

CENTREVILLE LAYTON UPPER SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024-2025

ACADEMIC YEAR

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MISSION STATEMENT

Centreville Layton School offers a robust educational and cultural experience for students who learn differently. The program identifies the academic and social needs of the individual and provides a curriculum that focuses on problem-solving and critical thinking. Through intervention and strengthening learning strategies, the school empowers each student to reach his or her potential.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The School calendar can be found by navigating to the school website at <u>www.centrevillelayton.org</u>.

GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

"Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once." (Anonymous)

School Day

Centreville Layton offices open at 8:00 AM, and the school day **begins promptly at 8:30 AM.** Students arriving after 8:30 need to check in at the front desk. Students arriving before 8:00 AM may wait for the offices to open in the designated waiting area (area to be determined by the school administration). If students arrive before 8:00 AM they are expected to behave according to school rules.

The school day ends at 3:30 PM; offices will remain open until 4:30 PM. If pick-up occurs after 4:30, the school may be locked and students may be asked to wait outside. Students are expected to leave school at the end of the school day (3:30 PM) unless they are scheduled for a special activity. If students are picked up after 3:30 PM, they are expected to behave according to school rules while they wait for a ride. During times of adverse weather (cold, rain, excessive heat) students may wait for their rides in the designated waiting area.

Early Dismissals

Parents need to communicate any early dismissals to Diane Daiger with as much advanced notice as possible. Students may not be picked up at the Upper School Annex and parents must enter at the main office and sign out their children at the front desk. This allows us to keep an accurate record of departures and maintain safety during dismissal.

After-school sports are typically scheduled from 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm daily. This will vary depending on the sport.

Attendance Expectations

Attendance is critical to school success. When students miss class, they are missing much more than the homework assignments; they are missing class discussions, group activities, and lab work. While paper and pencil work can be made up, class activities often cannot. Thank you for scheduling appointments outside of the school day and for scheduling family vacations during school breaks. If students miss more than 10% of class sessions (approximately 6 classes per semester and 12 classes per year), they run the risk of not receiving academic credit for the year.

Upon returning from an absence, a student must submit a written note from a parent/guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Official documentation must accompany the parent/guardian note for absences as a result of legal business and/or doctor's appointments. If a student does not present a

parent/guardian note containing a valid excuse within three days of returning to school, the absence will be considered unexcused.

If a student is absent for three consecutive days or longer, the student must have a note from a medical professional clearing him or her for a return to school.

If a student is absent, parents must call Diane Daiger at the school office (302-571-0230) or email ddaiger@centrevillelayton.org before 8:30 AM. Students must check TADS Educate for any missed work and check in with their teachers upon return to discuss missed work.

If students are absent more than six school days during the semester, the Head of Upper School will contact families and set up a meeting to discuss attendance.

Requests for discretionary (i.e., non-illness related/vacation) and/or extended absences must be made in writing and subject to approval by the Head of Upper School. Please see Diane Daiger or Rich Taubar for the proper form.

Academic credit will be up to the teacher's discretion for work missed due to non-approved absences.

The academic expectations associated with extended absences due to illness will be handled on an individual basis.

Early dismissal must be communicated in advance to the main office by the parent or guardian. Valid forms of communication include; email, a phone call, or a note sent in with the student.

School Closings

Periodically, the school will need to close due to inclement weather, etc. The school uses TADS Educate to communicate with families. The website will also contain school closing information. The radio station WSTW.com also runs school closing information for Centreville Layton School.

Transportation

Currently, there are no transportation services available. Please indicate (on your emergency form) if your child will be picked up by someone other than his/her legal guardian. If your child takes the bus it is incumbent upon the parent to contact the company with any changes.

Lunches

Students should bring a healthy lunch, snack, and drink daily. A **pre-order** lunch program is available. Contact Diane Daiger <u>ddaiger@centrevillelayton.org</u>.

Students of Centreville Layton School may not directly order lunch to be delivered to the school. Students should participate in the school-sponsored lunch program or bring their own lunch to school. If lunch is forgotten at home, the school will do its best to provide food for the students. A lunch fee will be charged in this instance.

