

# Celandine

## Life-Preparatory Academy



*Cultivating life long learning through core academic instruction, community education, and business know-how.*

### **Standards of Ethical Conduct Celandine Life Preparatory Academy, Inc.**

(Adapted from the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in Florida and Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida)

1. Our school values the worth and dignity of every person, the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, acquisition of knowledge, and the nurture of democratic citizenship. Essential to the achievement of these standards are the freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal opportunity for all.
2. Our primary concern is the student and the development of the student's potential. Employees will therefore strive for professional growth and will seek to exercise the best professional judgment and integrity.
3. Concern for the student requires that our instructional personnel:
  - a. Shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning and/or to the student's mental and/or physical health and/or safety.
  - b. Shall not unreasonably restrain a student from independent action in pursuit of learning.
  - c. Shall not unreasonably deny a student access to diverse points of view.
  - d. Shall not intentionally suppress or distort subject matter relevant to a student's academic program.
  - e. Shall not intentionally expose a student to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.
  - f. Shall not intentionally violate or deny a student's legal rights.
  - g. Shall not harass or discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicapping condition, sexual orientation, or social and family background and shall make reasonable effort to assure that each student is protected from harassment or discrimination.
  - h. Shall not exploit a relationship with a student for personal gain or advantage.
  - i. Shall keep in confidence personally identifiable information obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
4. Aware of the importance of maintaining the respect and confidence of colleagues, of students, of parents, and of the community, employees of our school must display the highest degree of ethical conduct. This commitment requires that our employees:
  - a. Shall maintain honesty in all professional dealings.
  - b. Shall not on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, handicapping condition if otherwise qualified, or social and family

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background deny to a colleague professional benefits or advantages or participation in any professional organization.

c. Shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political or civil rights and responsibilities.

d. Shall not engage in harassment or discriminatory conduct which unreasonably interferes with an individual's performance of professional or work responsibilities or with the orderly processes of education or which creates a hostile, intimidating, abusive, offensive, or oppressive environment; and, further, shall make reasonable effort to assure that each individual is protected from such harassment or discrimination.

e. Shall not make malicious or intentionally false statements about a colleague.

**Training Requirement** All instructional personnel, classroom volunteers/educational support, and administrators are required as a condition of employment to complete training on these standards of ethical conduct annually.

**Reporting Misconduct by Instructional Personnel and Administrators** All instructional personnel, classroom volunteers/educational support, and administrators have an obligation to report misconduct by instructional personnel and school administrators, which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student. Examples of misconduct include obscene language, drug and alcohol use, disparaging comments, prejudice or bigotry, sexual innuendo, cheating or testing violations, physical aggression, and accepting or offering favors.

**Reports of misconduct of employees** should be made to:

Kristen Peterson, Principal (407)-790-4903, [kpeterson@clpa13.com](mailto:kpeterson@clpa13.com)

Cynthia Torres, Board President (407)790-4903, [ctorres@clpa13.com](mailto:ctorres@clpa13.com)

**Reports of misconduct committed by administrators** should be made to:

Cynthia Torres, Board Director (407)790-4903, [ctorres@clpa13.com](mailto:ctorres@clpa13.com)) or Dana Gomez, Board Secretary, [dgomez@clpa13.com](mailto:dgomez@clpa13.com)

Legally sufficient allegations of misconduct by Florida certified educators will be reported to the Office of Professional Practices Services. Policies and procedures for reporting misconduct by instructional personnel or school administrators which affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student are posted on: The School Office bulletin board, Bldg 6, Staff Bulletin Board, Bldg 5 and on our Web site at: <https://www.celandinelifeprep.net/>

**Reporting Child Abuse, Abandonment or Neglect** All employees and agents have an affirmative duty to report all actual or suspected cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

Report to:

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Kristen Peterson, Principal [kpeterson@clpa13.com](mailto:kpeterson@clpa13.com), 407-790-4903 or Cynthia Torress, Board Director @ [ctorres@clpa13.com](mailto:ctorres@clpa13.com) , (407)790-4903

Or Call to Report online:

Call: 1-800-96-ABUSE

Report online @ <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/report/>

Call 911 for emergencies.

