



PARENT - STUDENT POLICY HANDBOOK 2024-25

School Address

100 Greencastle Road
Tyrone, GA 30290

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 142099
Fayetteville, GA 30214

www.konos.org

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Summary

All families seeking to enroll students with Konos Academy, in either or both Core and Plus classes, must review and agree to the following statements and policies. These statements and policies establish a covenant between the family, its student(s), and Konos Academy.

Konos Purpose, Core Values, and Faith Statements

Vision Statement

Inspiring a lifelong love of learning through a biblical worldview.

Mission Statement

Teaching truth and engaging students to think and speak from a biblical worldview in a manner that glorifies God.

Purpose

Our purpose is to glorify God as we partner with families that choose to home school. We endeavor to train and educate students, teaching truth from a biblical worldview while encouraging students to think critically as we prepare them for higher education and greater influence in the world.

Our Core Values

We desire to know God, through Jesus Christ, and submit to Him and His word, both organizationally and individually.

We desire to give glory to Him rather than to ourselves and we strive to be a people and school of grace and love.

We recognize the dignity and equality of each person as created in the image of God.

We appreciate the unique and distinctive gifts and characteristics of each person.

We acknowledge the broken and fallen nature of each student and staff member as a result of the Fall (Gen. 3).

We affirm that the remedy for the Fall is expressed in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

We believe that a God-honoring environment of goodness, truth, and beauty is optimal for learning and growing.

We believe that education is best served within the family and is the primary responsibility of parents.

We believe that God created man and woman and affirm that marriage consists of the union of one man and one woman. If the atmosphere or conduct within a home is counter to, or in opposition to the biblical model that Konos teaches, the administration reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant or discontinue enrollment of a student. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, living in, condoning, or supporting sexual immorality as defined in the Bible; practicing a LGBTQ lifestyle and/or alternative gender identity; promoting such practices; or otherwise having the inability to support the moral principles of the Bible and Konos (Lev. 20:13a; Rom. 1:21-27; Matt. 19:4-6; 1 Cor. 6:9-20).

We believe there are only two genders, male and female, as defined by God at the creation of the world. Therefore, we also affirm that males shall only be referred to as he/him and females shall only be referred to as she/her.

We reject the "woke" ideology of contemporary culture [such as "critical race theory" (CRT) and "diversity, equity, and inclusion" (DEI)] that divide people according to race and are contrary to the teaching of the Scriptures. Instead, we affirm that all people are equal in worth before God, equally broken and fallen in sin, equally redeemed and forgiven through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, and equally adopted into one family in Christ. This is the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ and this is where *true* unity is found.

Statement of Faith

We believe in one eternal, knowable, sovereign God who exists in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. All three persons of the Trinity are uncreated, coeternal, and equal in power, glory, and honor. God has revealed Himself in His creation and most clearly in His word, the holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. The Bible is our final authority in all matters of faith and life. Jesus Christ, the Messiah, is the Son of the Living God- fully man and fully God. He was

conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death on the cross, rose from the dead on the third day for the forgiveness of sins, has ascended into heaven, and will return to judge the living and the dead. We believe all people have been made in the image of God but are born with a sinful nature and in desperate need of a Savior for forgiveness of sins and reconciliation to God. A person is saved and declared righteous before God through faith and repentance in Christ alone, by grace alone apart from “good works” or any “goodness” in that person. We believe all those who put their trust in Christ are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. REFERENCES: 2 Corinthians 5:21, John 1:1 and 14, 8:58, 10:30, and 14: 6; Heb. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16; 3:22; Matt. 28:19, Acts 5:3-4; Mark 1:15; Eph. 2:1-10; Rom. 3; Eph. 1:13-14; Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:23, 5:8 and 12, and 18-19; 2 Cor. 5:17-20.

Community

Konos Academy is an overtly Christian community, teaching from a distinctly Protestant Christian and biblical worldview. We are a community that believes, respects, and endeavors to follow God’s word, the Bible. As members of this community, we expect that our families attend a local Bible-believing and teaching church.

We are here to assist and support homeschool families. A loving father-mother relationship is ideal for optimal educational achievement. We can best assist parents in the education of their children when there is a firm, loving home based upon biblical principles (instruction, loving correction, loving discipline, exercising self-control, honesty, integrity, etc.). We encourage biblical counseling for struggling families and are happy to make referrals upon request.

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in our admissions policies, scholarship programs, athletic, or other school sponsored programs.

Konos Programs and Accreditation

Accreditation

Every course (both Konos Core and Konos Plus) is accredited by the Georgia Accrediting Commission (GAC) and is also approved by the NCAA. Consult with Leah Smith (leah@konos.org) about any courses not taken under the Konos Academy umbrella.

Konos One-Day Core Programs

The one-day per week program provides a core curriculum for homeschooled students using a university model. High school students (KA) meet one day per week on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 8:50-2:45 and are given assignments to be completed for the following week. Parents receive professional support, group activities, and an organized and accredited curriculum for the year. Konos Academy is accredited by the Georgia Accrediting Commission (GAC). All classes meet at 100 Greencastle Road, Tyrone, GA 30290.