Field trips

Field trips are an extension of our educational curriculum and are considered an academic day; the same attendance and behavioral expectations apply as seen in these sections of our handbook. These trips are an important part of each student's socialization in our program. If a student/family chooses not to participate and the student is not ill, there may be a consequence regarding points or a make-up assignment in their specific class. This will be subject to the discretion of the classroom teacher and the Upper School Dean, with the details to be worked out before the trip.

ACADEMICS

"Clear your mind of can't." (Samuel Johnson)

2024-2025 Upper School Centreville Layton Bell Schedule

Morning Meeting	8:30-8:40	Den seneuale
Period 1 (US Electives)	8:40-9:25	
Passing	9:25-9:30	
Period 2	9:30-10:15	
Passing	10:15-10:20	
Period 3	10:20-11:05	
Passing	11:05-11:10	
Period 4	11:10-11:55	
Lunch	11:55-12:25	
Outside Time/Clubs	12:25:12:55	
Period 5	12:55-1:40	
Passing	1:40-1:45	
Period 6	1:45-2:30	
Passing	2:30-2:35	
Period 7	2:35-3:20	

Carline begins at 3:30 pm daily

UPPER SCHOOL SCOPE & SEQUENCE

Subject Graduation Requirements* (minimum of 22 credits)	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12		
English* 4 credits	Language Arts 9	Language Arts 10	Language Arts 11	Language Arts 12		
Mathematics* 4 credits	Pre-Algebra Algebra I	Algebra I/Geometry/Math Concepts And Problem Solving, Algebra II w. Probability & Statistics Pre-Calculus/Calculus/Statistics				
Science* 4 credits	Foundations of Science	Biology/Physics/Chemistry/Earth Science/Life Science				
Social Studies* 4 credits	Civics	Modern World Civilizations/Modern U.S. History/Early US History/Contemporary US History/Western Civilizations History Elective Offerings				
French/Spanish 2 credits	French/Spanish I, II	French/Spanish I, II	French/Spanish II, III	French/Spanish III, IV		
Physical Education/Health 1 credit (8 quarters)	y and to grade students are required to participate in physical education classes for 2 quarters each year.					
Metacognition/Exec utive Functioning ½ credit (4 quarters)	ioning Grade 9-Study Skills & Introduction to Metacognition Grade 10. Self Awareness					
Community Service* 1/2 credit	Community service activities are designed to provide opportunities for Centreville Layton Upper School students to serve the school community as well as the broader community through volunteerism. • Grades 9-12 students are required to complete 20 total hours of targeted community service					
Electives 2 credits (16 quarters)	Electives are designed to provide breadth to the academic program for Centreville Layton Upper School students. Students are required to earn credits in these areas: • Visual Arts-1/2 credit (painting, drawing, film criticism, film production, yearbook, web design, etc.) • Performance Arts-1/2 credit (vocal/instrumental music, theatre, public speaking, primitive tools, go-karts, etc.)-Other elective courses may be offered.					

Graduation requirements are aligned with the requirements for grades 9-12 mandated by the State of Delaware Department of Education.

^{*} Denotes subject credits that must be earned to graduate in good standing from Centreville Layton School.

Academic Policy and Support

Communication

Centreville Layton Upper School families may access student academic information via TADS Educate. TADS Educate is discussed in detail on page 9 of the Student Handbook.

- Weekly Reports Parents can opt to have weekly reports sent via TADS Educate. This is done via the parent portal and will be emailed to parents and students via Educate.
- <u>Interim Reports</u> for quarter-long classes will be emailed to parents and students at the end of the first and third quarters.
- Report Cards will be emailed to parents and students via TADS Educate at the end of the fall and spring semesters.

Exams (Upper School classes only)

Exams are offered to provide a final and formal assessment of coursework as well as to give much-needed **practice** with exam preparation and test-taking. Exams will be scheduled at the end of every semester and will have a scaled percentage of the semester average. Exams can take many forms and will be decided upon by the teacher.

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
20%	20%	20%	20%

Seniors who have earned an 85% for their yearly average may be exempt from spring semester exams. (This will be determined on a course-by-course basis.)

