

Cedar Park Christian School

Missions Handbook

2018 - 2019



CPC SERVE – THE VISION

The mission of Cedar Park Christian School is to transform the hearts and minds of our students. There is perhaps no greater opportunity for accomplishing that goal than through service. Whether At Home, Away or Abroad, when we serve others, we become more like Christ, who came “not to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45).

The one foundational reason that we go on mission trips needs to be to serve our Lord and Savior. In making this our priority, we see more clearly His enormous sacrifice for us, and the great need for the lost to hear His message. When signing up for our trip we can easily begin worrying about the wrong things: Am I with my friends? Is this location more fun? Which trip is the most exotic? These questions are “me-centric” and do not have Christ at the center. A better question to ask is: “How and where would God like me serve?” As

As you spend time praying about which team the Lord wants you to join, please approach Him with humility. Ask Him to prepare in advance all kinds of encounters with people during CPC Serve Week in order to encourage the downhearted, show love to the unlovely, bring joy to the broken, and shine light into the darkness. The school will do everything it can to provide you the opportunity to serve with the love of Jesus in various ways. The meaningfulness of this experience, however, will greatly depend on your attitude and willingness to approach it prayerfully, positively and with personal availability to the work of the Holy Spirit’s leading.

“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.”

- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15

THE GOALS

- To develop a Biblical theology of missions and Christ-oriented service.
- To experience various types of mission trips.
- To develop compassion for the marginalized.
- To share our faith through both words and actions
- To grow in the knowledge of God's character.
- To minister locally and cross-culturally in order to develop an appreciation for all cultures and peoples.
- To discover and use our spiritual gifts and talents.
- To minister as part of a team.
- To develop a lifestyle of prayer.

THE PROCESS

Students select their mission trip by submitting their application to Ms. Boyd. When assigning trips, priority is given to students in order of grade seniority and the date the student signed up. ***Students who are dating may not sign up for the same team.***

We pray diligently about who will be placed on each team, and ask that you also pray for God's guidance in forming our mission teams. The Administrative and Campus Ministry Teams of Cedar Park will make the final decision in mission trip placement for each student.

CEDAR PARK SERVE - TRIP COVENANT

Cedar Park Christian School, along with the various ministries that we will be working alongside, will endeavor to make your mission trip meaningful. The mission experience is designed to encourage your walk with Christ. It is our belief that your experience – wherever you are serving – will be enjoyable, rewarding and challenging which often requires being stretched outside our comfort zones. Growing in the Lord requires an understanding that taking responsibility for your own life and conduct provides a reflection of Christ to others. With that in mind, please read the following prayerfully and then sign as indicated.

A. Christian growth involves self-discipline, which means accepting personal responsibility to live “as unto the Lord”, therefore...

I will be on time and attentive in all group devotions, worship, training, and outreach activities. I will keep my belongings and my room neat and clean. I will respect the property, privacy and rights of others. I will demonstrate respect in words and actions toward my fellow team members, staff, guests, and those in the community. I will seek to have a positive influence on those around me.

B. Neat and modest clothing must be worn at all times.

I will respect others and myself by wearing clothing that adheres to Cedar Park standards while participating on my mission trip. I will respect all Cedar Park team leaders, chaperones and other site leaders in their requests to meet the terms of the ministry dress standards. These include: long shorts and skirts, shoes or sandals (no flip-flops), shirts covering the stomach and shoulders (no spaghetti straps), jeans, modest one-piece swimsuits and baggy swim trunks for men. For church ministry, I will comply with the standards set by the ministry where I am serving.

C. Media influences often distract us from developing friendships, thinking clearly, and reflecting on how to develop a deeper walk with the Lord, therefore...

I will not bring anything on my trip that will distract from these goals. Smart phones and media players are welcome but are only to be used at designated times. I will not view pornography; I will only view ‘G’ rated or pre-approved ‘PG’ movies. I will intentionally avoid music and movies that mock God, use profane language or promote/describe immorality and understand that my team leaders have the right to monitor my media/entertainment consumption and confiscate technology if expectations are violated.

D. The Bible instructs us to respect authority, therefore...

I will not complain or contest the mission trip upon which I am placed or place undue pressure on the trip coordinators to change my trip assignment. The only way I may request to change trips is due to medical or financial circumstances. If I do not attend my mission trip I will still make the full trip payment and will be expected to complete 6 hours of community service for every day that I miss. I will abide by all guidelines established by Cedar Park and the other ministry partners.

E. The Bible says that Christians should “think on things that are excellent,” and “avoid the appearance of evil,” therefore...

By signing below, I specifically agree that I will maintain an exceptional code of conduct as per the rules and expectations of Cedar Park, and will NOT consume or possess alcohol, tobacco products, vape/juul, or partake in the use of any illegal drugs at any time during this trip. Furthermore, I acknowledge that violating a requirement may result in my immediate return home at full cost to my family, wholly at Cedar Park’s discretion.

Student Printed Name: _____ **Grade Level:** _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

PARENTS:

We are truly excited to lead and serve alongside your student on this trip! As we represent the hands and feet of Christ, it is our strong desire that our entire team be a *light* wherever we go. Subsequently, certain actions including viewing pornography, consuming or possessing alcohol, tobacco products, vaping/juuling, or illegal drugs are prohibited.

By signing below, you acknowledge that should your child violate the Cedar Park code of conduct, he/she may immediately be returned home at Cedar Park’s full discretion and at your expense. By signing below, you also agree that you will not contest the mission trip upon which your child is placed. A request to change trips may only be made due to medical or financial circumstances.

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

This form must be signed and received by the Campus Ministries Director before being assigned to a trip. Additional waivers, health forms and permission slips will be provided upon trip selection. No student may attend their trip without all forms and payments being submitted by the deadline.