KONOS ACADEMY (8:50-2:45) serves grades 9-12 and emphasizes a biblical worldview in both content and methods. The curriculum follows a four-year cycle of history from creation to the present. History is coordinated with corresponding literature and writing assignments. During Year 1 (Creation to Christ) students also study critical thinking and career search. In Year 2 (Rome to Renaissance) students study health and personal finance. In Year 3 (Age of America) students study government, and during Year 4 (20th century) students also study economics and ethics. All courses fulfill Georgia requirements for college-preparatory high school graduation. Please see www.konos.org for more information.

John Lee (Head of School, Bible and literature) john@konos.org

Elise Barrett (American History) elise@konos.org

Joanne Lee (Academic coordinator, English teacher, speech performing arts director) joanne@konos.org

Cindy Johnson (English literature and writing) cindy@konos.org

Emily Cull (English writing) emily@konos.org

Julia May (English writing) julia@konos.org

Dr. Sharon Sellers (Honors literature) ssellers4@gmail.com

Mary Jane Macaluso (English writing) maryjane@konos.org
Ray Lewis (Government and literature) ray@konos.org
Dr. Donald Rhymer (Bible and Literature) don@konos.org

KONOS JUNIORS (9:00-2:45) serves grades 7-8 with a geography-based curriculum. They, too, integrate the history, culture, and literature of each country. Writing assignments are related to each country or continent. Please see www.konos.org for more information.

Elizabeth Fry (English) Elizabeth@konos.org
Tiffany McBryde (World Geography and Cultures) Tiffany@konos.org
Sarah Bradshaw (KJ Teaching Assistant) sarahb@konos.org

KONOS KIDS (9:00-2:45) serves grades 3/4 and 5/6 with Konos Curriculum unit studies based on character qualities, integrating science, social studies, art, music, literature, language arts, and Bible. The day is full of content and related hands-on activities. Please see www.konos.org for more information.

Gina Bledsoe (Lead teacher KK5/6) Gina@konos.org
Stacy Barber (Teacher KK 5/6) Stacy@konos.org
Lori Walker (Lead teacher KK3/4) Lori@konos.org
Margaret Bohler (Teacher KK 3/4) Margaret@konos.org

KONOS KIDLETS (9:00-2:45) serves grades 1-2. It is cooperative enjoyment and enrichment while absorbing new information and skills, readying them for more formal learning in KK. We hope to keep their interest and enthusiasm while also cultivating the delight of learning. Please see www.konos.org for more information.

Melissa Futch (Lead teacher) Mel@konos.org
Abi Cauble (Teacher) Abi@konos.org
Eric Robinson (Teacher) Erica@konos.org

Konos Plus Program

Konos Plus Courses provide additional courses for those taking the one-day program and are also *open to all homeschool families* (as space permits). These courses include math and science at various levels, foreign language, art, and other electives. Every course offered by Konos is accredited. Please see the course list and teacher descriptions at www.konos.org.

Dawn Rhymer (Physical Science) Dawn@konos.org
Cheryl Turner (Biology and Anatomy & Physiology) Cheryl@konos.org
Denise Chrzanowski (Middle School Science) Denise@konos.org
Jamie Walker (Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Computer Science, Chemistry) Jamie@konos.org
Marielle Hersey (Middle School Math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II) Marielle@konos.org
Dr. Micayla Clark (Statistics) Micayla@konos.org
Kendra Cauble (Spanish I, II, and III) Kendra@konos.org
Ray Lewis (Critical Thinking, Leadership Principles, and Chorus) Ray@konos.org
Jodette DiDomizio (Classical Art) Jodette@konos.org

Competitive Fine Arts Program

The Konos Competitive Fine Arts program began in the fall of 2018 and has been expanding. For more information, please go to the website or contact Joanne Harman at artsandacademics@konos.org.

Sports Program

Sports are offered seasonally to **any** homeschooled student or students of a private school that does not offer that sport. All sports participants earn a PE credit toward graduation requirements. See www.konos.org for information on how to apply. **All students must maintain a “75” overall average in every Konos course and**

cannot be failing any individual course in order to be eligible to participate on any Konos sports team. Failure to pay the sports fees will result in late charges added and will prohibit that athlete from participation until the fees have been fully paid. *Students are no longer eligible for participation after they graduate high school.* For more information about Konos athletic teams and coaches, please go to the Athletics tab on our website or contact our athletic director, **Tripp Hicks** at [Athleticdirector@konos.org](mailto:athleticdirector@konos.org)

Administrative Staff

John Lee (Director of Konos Connection, Inc., Director of Development, Konos Academy Head of School, Financial Aid Administrator) John@konos.org

Leah Smith (Accreditation, College Guidance Counselor, Grade Reports Administrator, Google Classroom Administrator, Academic Assistant) Guidancecounselor@konos.org or Leah@konos.org

Dale Driver (Enrollment and Admissions, GOAL Program Coordinator, IT Coordinator, Assistant to the Head of School) Dale@konos.org

Sarah Jimenez (Office manager, tuition administrator, and registrar) Sarah@konos.org

Shannon Cull (Operation Manager and Events Coordinator) Shannon@konos.org

Policies

Tuition and Withdrawal Policies

Tuition Policy

Tuition is due either by September 10th or the first week of each month through FACTS. Tuition received after the 10th of the month will be assessed a \$30 late fee. It is important for us to receive tuition in a timely manner so we can pay our teachers in a timely manner. If you have questions regarding your account, please contact Sarah Jimenez (accounts receivable), sarah@konos.org on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Enrollment at Konos Academy is purely voluntary. Your enrollment is a declaration that you have counted the cost and are willing and able to bear the obligation of paying monthly tuition and the sustaining fee.