Academic Warning and Probation

The grade point average (GPA) is calculated at the end of each semester. The minimum GPA to be in good standing at Centreville Layton School is 1.7 with grades no less than C- in all but one class.

If a student's performance at the end of 1st or 3rd quarter falls within academic warning territory, the student's mentor will set up a meeting with the student and parents to discuss strategies to improve student learning.

Academic Warning

- If GPA falls below 1.7 **or** if the student receives more than one course grade of less than C- on the semester report, the student may be placed on **Academic Warning**. This will be communicated with parents in writing and at a conference with the Head of Upper School.
- An Academic Plan will be drafted and implemented. Close monitoring of performance and communication between school, family & student will include:
 - o Daily homework check-in/check-out with a mentor
 - o Participation in extracurricular activities may be revoked
 - Weekly communication of academic standing between mentor and family

Academic Probation

• If GPA does not reach the minimum of 1.7 **or** if the student receives more than one-course grade less than C- for consecutive semester reports, the student will be placed on **Academic Probation**. This will be communicated with parents at a conference with the Head of the Upper School.

- The Academic Plan implemented during Academic Warning will be revised as needed. Close monitoring of performance and communication between school, family & student will include:
 - No extra-curricular activities (including sports)
 - Weekly communication of academic standing between mentor and family
 - o Daily homework check-in/check-out with mentor
 - The student will have one semester to improve GPA to a minimum of 1.7 with grades higher than D or F in all but one class.
 - o Failure to reach the minimum GPA while on probation may result in dismissal.

Generative AI Policy

Centreville Layton School faculty and staff acknowledge the availability of generative AI tools as well as their potential benefits and drawbacks. The faculty will indicate in course syllabi and expectations for individual assignments whether the use of generative AI such as ChatGPT or Google Gemini is permitted in their course(s).

Because expectations for using generative AI will vary across courses and assignments, students must read the expectations for each course carefully. As a general rule, students should disclose to faculty if they are using generative AI platforms and in what manner they are using them in coursework.

Guidelines for when generative AI is permitted by faculty:

If faculty permit generative AI in their course(s), students will be instructed on how to use and properly cite such tools in their work. Citation information will include what platforms students use and how they use them. Failure to properly and completely cite AI-generated responses may be reported as a violation of the CLS Honor Code.

Guidelines for when faculty have not communicated their generative AI policy:

If the course policy on AI is not clearly stated in the assignment instructions and/or in the syllabus, students must communicate with their professor(s) to clarify before using generative AI in their coursework. Students are encouraged to communicate with their teachers in writing via email.

Consequences of using generative AI without faculty permission:

The use of generative AI without faculty permission will be considered a violation of the disciplinary code. Suspected violations of this nature will be reported to the Dean of Students.

The use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to complete an assignment or exam is prohibited unless students have a written statement from the course instructor granting permission. Unauthorized use of AI shall be treated similarly to plagiarism and is subject to discipline.

Occupational/Speech/Language Therapy

Centreville Layton School enjoys the expertise of an on-staff occupational therapist and speech/language therapist. These services will be offered to our upper school students on an as-needed basis.

Social and Emotional Support

Dr. Len Dostillio is the Centreville Layton School psychologist. He provides professional support for students who need social and/or emotional support. Dr. Dostillio also provides teachers with resources and strategies to work with struggling students. If you have concerns about your child's social and/or emotional well-being at school, please contact Len Dostillio.

Academic Materials

Managing time, organizing materials (both paper and electronic), and the ability to utilize the available technology is essential for academic success.

Computers/Tablets

The school maintains Chromebooks for Upper and Middle School students. Students must follow the School's acceptable use policy.

Keycards

Centreville Layton School may issue a personalized security keycard to access the buildings on campus on weekdays between 8:00 AM-4:00 PM. These keycards will allow access through two doors at the main building and one door at the mansion. Keycards should not be shared and should remain in possession of the student at all times. A lost or damaged keycard must be immediately reported to a teacher or level head. A fee of \$10.00 will be assessed for any lost or damaged keycard. Keycards must be returned at the end of the school year or upon separation from the school.

