HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Handbook

YOUNG 5'S

2026-2027

Young Fives Curriculum Overview

Your child will learn to:

Social skills

o Show courtesy and consideration
o Have an adequate attention span
o Handle conflicts appropriately
o Recover from disappointments
o Follow school and classroom rules
o Participate in group discussions
o Show self-confidence
o Make a variety of choices
o Work well with others
o Carefully complete tasks
o Follow directions
o Take care of his/her belongings

English Language Arts

o Use an appropriate voice level
o Listen effectively
o Briefly tell about a personal experience
o Remain focused on a set topic
o Speak with confidence in a group setting
o Demonstrate understandings of concepts of print:
o identify the back and front cover of books
o Identify title and beginning of text and direction print is read
o Write his/her first and last name
o Name, identify and write upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet
o Experiment with writing in play
o Use pictures to respond to text
o Recognize and produce some of the sounds associated with letters of the alphabet
o Blend and segment syllables in spoken words
o Recognize and produce rhyming words
o Explore a variety of digital tools to express ideas

Social Studies

o Understand basic calendars concepts
o Understand school environment
o Follow school safety procedures
o Identify our country's flag
o Describe classroom issues
o Understanding one's own personal life history
o Recognize that people have many wants
o Participate and cooperate in classroom activities, rights and responsibilities

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

***The school's doors open at 8:30 a.m. Therefore, children should not arrive at school before 8:30 a.m.**

If an adult other than a parent is to accompany a child from school, the teacher is to be notified of names of persons to whom the child can be released.

The names must be included on the pick-up form kept with the child's records.

BIRTHDAYS

You may bring in a birthday treat for your child's birthday, please contact your child's teacher.

CANCELLATIONS

If school should be delayed or canceled because of weather, notice will be given on the Defiance radio stations. The Defiance City Schools' schedule is followed.

If there is a two-hour delay in the morning, Young Five students may arrive at 10:30 a.m. and classes begin at 11:00 a.m.

CLOTHING

Uniforms are required. Please see the school web site for the dress code.

COMMUNICATION

You will receive a classroom newsletter. Parents are encouraged to become involved with our Young Fives classes and all other school functions, in accordance with health guidelines.

Behavior Management/Discipline

- A Pre-K staff member in charge of a child or a group of children shall be responsible for their discipline.
- The center shall have a written discipline policy describing the center's philosophy of discipline and the specific methods of discipline used at the center. This written policy shall be on file at the center for review. Constructive, developmentally appropriate child guidance and management techniques are to be used at all times, and shall include such measures as redirection, separation from problem situations, talking with the child about the situation, and praise for appropriate behavior.
- The center's actual methods of discipline shall apply to all persons on the premises and shall be restricted as follows:

  1. There shall be no cruel, harsh, corporal punishment or any unusual punishments such as, but not limited to, punching, pinching, shaking, spanking, or biting.

  2. No discipline shall be delegated to any other child.

The following precautions shall be taken for children suspected of having a communicable disease:

(1) The program shall immediately notify the parent or guardian of the child's condition when a child has been observed with signs or symptoms of illness.

(2) A child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be immediately isolated and discharged to his parent or guardian:

a) Diarrhea (more than one abnormally loose stool within a twenty-four-hour period)

b) Severe coughing, causing the child to become red or blue in the face or to make a whooping sound

c) Difficult or rapid breathing

d) Yellowish skin or eyes

e) Conjunctivitis

f) Temperature of one hundred degrees Fahrenheit taken by the auxiliary method when in combination with other signs of illness

g) Untreated infected skin patch(es)

h) Unusually dark urine and/or grey or white stool

i) Stiff neck

j) Evidence of lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestation

(3) A child with any of the following signs or symptoms or illness shall be immediately isolated from other children. Decisions regarding whether the child should be discharged immediately or at some other time during the day shall be determined by the director and the parent or guardian. The child, while isolated at the program, shall be carefully watched for symptoms listed in paragraph (B)(2) of this rule as well as the following:

a) Unusual spots or rashes

b) Sore throat or difficulty in swallowing

c) Elevated temperature or

d) Vomiting

PARTIES

Four parties are planned to celebrate special holidays: Halloween costume party, Christmas party, Valentine's Day card exchange, and Easter celebration. Parents may be asked to help or donate items for parties.