- Tuition is not refundable if instruction is moved from onsite to virtual/remote learning, whether due to an independent decision by the Konos administration or due to government policies.
- **Late tuition will be assessed a late fee of \$30/month. Unless prior arrangements have been made with the administration, a student will not be permitted to attend class or participate in any Konos events when tuition is delinquent beyond 60 days and payment has not been made.**
- The annual sustaining fee of \$600 is payable in full or **will be broken up into 9 monthly payments.**
- If tuition is in arrears beyond 90 days, the full balance of the annual tuition must be paid in full before the student can return to class. In addition, if that student returns the following year, the first four months of tuition must be paid before the school year begins.
- Any students enrolled to return to Konos Academy must have all unpaid balances paid in full before the student will be permitted to start the new school year or participate in any Konos athletics or events.
- Report cards and transcripts will not be released until tuition is paid in full.

Tuition Assistance

Konos Academy is able to offer tuition assistance to students through the Georgia GOAL Student Scholarship Organization and the Education Expense Tax Credit law (HB 1133). Assistance is the result of taxpayers (including you) redirecting a portion of their Georgia income tax to the Georgia GOAL Student Scholarship program, a student scholarship organization (SSO) that partners with Konos. Eligibility must be established in a student's first year of enrollment in the core program at Konos Academy (Konos *Plus only* students are not eligible for assistance). For further information regarding eligibility requirements and the application process, please contact John Lee at john@konos.org.

Withdrawal Policy for Konos Core and Konos Plus Programs

Early withdrawal from the core program is permitted up to **October 28th** with no additional tuition payment required. If a student withdraws after October 28th, payment of 50% of tuition for the remainder of the year (Nov. – May) is required and may be paid monthly. Salaries and budgets have been established based on the annual commitment of our families. Any attorney and collection fees will be added to outstanding balances that are not paid.

Withdrawal from a Konos *Plus* course before **October 14th** is permitted with no further obligation for remaining tuition payments (October tuition is required if drop request is after Sept. 30th). Parents must notify the Konos Plus teacher directly. After October 14th, the withdrawing family is responsible for 50% of the remaining tuition payments for the school year. ***All parents should consult with the Konos Plus teacher before withdrawing.*** The administration will drop a student from a class only after receiving confirmation from the teacher to proceed.

Questions about tuition should be directed to Sarah Jimenez at sarah@konos.org on Tuesdays or Thursdays. A monthly email statement will be sent to the parents.

FACTS Student Information System

1. Go to the website <https://www.factsmtg.com/>
2. Click on “Family Log In” at the top, then “FACTS Family Portal.”
3. Enter the username and password saved when creating your account to pay Sarah.
4. District Code is **KA-GA**
5. Click on your student's name to see their profile and grades.
6. For questions regarding FACTS, please email Leah Smith at Leah@konos.org, Dale Driver at dale@konos.org, or Sarah Jimenez at sarah@konos.org

Transcript and Graduation Policies

Transcript Policy

Konos provides college counseling and an accredited Konos transcript for every core student (transcripts are not provided for Konos Plus only students). All Konos courses (core, Konos *Plus*, and electives) will be listed on the transcript and none may be deleted. Each family will comply with the transcript policy below.

Transcript Agreement

Konos Academy will provide an accredited transcript for high school students that will include all classes that qualify for high school credit. This will include Konos core classes, Konos Plus classes, and any additional classes taken at home, online, or at another institution. High school level classes taken outside Konos Academy must be verified and approved by the Konos guidance counselor. Outside classes given by another institution with an assigned teacher and live test proctoring for those classes will *not* be required to proctor the final exam with the Konos guidance counselor. Those classes supervised only by the parent (or relative) will require the final exam to be proctored by the Konos guidance counselor. Weekly lesson workbooks and/or notebooks must be submitted for inspection and review. This includes classes without a live teacher/tutor that autograde tests. Times will be scheduled at Konos Academy for the proctored exams. Seniors must have outside courses proctored no later than the last day of Konos Core classes in order to graduate.

The student must have a passing grade for each Konos core class and any classes needed to satisfy Georgia graduation requirements. All classes taken with Konos shall remain on the transcript (passed or failed). Any dual enrollment classes taken at a college institution will remain on the transcript (passed or failed). If a passing grade is not received for a dual enrollment class that is needed to satisfy Georgia graduation

requirements, that class must be taken again and completed before the end of the spring term of the student's senior year.

Parents must ensure that their student completes one math class and one science class each year in order to keep pace with the Georgia Department of Education graduation requirements. Parents also agree to have their high school student take two years of a foreign language and will initiate that two-year sequence no later than the junior year of the student.

Students who do not satisfy the terms of this agreement will not be permitted to participate in the Konos Academy graduation ceremony and will not receive a Konos transcript.