Posters with Child Abuse signs and reporting information are placed throughout the school buildings, at child level height, in both English and Spanish.

**Signs of Physical Abuse** The child may have unexplained bruises, welts, cuts, or other injuries; broken bones; or burns. A child experiencing physical abuse may seem withdrawn or depressed, seem afraid to go home or may run away, shy away from physical contact, be aggressive, or wear inappropriate clothing to hide injuries.

**Signs of Sexual Abuse** The child may have torn, stained or bloody underwear, trouble walking or sitting, pain or itching in genital area, or a sexually transmitted disease. A child experiencing sexual abuse may have unusual knowledge of sex or act seductively, fear a particular person, seem withdrawn or depressed, gain or lose weight suddenly, shy away from physical contact, or run away from home.

**Signs of Neglect** The child may have unattended medical needs, little or no supervision at home, poor hygiene, or appear underweight. A child experiencing neglect may be frequently tired or hungry, steal food, or appear overly needy for adult attention.

**Patterns of Abuse:** Serious abuse usually involves a combination of factors. While a single sign may not be significant, a pattern of physical or behavioral signs is a serious indicator and should be reported.

**Liability Protections** Any person, official, or institution participating in good faith in any act authorized or required by law, or reporting in good faith any instance of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect to the department or any law enforcement agency, shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability which might otherwise result by reason of such action. (F.S. 39.203)

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An employer who discloses information about a former or current employee to a prospective employer of the former or current employee upon request of the prospective employer or of the former or current employee is immune from civil liability for such disclosure or its consequences unless it is shown by clear and convincing evidence that the information disclosed by the former or current employer was knowingly false or violated any civil right of the former or current employee protected under F.S. Chapter 760. (F.S. 768.095)

### **Ethics and Conduct**

#### **Celandine Life Prep Academy Professional Ethics**

(Influenced by Stephen R. Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" and adapted from The 2022 Florida Statutes)

1. We will be principle-centered in our decisions and actions.
2. Our educational staff will love, serve, sacrifice, listen, empathize, appreciate, and affirm our students, parents, each member of our team, and our learning community.
3. We will be value driven.
4. We will be proactive by effecting positive change for our students, team members, and school as a learning community, through diligence, resourcefulness, creativity, cooperation, and responsibility.
5. We will maintain our integrity by making and keeping principle-centered commitments- to ourselves, our students, our team members and, our learning community.
6. We will strive to participate in ongoing staff development and action research in order to provide the most current, positive, effective educational approach to our students, team members, and learning community.
7. We will treat each of our students' as the individual that they are through program development and implementation that targets their individual strengths and weaknesses and ensuring that all goals will be accurately and appropriately addressed and regularly assessed.

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8. We will recognize the unlimited possibilities for positive interactive growth and development of our students, team members, and learning community.
9. We will be empathetic listeners. We will listen to our students, team members, and learning community with the intent to understand before seeking to be understood so that we can best clarify the objectives before prescribing quality input.
10. We will create a synergistic environment by valuing the differences in our individual perceptions and being empathetic listeners during interactions with our students, team members, and learning community.
11. We will take time to renew the four dimensions of our personal nature – physical, spiritual, mental, and social/emotional in order to preserve and enhance the greatest asset we have - ourselves.

Blessings,

**Kristen Peterson MS, ESE**

Principal

Cynthia Torres, MS ESE

Board President

Celandine Life-Prep Academy, Inc.

(407) 790-4903

(352) 340-3488 (voicemail only)

[kpeterson@clpa13.com](mailto:kpeterson@clpa13.com)

[www.celandinelifeprep.net](http://www.celandinelifeprep.net)

Every one therefore that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them, shall be likened unto a wise man, who built his house upon rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock.

Matthew 7:24-25