TADS EDUCATE

TADS Educate provides parent and student access to course assignments, course announcements, and current grades. It is the student's responsibility to **check** TADS Educate **daily for course assignments, announcements, and academic standing**.

To access TADS Educate please visit https://educate.tads.com/educate/

Upon enrollment, families will receive a signup email from TADS Educate.

HOMEWORK PROTOCOL

Thoughtfully assigned homework as an important **reinforcement** or **preview** for daily class work. Homework provides students an opportunity to apply **study skills** and **self-regulation** strategies. It is a **critical component**

of Centreville Layton's program. With this in mind, homework will be assigned at the teacher's discretion and may not occur daily but instead be assigned when it is most valuable to the education of the student.

Teachers and mentors are available before school, during class and homework lab/academic support, and after school to work with students who need clarification or help with homework.

Students should use **assignment books** and/or Google Calendar to record all assignments during the school day and regularly check TADS Educate at home.

Missing homework

Due to excused absences:

- Students will be given the same time as absences to make up missed work.
 - o If absent for one day, students will have an additional day for homework completion. If absent for two days, students will have two additional days.
 - o Major assignments with long-communicated due dates may be an exception to the above.
- Students should **check** TADS Educate **to review assignments and class announcements** when absent.

Not due to absence:

There are many reasons for non-completion of homework, including problems with time, materials, and understanding.

Students must work with individual classroom teachers to make up any missed assignments and work to resolve any of the above problems.

DEFINING THE CENTREVILLE LAYTON UPPER SCHOOL COMMUNITY

RESPECT (ri spekt): – to feel or show honor or esteem for (Webster, 2002)

THE FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

The Founder's Circle recognizes exceptional students who embody the values established by the founders of Layton Preparatory School. Each year, Centreville Layton Upper School faculty members nominate individuals whom they feel, by unanimous decision, participate fully in the life of the school and who, to the best of their ability, take a leadership role in helping to both create and support a positive and productive Centreville Layton School community.

Founder's Circle members have demonstrated growth in the following areas.

- are consistently inclusive and kind and work to create opportunities for various groups within the community (students, faculty, parents) to positively interact;
 - o invite others to eat lunch with you
 - o provide encouragement to classmates (Good luck on exams, Thank you for making hamburgers, Dr. Reese)
 - help a classmate or teacher without being asked

- are genuinely interested in and actively involved in the life of the school and the school community;
 - o participate in clubs, school events and/or athletic offerings and often play leadership roles in these endeavors
 - o serve as a student ambassador for admission visitors
- are good citizens and concerned and caring community members, they volunteer to help, they consistently model inclusive and positive communication between peers and adults;
 - discourage gossip
 - o avoid behaviors that lead to suspension
 - o promote school spirit
 - o host jeans days for a cause
- demonstrate scholarship by maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.5 and exhibiting all the characteristics of an active learner.

Faculty, staff, and administrators nominate students for membership in the Founder's Circle at the beginning of May. Names of students who receive unanimous support are forwarded to the Head of Upper School. Members are inducted during graduation exercises.

DRESS CODE AND DEVICES

Centreville Layton's dress code serves to help create a positive and successful community of learners by clearly communicating high standards and expectations and by strengthening a sense of individual and community pride.

• In general: ALL clothing must fit well, be clean, and be in good condition (no holes). All Centreville Layton spirit wear meets dress code standards. Hooded sweatshirts must be worn with the hood down. Hats and outerwear are not appropriate indoors. Denim and sweatpants are acceptable.

The following clothing is not permitted:

- Team jerseys
- worn or distressed clothing with holes
- Violent/inappropriate graphics or logos
- Any shirt without sleeves
- No bare midriffs/no crop tops
- Hats or hoods inside the building
- Low necklines
- Pajamas/slippers
- Lounge Pants/flannel pants
- Open-toed shoes (including flip flops and slides)
- Shorts must be longer than your shirt and sweatshirt

Other considerations:

Dress-down days will occur periodically. Students may wear leisure, athletic, or sweatpants on dress-down days.

- O Dress-down clothes may NOT advocate violence, sex or the use of drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.
- o Symbols that demean any individual or group belief may NOT be displayed.