Four-Year High School Policy

The high school experience at Konos Academy will consist of only 4 years, in compliance with the Georgia Department of Education which states:

“9th grade officially begins the Fall of the student's 9th grade year. The 12th grade year concludes at the end of the spring term after four years of enrollment beginning in the 9th grade.”

Some courses taken in 8th grade may count towards high school credit. Those courses include Algebra I, Physical Science, and the first year of a foreign language. English, history, and electives taken prior to 9th grade will not be counted. *No course taken in 7th grade will be counted toward the high school requirements unless approved by the administration.*

Once a student is enrolled in the high school, he/she may not skip a grade in subsequent years.

Junior Marshal Policy

Students who have been enrolled in Konos Academy for their freshman and sophomore years and have taken all of the core curriculum classes are eligible for consideration as Junior Marshal. **Note: Only Konos Core classes will be included in the raw score calculation for Junior Marshal.**

- Students who have failed a class and taken it over are not eligible for Junior Marshal consideration.
- Students who have been under formal school discipline (suspension, probation) during their high school years are not eligible for Junior Marshal consideration.

Graduation Policy

Students desiring to participate in the graduation ceremony at Konos Academy must be in good academic standing and satisfy one of the following requirements:

- Complete four full core years in the Academy.
- Complete the full core junior and senior years.

Also, in order to receive a diploma from Konos Academy and participate in the graduation ceremony, each graduate must have completed and passed the Konos core classes in addition to satisfying the graduation requirements for the state of Georgia.

Students enrolled *only* in Konos Plus Courses are **not** eligible to partake in graduation ceremonies or receive a Konos transcript.

Graduation Honors (Cords, Stoles, and Medals Awarded) *

Cum Laude – Red/Black Cord: 3.5+ GPA

Magna Cum Laude – Red Stole: 3.75+ GPA
Summa Cum Laude – Blue/Gold Cord: 3.9+ GPA
Lamp Medallion Pin – 4.0 GPA
Eta Sigma Alpha Honor Society (Omega Omicron Chapter) – Gold Cord
Foreign Language (4 Years) – Green Cord
Jr./Sr. Honors Literature – White Cord
Jr./Sr. Honors History – Gray Cord
Konos Senior Mentor – Leadership Pin

* All courses listed on the Konos transcript will be used for calculating graduation honors.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian Policy

Students who have been enrolled in Konos Academy for all four years and have taken all of the core curriculum classes (including all honors classes) are eligible for consideration as Valedictorian or Salutatorian. **Note: Only Konos Core classes will be included in the raw score calculation for Valedictorian and Salutatorian.**

- Students who have failed a class and taken it over are not eligible for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, or Junior Marshal consideration.
- Students who have been under formal school discipline (suspension, probation) during their high school years are not eligible for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, or Junior Marshal consideration.

Academic Policies

Grading Policy

LATE WORK: Work that is turned in late *with parental excuse*, because of an absence or other extenuating circumstances, will be accepted. However, we discourage parents from allowing their student(s) to consistently turn in work late. Timeliness and the ability to meet deadlines are important life skills, and consistent lateness fails to foster these characteristics.

- a. An assignment can be accepted late *only* if the student has a note from the parent that is received by the teacher before the assignment is due. Notes written by parents *after* the assignment was due are *not* accepted.
- b. Late work must be turned in within 1 week of the original due date, or a 0 will automatically be given.

MISSING WORK: Assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. that are not turned in at the time they are due will be marked as 0 in FACTS. We have a no-tolerance unexcused lateness policy, which will be strictly enforced. Students will not be notified of assignments that are missing. There will be no opportunities to turn in missing work later in the semester.

EXCUSED WORK: *Assignments may not be arbitrarily excused.* All students are responsible for assigned work and tests. If there is a death in the family or extreme family emergency that prohibits the completion of work, contact the course teacher to discuss the handling of work in question. Even if an assignment is excused, the student is still responsible to make up any work that might appear on a future test in order to receive credit for the course. Any unexcused work will receive a zero.

PREPARATION AND PARTICIPATION: In addition to quiz and test scores, student preparation and participation are also factored into the student's grade. Teachers will evaluate the student's level of participation and preparation, including the following areas:

- a. Does the student come prepared with assigned books?
- b. Does the student come to class with completed assignments (reading, How to Read A Book, and study guides)?
- c. Does the student complete assigned pages in workbooks?
- d. Does the student participate in class discussions well? Poorly? Eagerly or silently?
- e. Is the student disruptive and lacking self-control or engaged and attentive?

Grading Scale

A+	98-100	B+	88-89	C+	78-79		
A	93-97	B	83-87	C	73-77	F	69 and below
A-	90--92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72		

Final grades on report cards and transcripts shall not exceed 100%.

Report Cards

Teachers enter grades weekly on the FACTS student information program. Report cards are issued at the end of each semester. First and second semester report cards are emailed to parents after the conclusion of each semester.

