



## STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY

All Regions

Safety, order, and student discipline are fundamental to learning at Rocketship. Rocketship expects all students to behave in a way that fosters a safe and welcoming environment for other students, Rocketship staff, and community members.

Students will be subject to disciplinary action if they engage in prohibited conduct while on school property, when attending any school-sponsored activity, or while in transit going to or coming from a Rocketship campus. Students may also be subject to disciplinary action for off-campus behavior if it creates a substantial disruption to the school environment or interferes with another student's ability to participate in the school program.

Some disciplinary infractions are so serious that they may subject a student to suspension and/or expulsion. A list of these infractions can be found in Rocketship's [Suspension and Expulsion Policy](#), along with the procedures that Rocketship will take when considering suspension or expulsion of a student. This Policy outlines the Rocketeer Creed that we expect students to follow; expectations for students; examples of prohibited conduct that will subject a student to in-school disciplinary action; and disciplinary actions that Rocketship may take in response to behavioral infractions, including In-School Suspension.

### I. Rocketeer Code of Conduct

The Rocketship Code of Conduct includes the following non-negotiable expectations for our Rocketeers:

- Adherence to the Rocketship Commitment to Excellence.
- Adherence to the Rocketship Core Values: Respect, Responsibility, Persistence, Empathy, and the fifth campus-specific Value chosen by each school.
- Adherence to the **Rocketship Creed**:

*I am a Rocketship Rocketeer at home, at school, and in my community*

*I show respect to myself, my neighbors, and the environment*

*I take responsibility for my learning and actions*

*I have empathy, supporting others in need*

*I show initiative by solving the problems I see*

*And I am persistent in attaining excellence.*

*Together, we are all Rocketship Rocketeers.*

### II. Prohibited Conduct

The following conduct is prohibited by Rocketship and may subject a student to in-class disciplinary action.

- Engaging in acts of bullying as defined by Rocketship’s regional [Bullying Prevention Policy](#).
- Insubordination (including, but not limited to, refusing to follow directions, refusing to identify oneself to a staff member, running away from a staff member, talking back to a staff member).
- Engaging in behaviors that threaten the safety of oneself or others.
- Disrupting school activities.
- Playing in the hallways or bathroom.
- Dishonesty/lying to staff members.
- Theft of property.
- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism or cheating.
- Inciting or attempting to incite others to violence or disruption.
- Aiding or abetting the infliction or attempted infliction of violence on another.
- Committing an obscene act or engaging in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- Recording or photographing students or staff members without their prior knowledge and consent.
- Using computers for non-school related activities, including viewing or accessing prohibited sites.
- Using cell phones or other personal electronic communication devices on school property, during school hours or during school functions, except when under express permission and supervision of a staff member
- Trespassing (including being on school grounds while school is not in session, being in unauthorized areas of the building, and use of the bathroom without permission)
- Leaving the classroom, school building, school property, or school activity without permission
- Intentionally altering, falsifying, destroying, or fabricating any official document (including 9-1-1 phone calls and setting off fire alarms).
- Repeatedly violating Rocketship’s dress code, as described in Rocketship’s [Student Uniform Policy](#).
- Violating Rocketship Education’s Code of Conduct, as described above.

### **III. In-school Disciplinary Actions**

Rocketship relies on proactive, preventive supports to promote positive behavior at school. Rocketship has implemented a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework in all schools. The fundamental purpose of PBIS is to create learning environments that are more consistent, predictable, positive and safe. Key PBIS practices include clearly defined behavioral expectations and consequences, systems for recognizing and reinforcing positive behaviors, data-based decision making, multi-tiered systems of support, and the implementation of core social-emotional learning curricula.

Rocketship classrooms also use a variety of management systems to address behavioral issues. These may include color-coded card chart systems and other tiered consequences.

In the event that Rocketship’s PBIS infrastructure and classroom management systems are insufficient to prevent disciplinary infraction, or a disciplinary infraction is serious enough to immediately warrant additional discipline, Rocketship may take alternative in-school disciplinary action. These actions depend on the circumstances of the offense and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sending the student to the Principal’s office.

- Excluding the student from classroom activities or privileges through a “time out” or temporary placement in another classroom.
- Calling or writing/emailing the student’s parent/guardian.
- Arranging a conference with the student, parent, teacher and/or administrator.
- Implementing an individualized behavior plan for the student.
- Implementing counseling sessions with a designated staff member.
- Sending the student to a peer mediation.
- Requiring that the student complete a reflective essay or assignment.
- Requiring that the student take actions to counteract/ameliorate a problem (i.e. fixing something the student broke).
- Referring the student to a Student Support Team.
- Restricting the student’s participation in after-school/extra-curricular activities or field trips.
- Holding the student for detention or additional instructional time during lunch or before/after school.
- Confiscating inappropriate items related to the disciplinary infraction.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. “Corporal punishment” includes the willful infliction of or willfully causing the infliction of physical pain on a student. For purposes of the Policy, “corporal punishment” does not include an employee’s use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property. (See also Rocketship’s regional [Seclusion and Restraint](#) Policy.)

As described above, severe infractions that threaten the safety or health of students, staff or others, may be cause for suspension or expulsion, as outlined in Rocketship’s [Suspension and Expulsion Policy](#).

#### **IV. In-School Suspension**

In-school suspension (“ISS”) provides an alternative to out-of-school suspension. ISS allows students to be counted present and provides an in-school opportunity for them to complete and receive credit for class assignments. During ISS, students will complete school work in a location separate from their class. ISS is not intended to be an alternative to or long-term replacement of the student’s regularly scheduled class.

ISS may be used in the event that a student is engaging in prohibited conduct that is making the classroom environment physically or emotionally unsafe for other students or that severely disrupts a class or school-sponsored activity;

Only the Principal or Assistant Principal or his/her designee shall assign a student to ISS. Students assigned to ISS must have written notification of the date and duration of the ISS assignment. Assignment to ISS and the scheduling of the days assigned are at the Principal’s discretion.

Principals should place the student in ISS as soon as possible after the infraction is reported. The principal will ensure that:

- Students assigned to ISS are provided a safe, positive environment
- Students assigned to ISS are properly supervised; and

- Students assigned to ISS are allowed to complete class work assigned during his/her placement in ISS.
- All class work for students is obtained, academic assistance is provided as necessary, and completed work is returned to the student's classroom teacher.
- Activities of academic value are provided for the student when the classroom teacher's work is not provided or is insufficient for ISS time assigned.

Additionally, classroom teachers will:

- Provide classwork commensurate to the work missed for a student in ISS.
- Record a student in ISS as present. There will be no attendance-related penalty for assignment to ISS.
- Evaluate the student's work completed in ISS and give credit for work completed in ISS.
- Ensure that students in ISS receive credit for attendance and full credit for work completed.

The student's parent/guardian must be notified of a student's assignment to ISS at the time that the ISS placement is scheduled. The Principal should contact a parent/guardian by phone or in-person meeting. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached in this manner, the Principal or his/her designee may make contact through e-mail.