Personal Devices

Due to safety, communication, and social concerns, the use of listening devices, earbuds, and headphones will not be permitted in the hallways or in between buildings.

Electronics

- Game consoles and handheld systems.
 - Students will not be permitted to use game consoles and systems during the school day.
- Cell phones and Smart watches
 - Students will not be permitted to use cell phones/smart watches during the school day. They must be on silent and in their backpack. Students may ask teacher permission to use school phones.
 - Smart watches must be on airplane mode and are not to be used as communication devices.
 - o If students misuse this privilege they may be asked to turn cell phones/smart watches over to a staff member until the end of class or the end of the day. If this privilege continues to be abused students can lose the privilege to have a cell phone/smart watch on campus for a period of time.
 - Only students who receive accommodations to use assistive technology may wear headphones while using their chromebooks.
 - Headphones will not be permitted unless student is using chromebook for assistive technology.
 - If you need to get in touch with your child, please call the main office.

CENTREVILLE LAYTON UPPER SCHOOL

DISCIPLINE POLICY

The norms that govern our school community can best be summed up in one rule:

Be respectful to yourself and others.

This rule helps to create and strengthen a positive sense of community. Being respectful facilitates student success, community growth, and minimizes discipline problems. Centreville Layton School community members are expected to promote and display RESPECT for themselves, and those around them, as well as school and personal property. This respect is demonstrated on a daily basis in a variety of ways, including:

- Honestly completing an assignment.
- Thinking before speaking or acting.
- Listening to others' points of view.
- Helping a classmate or teacher in need.
- Keeping the school building and grounds neat and organized.

The school recognizes different levels of behavioral infractions: minor and major breaches of respect.

Minor breaches of respect include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- 1 violation of dress code
- Every 3 tardies to school and/or class
- Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices
- Disruptive behavior
- Teasing
- Eating or drinking in unauthorized areas or at unauthorized times

- Inappropriate displays of affection
- Conversation inappropriate to a school setting (profane language, sexual references, racial slurs)

Consequences – minor breaches of respect:

- 1. Teachers notify students that they are being referred for behavior and complete a **behavior log on TADS Educate**. (NOTE: These referrals are completed only after first the teacher conferences with students and encourage appropriate behavior.)
- 2. If a student receives **3 minor behavior referrals** in a 30-day period, a behavior communication will be sent via email to parents and the student.

Three minor breaches of respect will be treated as one major breach of respect.

Major breaches of respect (whether occurring on school property or while involved in any school activities) include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Chronic minor offenses (3 incidents within 30 days)
- 3 or more violations of the dress code
- A consistent pattern of tardiness to school and/or class
- Violations of the acceptable electronics use policy
- Drugs/tobacco/alcohol/paraphernalia possession or use
- Weapons possession or use
- Physical/verbal abuse or bullying, including put-downs of other students or teachers
- Destruction of property

- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Inappropriate sexual behavior
- Sexual assault
- Stealing, cheating, plagiarizing
- Insubordination (publicly disrespecting an adult through action or speech, refusing to follow directions)
- Possession of inappropriate materials
- Dishonesty
- Disrespect to staff at the school
- Disrespect to staff/students or Centreville Layton School online or on any social media

Interpersonal Respect/Harassment and "Cyberbullying"

Centreville Layton School does not tolerate hostile, threatening, or negative behavior which may adversely impact: a student's success, a student or staff member's feeling of comfort in or outside our educational environment, or tarnish Centreville Layton School's reputation. This includes online and electronic communications from any device and on any platform. Disrespectful, vulgar, or threatening online or electronic communication is considered a a major breach of our Code of Conduct. This can lead to disciplinary actions including but not limited to detention, suspension, and dismissal.

Consequences – major breaches of respect:

- 1. Teacher must report the incident to the appropriate administrator. The Dean of Student Life will gather the necessary information.
- 2. The Dean of Student Life will inform the student, teachers, and the student's family that a serious rule violation has occurred.

3. The Dean of Student Life and Head of Upper School will determine appropriate consequences for the rule violation. Consequences may include but are not limited to, detention, academic penalties, suspension, disciplinary probation, notification of appropriate legal authorities, or dismissal from the school.