Academic Honesty Policy

The well-being of the Konos community depends on each student's accepting responsibility for his or her personal conduct in both social and academic endeavors. In this regard, students are expected to attend Konos Academy ready to learn and, in their learning, demonstrate the ability to discern right from wrong. A student's moral awareness as it applies to the academic environment is foundational to his or her success at Konos Academy. Academic honesty requires that students produce work that is their own. In contrast, academic dishonesty is a student's attempt to claim and show possession of knowledge and/or skills that he or she does not possess.

Academic Dishonesty

The following actions are reflective of academic dishonesty and are subject to disciplinary action (this list is not all inclusive).

- Using dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means to obtain or attempt to obtain credit for academic work.
- Using notes, aids, or another student's assistance to complete a test, a project or other assignment in a way other than that expressly permitted by the teacher. Unless otherwise directed by the teacher, students should accomplish all assignments individually.
- Looking at another student's test, answer sheet, or other materials.
- Talking during a test. The teacher cannot be expected to determine the content of a private conversation between students, therefore, all talking during tests is considered cheating.
- Copying from or allowing another student to copy from a test, homework, or other coursework - which is not intended to be collaborative in nature.
- Tampering with an instructor's records of grades or scores.
- Accessing, deleting, modifying, transferring, or receiving of computerized files without authorization of the teacher. Although a student may authorize another student to copy or transfer electronic files, this action is considered cheating if effected without teacher permission.
- The use of artificial intelligence (AI) without teacher permission to produce, enhance, or supplement any assignment, project, or other assigned academic work.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. The following constitute plagiarism:

- Copying the work of another student and passing it off as your own.
- Copying sentences and paragraphs from books or the internet without citing sources and presenting the work as your own.
- Copying sentences and paragraphs, word-for-word, from a source without giving credit or citing the source.
- Using content from other sources (sentences, paragraph, or paragraphs) where the thoughts are the same as the source, but words are moved around or substituted just enough to make it look like you didn't plagiarize.

The following will raise a red flag and look like plagiarism:

- Copying word-for-word (the most obvious offense).
- Using the same stream of thought sentence after sentence with minor word substitution.
- Using the same phrases as the source with little variation.
- Using the same content, facts, references, as the source as you move from paragraph 1 to paragraph 2 to paragraph 3, etc.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty:

- First offense: Zero on the assignment and placed on academic probation.
- Second offense: Zero on the assignment, one-week suspension from school, placed on final academic probation, and zeros on all assignments, quizzes, and tests that week.
- Third offense: Expelled from school. Academic dishonesty and plagiarism are forms of lying and stealing, and repeated offenses reveal a lack of integrity and character that damages trust and does great harm. It will not be tolerated.

Academic Probation Policy

Poor performance in areas such as academics, attendance, dress code violations, and/or behavior can result in academic probation. Konos Academy is a rigorous, college-prep program that requires diligence and self-discipline outside the classroom in order for the student to be successful. Each student's grades will be monitored throughout each semester. If a student's grades are below 70% in each class, a parent meeting shall be called, and the student will be placed on academic probation. Terms of the probation will be provided in writing in order to improve the student's grades and end the probation. Failure to adhere to the terms of the probation agreement will result in dismissal from Konos Academy.

I.E.P. (Individual Education Plan) and 504 Plan Policy

Due to limited financial resources and staffing, Konos Academy is not equipped to provide accommodations for medical, learning, or behavioral disabilities or address special needs, Individual Education Plans (IEPs), and 504 plans (Konos receives no federal funding). Families in need of such services or accommodations should refrain from applying for enrollment. Effective 8/20/2021, all core students must complete quizzes and exams at Konos with their classmates.

Honors Student Policy

All students take the basic core courses and do the weekly assignments. History honors students (11th and 12th graders) will be given additional work. These courses are designated on their report cards as "Honors." Honors English students are placed by grade levels in the literature and writing classes according to grade and proficiency level. If an 11th or 12th grader does not wish to receive the Honors designation, the student's parent should contact the administration.

Honor Society Policy

Konos partners with the Eta Sigma Alpha National Homeschool Honor Society. The purpose of the honor society shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among homeschool students. To achieve this purpose, Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society shall provide opportunities for the development of an intellectual climate that will stimulate the exchange of ideas and ideals, foster scholarship, and promote academic excellence.

Eta Sigma Alpha shall also advocate homeschooling as a viable and successful educational methodology and act as a liaison for homeschooling to the general public, colleges/universities, and the media. For national membership, students must score above the 90 percentile on a standardized or college placement exam and have a GPA of 3.5 or above. For more information, contact Jana Strickland at strickjlb@aol.com or visit the Konos website.

Attendance and Sickness Policies

Attendance Policy

Punctuality is expected. Arriving late to class is very disruptive and distracting. **Please arrive at school no later than 8:45 am.** Listen attentively and raise your hand when desiring to speak during a lecture; during small group discussions, practice conversing in a way that allows each person to speak. Practice Eph. 4:29.

Konos Academy classes begin at **8:50**.

Konos Juniors, Kids, and Kidlets core classes are held on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from **9:00 – 2:45**.

