will try to communicate if classes will go online via Zoom so that we can remain on schedule. We have reserved one make-up day in May that we will use if necessary. We are unable to make up more than one day in-person.

## **Student Behavior Code**

### **Philosophy**

The spirit behind this code of behavior is that each student lives in a manner worthy of Jesus Christ ([Colossians 1:10](#)). The code is designed to give clarity to what is expected behavior at New Life Camp, but a student must be willing to honor the Lord in their actions and attitudes to truly enjoy and even contribute to the atmosphere that is desired at New Life Camp. Any action or attitude that is contrary to this is subject to disciplinary action.

1. **Respect:** Show respect for the rules and those in authority. Any student who is disrespectful to a staff member will be subject to disciplinary action.
2. **Privacy:** Respect the privacy of others by avoiding behavior of a physical, romantic, or overly affectionate nature; avoiding conversation of a personal nature about others; avoiding the private space and belongings of others. Students should treat each other with dignity and respect.
3. **Integrity:** Maintain Christian standards of integrity and honesty in academics, relationships, and accountability.

### **Conduct**

1. Classroom Behavior
  - Students will not be distracting in word or action.
  - Students are expected to go to the restroom before activities. Only in emergencies will they be excused during the activity.
2. Course Work Integrity

- Students may not cheat or assist in cheating to fulfill an assignment or test. Cheating is defined as giving, taking, or presenting work that fraudulently aids oneself or another in determining an assessment or completing a requirement.
  - Students must reference source material with all quotes. Plagiarism may result in a student being dismissed from the program.
3. Physical Contact
- We request that students do not engage in physical contact between boys and girls.
4. Language
1. Students may not use profane, obscene, or vulgar language.
  2. This includes any language that is disrespectful, insulting, or threatening to another student, instructor, or parent.
5. Contraband
- Tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, cigarettes, or e-cigarettes - students may not use these or offer to sell any of these items.
  - Books or magazines with questionable material
  - Pets
  - Electronic devices for entertainment – students may use computers, tablets, and mobile devices during activities only if approved or recommended by the instructor.
  - Blades, guns, and other weapons – see special statement below.
  - Headphones – we desire a socially strong atmosphere. Headphones limit social interaction and thus are not allowed.
  - We recommend campers leave anything of value not covered here at home. While New Life Camp keeps a lost and found storage, we are ultimately not responsible for lost or stolen property.

### **Special Statement on Threats, Violence, and Weapons**

A participant threatening to bring weapons or violence on camp property will be removed from camp property as quickly as possible by staff and suspended or dismissed from the program. Staff reserve the right to contact the authorities immediately upon learning of any threat, explicit or implicit. We owe it to all our participants, parents, and staff to provide the safest, calmest, and best learning and life environment possible here at NLC.

We appreciate your understanding and support in this endeavor.

### **Dress Code**

Parents are responsible for their children to dress appropriately as follows:

1. Students' clothes should not have any inappropriate words or depictions.
2. Female Students
  - a. Shorts, Skirts, Pants, and Dresses
    - Shorts should be at least fingertip length or have a 4-inch inseam.

- No lamp shading – that is, shirts should not be so long that they completely cover the shorts.
  - Skirts and dresses should be at least near knee-length.
  - Tights and spandex do not change the above rules.
  - If wearing leggings, shirts should cover the butt.
- b. Shirts
- A camper’s stomach or lower back should never be visible.
  - Undergarments should never be visible.
  - Students should not wear anything strapless.
  - Clothing is too tight when the outline of undergarments can be clearly seen.
  - Necklines should be modest.
3. Male Students
- a. Shorts and Pants
- Shorts should be at least fingertip length.
  - Shorts and pants should not sag, and undergarments should not be visible.

## **Student Driver Code**

1. Drivers must park in the parking lot surrounding the two gyms. Only instructors and staff may drive and park in the lower camp area.
2. Drivers must always abide by the camp speed limit. The speed limit for the camp road is 10mph.
3. Drivers may not play loud music from their cars while on the camp property.
4. Reckless driving actions, such as spinning tires, are prohibited.

Failure to abide by the code will result in the following disciplinary actions:

1. First Offense: the student and the parents will receive a warning.
2. Second Offense: the student’s driving privileges at New Life Camp will be revoked for the remainder of the academic year.

## **Disciplinary Action**

While some actions have been listed previously with their offenses, New Life Camp may feel it appropriate to take disciplinary action for additional offenses. When a student or parent has shown that they disregard the philosophy and behavioral code of New Life Camp, more substantial action may be taken. Depending on the severity of the offense by either student or parent, New Life Camp reserves the right to dismiss the offending party from the program without any prior warnings.

In general, however, the following steps will be taken:

1. The Coordinator of LEARN will send an email to warn both students and parents of the issue in an effort to resolve it.
2. If the problem persists, a meeting will be held by the Coordinator of LEARN and the Director of Programs with the students and parents to discuss the issue.

3. If the problem persists, the student will be dismissed from the LEARN program.

### **Other Programs Offered at New Life Camp**

- **Summer Camps** – since 1950, New Life Camp has been offering a unique life-changing experience of fun, fellowship, and time learning the truths of the Bible. We offer both overnight camp weeks for ages 8-18 and day camp weeks for ages 4-10. All of this is overseen by a well-trained staff who love and accept each camper right where they are.
- **Family Bible Lessons** – these are monthly online lessons from September-February that you can do as a family at home. Not only can you learn about the Bible together as a family, your children can earn a discount off of next year's summer camp by completing them.
- **New Life Basketball League** – The New Life Basketball League uses the sport of basketball to love and accept players of all skill levels right where they are. Our desire is to take out the pressure found in much of youth sports and just make basketball fun. Throughout the season we will be teaching character traits that not only apply to the basketball court but to life as a whole. (Ages 7-14)
- **Saturday Night @ Camp** - Get a taste of camp by coming to SN@C. Children are divided into three groups: kindergarten, elementary, and middle school. Supper is provided for all, and each group will review the biblical theme we learned during summer camp. This also is a great opportunity for a parents' night out. This event usually takes place on the first Saturday of the month October - April. (Ages 4-12)
- **Storm Athletics** - This is our home-school athletics program that competes against local schools and is part of the North Carolinians for Home Education Athletic Conference. We currently offer cross country, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball, and golf. (Ages 11-18)

For more Information on any of our programs or to register, please visit our website – [www.newlifecamp.com](http://www.newlifecamp.com). If you still have questions, please call our main office: (919) 847-0764.