SENIOR PRIVILEGES

As leaders and role models of the student body, seniors at Centreville Layton are awarded certain privileges. Senior privileges consist of:

- Exemption from semester two exam in courses in which she/he has earned an 85% for their yearly average.
- Relaxed requirements:
 - Seniors may leave before the last period of the day if they have a corresponding homework lab.
 - Seniors may wear sweatshirts with college logos.
- Please note that all other dress code requirements remain in place.
- Free period during scheduled academic support labs
- Senior lunch privileges (Mansion, cafeteria, designated outdoor areas)
- Senior privileges can be awarded during the **1st quarter** to seniors who have no grade lower than a B in any class.
- Privileges will be revoked for any senior whose grade for the quarter drops below a B in any class.

Senior privileges DO NOT INCLUDE:

• Driving off-campus during school hours

These privileges are granted to seniors who are in good academic standing and may be revoked if the student struggles to complete coursework, qualifies for "Academic Warning" status or commits a major breach of the discipline policy.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Prior to the first day of school parents must submit an Emergency and Medical Information Card, a current Physical, and Immunization Record.

You will be contacted by the school nurse if she finds your child has become ill during the school day and needs to go home. We ask that you pick up your child as quickly as possible for their own comfort and so the spread of sickness is kept to a minimum.

Please help keep our school healthy by keeping your child at home if any of the following symptoms are present:

- 1. Your child has a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, or has had these symptoms in the last 24 hours.
- 2. Your child has symptoms of a possible communicable disease.

Please notify the school nurse, Ext 217, if your child has been diagnosed with a communicable disease.

Forms:

Emergency and Medical Information Card

• (NOTE: During the school year, please keep the office informed of any changes to contact information. You may also update your information on TADS Educate.)

DIAA Physical Evaluation Forms

This is required even if the student is not participating in competitive sports. Make sure to attach a copy of student immunization records to the DIAA forms.

Medications

Children who require medication during school hours must provide the medication in the original prescription bottle (or provide a written prescription) and sign the "permission to dispense prescribed medication" section on the Emergency and Medical Information Card. (NOTE: This permission may be granted as needed at a later date.)

Other

State law requires that children with epi-pens require allergy action plans, and children with asthma require asthma action plans. Epi-pens and inhalers should reside with the school nurse unless parents sign a form indicating that their child is to carry it throughout the day.

Energy Drinks

Adverse health effects from the consumption of energy drinks by children, adolescents and young adults is a growing source of concern. With this concern in mind the consumption of energy drinks by students on Centreville Layton School's campus is prohibited.

OTHER POLICIES

NON DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Centreville Layton School is a non-profit, nonsectarian, nondiscriminatory organization founded in 1974 and incorporated in 1978. We accept students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities available to students at this school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of our education, admissions, financial support, athletic or other programs administered by the school.

MEDIA POLICY

Centreville Layton School may use a student's likeness or image in publications/publicity and marketing materials that are both electronic and paper based.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Centreville Layton School students may ride a bus or school van to visit off-campus locations to supplement their education and to attend athletic events.

Students of Centreville Layton School may not use non-contracted ride services for transportation to or from our school. These types of ride services would include but are not limited to, Uber, Lyft, taxi companies, etc. Companies that are specifically designed to transport students and have been contracted by the parents or a school district are allowed to drop off/pick up students at Centreville Layton School.

Students of Centreville Layton School are allowed to walk or ride a bike to/from school if the distance to the home is reasonable. Both parents/guardians must give written permission to the school for a student to walk or ride a bike.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT POLICY

Corporal punishment is strictly forbidden. Slapping, spanking, pinching, hitting, or physical force to correct student behavior is strictly prohibited. Physical force to restrain may be used in extreme situations where the safety of the individual, other students, or CLS employees is in question. The use of corporal punishment may be grounds for discipline up to and including immediate termination.

RIGHT TO AMEND HANDBOOK POLICY

Centreville Layton School reserves the right to make additions and change the handbook at any time. Notification of changes will be distributed in a timely fashion.