Attendance on the student's assigned day is expected. Once the school year has begun, we do not move students from one day to another and students should not request a day change. Change of day requests are considered at the time of re-enrollment. **As much as possible, parents should plan vacations while school is not in session. Similarly, parents should plan doctor's appointments on off days rather than the one day that the student attends class each week.**

- **Unexpected Illness or Event:** Parents should notify absent@konos.org if your student will be absent. Absentees will receive the week's assignments, parent letter, hand-outs, etc. by email Thursday. All absent students will have one week to take missed quizzes and exams. Makeup quizzes/exams will be taken at Konos during appointed makeup times. Students will sign up for the day they will take makeup exams in the Google Announcements classroom. Mondays (expanded hours) and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings 8:00-8:40 will be the makeup periods. **Makeup testing must be completed by 8:45am of the student's next core day.** Failure to do so will result in a zero on the missed quiz or exam.
- **All assignments are due on the student's class day.** Cases involving severe illness or family emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine the appropriate extension time.
- **Planned absence:** Notify absent@konos.org about planned vacations or events.
- **High School writing policy.** Writing assignments, and writing projects (research papers, etc.) that have extended due dates that have been published well in advance of the absence, are due even in the event of a planned absence or vacation. **The student is responsible to turn in writing assignments on the assignment due date or before on Google Classroom and should coordinate with the writing teachers.**
- **Excessive Tardiness.** If a student is late to school three times in one semester without satisfactory explanation, the student will have 10 points deducted from his/her participation and preparation grade for the first class of the day. This will also result in a parent conference. Additional late arrivals may result in academic probation.
- **Excessive Absences.** If a student is absent three times from their assigned class day without a doctor's note, a parent conference will be required. More than three absences may result in academic probation.

Sickness Policy

Parents should report all absences due to sickness to absent@konos.org. Please keep your student home if he or she appears ill and could spread illness to others. We also ask that you keep your student home from school for at least 24 hours after running a fever, vomiting, or having diarrhea. If they run a fever during the school day, parents will be contacted to come pick up their student as soon as possible. If they have been diagnosed with strep, then they must take their antibiotic for **24** hours before returning.

A student absent due to a contagious disease must be confirmed non-contagious before returning to classes. The following guidelines apply:

COVID-19 - Stay home for 5 days, return to school if fever is over, or have a doctor's permit to reenter school.

Chicken Pox — Exclude 7 days or have a doctor's permit to re-enter school.

Diphtheria — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school.

Impetigo — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school or wait until all sores are well.

Head Lice — Exclude for at least 24 hours, and until the child's hair has been treated so there are no longer lice or eggs (nits) present, *or* the parents provide a written statement from a physician verifying that the child is no longer contagious. All treated students will be rechecked upon their return; if any live lice are found, the exclusion procedure will begin again.

Measles — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school, or until rash is gone.

German Measles — No restrictions.

Meningitis (Epidemic Type) — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school. Family contacts are not to return to school without a doctor's permit.

Mononucleosis — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school or exclude until free of symptoms.

Mumps — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school or wait until all swelling is gone.

Pink Eye — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school, or until eyes are clear.

Ringworm of the Scalp — May attend school with doctor's permit following prescribed treatment and must have ringworm covered by cap.

Ringworm of the Skin — May attend school with a doctor's permit following prescribed treatment and must have the area covered.

Streptococcal infections (Strep Throat/Scarlet Fever) — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school or exclude until free of symptoms.

Staph Infections — Have a medical doctor's permit to reenter school or exclude until free of symptoms.

Tuberculosis — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school.

Whooping Cough — Have a doctor's permit to reenter school or exclude until free of cough (usually 3 to 5 weeks).

Students enrolled in Konos Academy or who seek to enroll in Konos Academy, who are diagnosed to be carrying any serious and continuing communicable or potentially lethal disease, shall be denied admission, dismissed from the school, or excluded indefinitely from classes. They will not be permitted to enroll or reenroll until they have been diagnosed by a Medical Doctor (MD) as no longer carrying the communicable disease. The administration reserves the right to make any decisions it deems prudent for the health and safety of the whole student body. The general guidelines above will be followed unless, in the judgment of the administration, circumstances call for a different course of action.

Federal Holiday Policy

Konos does not follow the public school calendar exactly and does not observe all of the same holidays as the public school system. While much of our holiday schedule is consistent with the public school calendar, Columbus Day, Martin Luther King Day, and Presidents' Day are not observed by Konos because each of these holidays falls on a Monday and presents a conflict with our Konos *Plus* class schedule and instruction requirements. Since we only meet on Mondays for Konos *Plus* classes, we cannot observe every public holiday. Students may elect to observe the above holidays, but they will be responsible for all missed work and exams. The Konos calendar may be viewed on the website.

Behavior and Conduct Policies

Cell Phone Policy

- Cell phones may be left home or in the car (if you drive yourself to school)
- Cell phones are to be placed in the phone rack and left in airplane mode when you arrive in the classroom.
- Cell phones are not to be left in your pocket or your backpack.
- Cell phones may not be checked during the day. They may only be used for an emergency and only with permission from a staff member.
- Cell phones are picked up at the end of the day (2:45 pm).

Failure to respect these guidelines will result in school discipline. Repeated disregard will result in expulsion. Please note the penalties below:

First offense: Warning and parent notification

Second offense: Suspension one week and zeros on all quizzes for that week

Third offense: Expulsion

Illegal Substances Policy

Alcohol and tobacco products (cigarettes, marijuana, and/or vaping) or other illegal drugs are prohibited for students at Konos or any Konos sponsored activities and events. This includes parking lots and cars. Violation will result in expulsion.