RECESS

Daily outdoor play is scheduled as weather permits. Indoor play will take place when the weather is unfavorable or when temperatures are below 25 degrees. Please prepare for the weather by listening to the local weather report and choosing appropriate clothing. When snow is present, boots must be worn to play/walk in snow. Please be sure to send in play shoes as well. Children should not wear outdoor boots all day. Young Fives will not need Snowsuits as it is not possible to get everyone dressed in a timely fashion for each recess.

No older children are on the playground when the Young Fives children are playing there.

REGISTRATION

Young Five registration papers include an information sheet, health information, birth certificate (**needs to be obtained from the Health Department**) pick-up form, emergency medical authorization, and a physical is required. We will send the form called **"Medical Statement" in June which is needed for the physical.** Additional forms will need to be filed upon entry (emergency transportation, administration of medication request, roster information release). Potential students of the Young Five class will be screened and must be 5 by December 31st of the year they attend. All preschool placements are based on screening results.

Holy Cross Catholic School Young Fives Discipline Policy

Introduction

One purpose of Holy Cross Catholic School is to aid parents in the religious and academic formation of their children. To accomplish this purpose and to maintain an atmosphere where learning can take place, school personnel expect certain behaviors and attitudes from the student.

Holy Cross Catholic School students are expected to be obedient, respectful, and courteous to all parents, volunteers, teachers, members of the staff, and to each other. Teachers should expect to hold any student they encounter accountable for his/her behavior.

Discipline must be viewed from a healthy, positive perspective. With students, faculty, parents, and administration working in close cooperation, the final end of all efforts will be realized as our students become mature and responsible Christians. Holy Cross Catholic School staff realizes that positive reinforcement changes behavior; therefore, positive feedback is the primary method of discipline. Teachers are expected to let the students know their cooperation is appreciated.

Discipline is used to teach and correct, never to shame or humiliate. Children must be taught socially acceptable and appropriate behaviors. Therefore, we teach and enforce the following Lifelong Guidelines and Life skills:

Lifelong Guidelines

- **Trustworthiness** – To act in a manner that makes one worthy of confidence
- **Truthfulness** - To be honest about things and feelings with oneself and others
- **Active Listening** -To listen with the intention of understanding what the speaker intends to communicate
- **No Put-Downs** - To never use words, actions and/or body language that degrade, humiliate, or dishonor others
- **Personal Best** - To do one's best given the circumstances and available resources

Life skills

- **Caring** - To feel and show concern for others
- **Common Sense** - To use good judgment
- **Cooperation** -To work together toward a common goal or purpose
- **Courage** - To act according to one's beliefs
- **Curiosity-T**o have a desire to investigate and seek understanding of one's world
- **Effort** - To do your best
- **Flexib**ility - To be willing to alter plans when necessary
- **Friendsh**ip-To make and keep a friend through mutual trust and caring
- **Initiative** - To do something because it needs to be done

We are pleased that you have chosen a Catholic education for your child/children. All of us at Holy Cross promise to work with you and support you in your role as primary educators of your child/children.

This handbook will serve as a guideline for all of us and a handy reference for you. Holy Cross recognizes the importance of communication. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school office at 419-784-2021.

Below you will find a "Student Handbook Certification" section. Please fill in the necessary information and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. This will assure us that you have had time to share our handbook with your child.

Note: **If viewing a paper copy of this form, please cut off, sign, and return the Student Handbook Certification section and keep the Student Handbook for reference.**

Holy Cross Catholic School
1745 South Clinton Street Defiance, OH 43512
www.defianceholycross.org

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet.

----------Cut Here ----------

Student Handbook Certification

We, _____ and _____,
(Parents/Guardians) (Student)

have received and read this student handbook. We understand the rights and responsibilities pertaining to students and agree to support and abide by the rules, guidelines, procedures, and policies of Holy Cross Catholic School.

(Parent Signature) _____ (Date) _____

(Student Signature) _____ (Date _____