Dress Code Policy

We are an academic institution, preparing students to be professional. Therefore, academic/professional or “business casual” as opposed to “sports/leisurely” is appropriate dress. The dress code is as follows:

- **BOYS:** Dress pants or khakis, jeans with no rips, dress shorts, shirts with a collar preferred, shoes or sneakers. Spirit wear is permitted (Konos attire and Konos drama/play attire).
- **GIRLS:** dress pants or khakis, jeans with no rips, dresses and skirts to the knee, and dress shorts with a minimum 7” inseam. No crop tops (girls should be able to raise hands without exposing their stomach). No exposed backs or midriffs. No leggings unless worn under dresses and/or skirts that meet the dress code. No undergarments showing. Spirit wear is permitted (Konos attire and Konos drama/play attire).
- **PROHIBITED:** Ripped jeans, short-shorts and short dresses, flip-flops (girls may wear dress sandals), gym shorts, sweatpants of any kind, and athletic wear (such as jerseys of favorite sports teams).
- Avoid adornment (e.g., nose rings, tattoos, and/or Henna tattoos) that distracts from learning. **Nose rings are not permitted (If you already have a nose ring, it must be removed before arriving at school and may be put back in after school).** Earrings are not permitted for male students. Hats, air pods, earbuds, earphones, and headphones should be left at home.
- Parents will be notified and asked to bring a change of clothing to school if there is a violation. The dress code will be strictly enforced and failure to comply will lead to probation and school discipline.
- Hair must be off the face so that the student can make easy eye contact with teachers/staff.
- Non Konos graphic shirts do not meet dress code. A prominently featured design element, like a logo or print, is a graphic. This includes but is not limited to sports teams, bands, food items, logo branding, etc. Graphic shirts do not represent business casual attire.
- Please note that complying with this policy should be cheerful and easy in light of the fact that we do not meet five-days-a-week and we expect the parents to support the school policy and prevent violations.

Konos staff and teachers seek to constantly and consistently enforce the dress code for our students. However, violations of the dress code may occur that are not noticed or addressed. The lack of observation of a dress code violation does not constitute a condonement of dress that violates this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for High School Students

Questions and policies specific to KJ, KK, and Kidlets will be provided separately by the teachers at those grade levels at orientation.

How much time is spent at home with assignments?

Students in the core program will spend 10-15 hours at home on their given assignments. Of course, students who read faster will spend less time, and those who type faster will be at an advantage. A good rule of thumb with the one-day classes is to spend at least the class time for four days. For example, for a one-hour literature class, spend at least one hour per day reading and answering study guide questions. The same is true for history, government, and other reading courses. For skill-building classes like grammar and vocabulary about one hour together, including memorizing and studying. For writing, it varies depending upon the student’s confidence, the complexity of the assignment, and the motivation of the student. Each of the following days is an 8-hour

workday. With a lunch break and an afternoon break, that leaves plenty of time per day to finish work and still have free time. Of course, students competing in sports or speech and debate tournaments will have to work harder and spend more time in practice. **The following is a sample schedule for a Tuesday student working eight (8) hours/day. Each student’s schedule and routine will vary according to the unique personality, ability, and work habit of the student.**

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri.

Math (1 hour)
Spanish (1 hour)
Science (2 hours)
Revise writing (1 hour)
Read and review study guide (1 hour)
Study vocab and grammar (1 hour)
Study history and elective (1 hour)

Tuesday:

Class day (6 hours)
Math (1 hour)
Spanish (1 hour)

Saturday as needed

How much parent involvement is required?

Successful students need to be “walked through” the program. Parents and teens should meet to plan the week ahead. A daily schedule should be planned and implemented. Parents should review the student’s work on a daily basis and all assignments should be inspected for errors and quality before submission. The day before class is for refinement and study. For juniors and seniors, it is expected that they have already learned how to discipline themselves. Usually, a more hands-off approach works best for these older teens. Discuss with the student a general schedule for each week and then let him/her try it. Parent volunteers are needed throughout the year for the play and other special events.

What materials are needed?

For the one-day core courses, Konos Academy purchases books and workbooks for each student from the materials fee. These are handed out during Orientation. Konos Plus course teachers will instruct on individual materials for that class and will contact their students directly. Core students are responsible for a backpack, lunch bag, water bottle, three-ring binder for assignment sheets and history notes, college-ruled notebook paper, 5-tab dividers, a pencil box or zippered bag containing two pencils with erasers, two black or blue pens, one red pen, a pencil sharpener, and a highlighter. On the assignment sheet, there is a list of specific books and other supplies to bring to the next week’s class. Students’ grades are marked down when they fail to bring required books to school.

Do students bring their own lunches?

Students may bring their own lunch and a snack to class. They also may order lunch each week from one of the vendors serving the school. A refrigerator and microwaves will be available to the students. Students are encouraged to bring bottled water to keep at their desk all day. Keeping food at tables and snacking through class time is distracting to the teacher and other students and is not permitted. Snacks should be eaten at the appointed break and lunchtime. A concession stand is available for snacks and water.

How do we stay in touch?

Communication is important. We want to answer questions and discuss concerns. Teacher/class questions should be directed to the respective course teacher and contact information is on the Konos website (konos.org) or in the Konos Academy Directory. We also want to communicate with you and will do so primarily through email.

Please be diligent to read all email communication so you don’t miss important information. Families are responsible for all email communication that is not kicked back to Konos for technical and/or server issues.

Who do I contact in an emergency?

If you need to contact your student during a class, please call the cell phone of the head teacher, not the student. Teachers’ contact numbers appear in the directory. For KA students, call John Lee at 678-283-4755. If John Lee is unavailable, please call Shannon Cull at 678-859-3157.

Student Code of Conduct

Konos Academy students want to learn. Of course, students aren't perfect, but we expect a heart attitude of willingness to receive instruction and to conform to our standards. Therefore, students should show up for class on time and be ready to learn. During class, we expect students to refrain from talking with one another and exhibit respect for their teachers by sitting up and being attentive. During the week, assignments should be done thoroughly and submitted when due. We expect students (and/or parents) who are struggling to seek help from their teachers. Students need to learn fairly and honestly. Cheating (passing another's work off as their own) has no place in this community. It is stealing and lying and shows lack of respect for God, teachers, learning, oneself, and others.

This community of students is a sample of real life with opportunities to practice habits of respecting one another. Obviously, this means that students should not bully or steal from each other. Less obviously, it means that students must watch how they speak to and about each other. Gossip, unfair criticism, biting sarcasm, and lying all undermine relationships. Forming friendships that exclude others (cliques) is a way of saying that some students are worth more than others. Students need to help each other; the older students especially need to set an example for the younger ones. When students disagree, we expect them to argue respectfully, "speaking the truth in love." They are to forgive and not hold grudges. We are a community of peacemakers and peacekeepers. **If a student or parent has been offended or sinned against, that student should go directly to the other party, as Jesus instructed in Matt. 18:15-20**, to seek reconciliation and prevent possible miscommunication, misunderstanding, bitterness, and resentment. We also expect students to show respect for the property of others. Destroying or harming another student's or the school's property, even if accidentally, means paying for it or otherwise making restitution.

Since our bodies are a gift from God, we expect students to avoid pressuring or tempting one another sexually. We do not allow pornographic materials (or sexually inappropriate communication such as sexting on phones) or immodest dress, as these degrade people made in God's image. Students shall not practice public displays of affection (PDAs) on Konos property or at any Konos events.

We expect the above conduct from all of our students, both on and off campus. If your student will not conform to these standards, Konos Academy is not a suitable place for him/her. Violations of these standards may result in disciplinary action (perhaps even expulsion). Ongoing deceit and lying to those in authority undermines trust, reveals poor character, and negatively impacts the rest of the student body. If such behavior persists without any indication of repentance, disciplinary action (including possible expulsion) will follow. If a student is struggling with a part, or parts, of this code of conduct, we ask them to seek a teacher's help right away. We reserve the right to admit, deny, or dismiss any student if in the judgment of the administration the student or parents fail to comply with Konos Academy standards and policies. If at any time during the enrollment of your student, the school administration and student/family can no longer work together in a spirit of unity, and all reasonable avenues of communication and reconciliation have been exhausted (including the directives of Matthew 18:15-20), the student/family agrees to voluntarily withdraw from Konos Academy.

Due to the fact that this handbook cannot cover every possible situation that may require disciplinary action, the school administration reserves the right to address any situation that might arise in a manner it deems right and appropriate. This Code of Conduct applies to all Konos core and Konos *Plus* students; both on and off campus, and to all Konos sponsored events and activities (prom, athletic events, and all other off-site events).

I have read, understand, and will comply with the Konos Code of Conduct and all of the policies and values outlined in the Parent-Student Handbook and the Konos tuition policy and agree to its terms.

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Student signature (KA and KJ) _____ Date _____

We believe in a minimum of rules, encouraging these young adults to examine their own hearts and to act in a way pleasing to the Lord. The goal is to assist them in learning. The primary method is self-discipline and self-control. If we see disobedience, disrespect, or class disruption of any kind, we will notify the parents.

Acknowledgements

- I have read, understood, and agree with the Konos Vision, Mission, Purpose, Statement of Faith, and Community. I agree to support Konos in its endeavor to fulfill these statements for the time I have a student enrolled in Konos Core or Plus classes. I agree to abide by the decisions made by the Konos administration in the execution of these statements.
- I have read and understood the above listed policies, including the academic policies, Code of Conduct, and Dress Code for Konos Academy. I agree to abide by these policies and Code of Conduct for each of our enrolled students. I agree to abide by the decisions made by the Konos administration in the execution of these policies.
- I understand that only Konos Core students will receive a transcript as outlined in the Konos Transcript Policy.
- I agree to have my student complete one math class and one science class each year in order to keep pace with the Georgia Department of Education graduation requirements. I also agree to have my student take two years of a foreign language and will initiate that two-year sequence no later than the junior year of my student. I understand that these courses are due each year by August 15th, prior to my student beginning their next school year.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date