

# Lyndon

I N S T I T U T E

## STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

2023-2024



Lyndon Institute  
PO Box 127  
Lyndon Center, VT 05850  
[www.lyndoninstitute.org](http://www.lyndoninstitute.org)



# Welcome to Lyndon Institute

Lyndon Institute (LI) is a member of the Vermont Independent Schools Association and the Independent Schools Association of Northern New England.

Lyndon Institute is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and has been approved by the Vermont State Board of Education.

Lyndon Institute admits students of any sex, race, color, religion, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, handicap, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its education policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

Lyndon Institute is approved as an independent school under Vermont law.

## **MISSION**

Lyndon Institute inspires our students to become accomplished learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate community members.

## **VISION**

Because we believe every individual can contribute to a better world, we inspire and empower our students to provide solutions to complex problems and make an impact on their communities both locally and globally.

## **CORE VALUES 2023-2024**

**RESPECT** – for self, others, and Lyndon Institute by:

- Practicing honesty and integrity at all times
- Exercising kindness, empathy, and compassion for all members of our community
- Being ambassadors of our Campus, the School's reputation, and LI's legacy
- Being positive and productive members of our inclusive and welcoming community

**RESPONSIBILITY** – to become accomplished learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate community members by:

- Striving for academic excellence
- Being engaged academically, socially and extracurricular at LI
- Becoming adaptable and flexible community members
- Learning from mistakes, as well as the successes, of self and others
- Recognizing and appreciating that each individual at LI is a part of a global community
- Making positive contributions to LI, the regional community and the world

Dear Students and Parents:

One of the most important factors in the success of our students and our school is our partnership with you. The key to that partnership is open communication with parents and guardians. We hope this handbook serves to answer your questions. Please don't hesitate to contact us for any reason. For your convenience in reaching out, you'll find a campus directory on pages three and four.

We, as a learning community, believe learning occurs best when it is:

- Relevant
- Engaging
- Connected
- Empowering
- Guided
- Ongoing
- Reflective
- Supported
- Personalized

We also believe students must feel safe in order to achieve their full potential, and we strive to provide a positive educational environment that is safe for all our students. The student conduct and discipline policies and procedures outlined in this handbook and approved by the Board of Trustees have been developed with this in mind. We expect all students to become familiar with these policies and procedures and to abide by them, for the well-being of our learning community.

Thank you for being a vital part of our long history!



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# General School Information

## **DATES OF SPECIAL INTEREST FOR 2023-2024**

August 22	Freshmen & New Student Orientation
August 23	First Day of Classes
September 1	Virtual Friday
September 4	No School/School Vacation
September 20	Early Release
September 20 & 21	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 6	Virtual Friday
October 9	No School/School Vacation
October 13	End of Quarter
October 18	Early Release
November 3	Virtual Friday
November 15	Early Release
November 20 - 24	Thanksgiving Break
December 8	Virtual Friday
December 19	End of Semester/End of Quarter
December 20 – January 5	Holiday Vacation
January 8-25	January Term
January 26	No School/School Vacation
February 14	Early Release
February 23	Virtual Friday
February 26 - March 5	Winter Break
March 13	Early Release
March 22	Virtual Friday
March 29	End of Quarter
April 10	Early Release
April 22-26	Spring Break
May 8	Early Release
May 24	Virtual Friday
May 27	No School/School Vacation
May 31	End of Semester/Last day of Classes
June 2	Baccalaureate/Commencement

## **CAMPUS DIRECTORY**

### **Lyndon Institute**

Main Desk, Susan Aussiker (802) 535-3636

Mailing Address: PO Box 127, Lyndon Center, VT 05850

Physical Address of Main Building: 168 Institute Circle, Lyndon Center, VT 05850

Office Hours School Year: 7:30 am – 4:00 p.m., Monday -

Friday Office Hours Summer: 8:00 am – 3:00 p.m., Monday - Thursday

### **Head of School's Office**

- Head of School: Brian Bloomfield, (802) 535-3683
- Equity and Title VI and IX Compliance Coordinator: Kristy Lefebvre, (802) 535-3681

**The Division of Business** is responsible for all financial and physical plant and operational matters. The division is led by Chief Financial Officer Meagan Howard.

- Chief Financial Officer: Meagan Howard, (802) 535-3733
- Senior Accountant: Kirsten Simpson, (802) 535-3732
- Human Resources: Kilee Willey, (802) 535-3672

**The Division of Operations** is responsible for the physical property and its upkeep and maintenance. The division is led by Director of Operations Rick Angell.

- Director of Operations: Rick Angell, (802) 535-3777
- Physical Plant Operations and Maintenance: Dwight Stahler, (802) 535-3744
- Director of Security: Robert Carey, (802) 535-3674

**The Division of Student Services** is responsible for overseeing the daily school life for all students.

- Dean of Academics: Terha Steen, (802) 535-3730
- Dean of Faculty: Richard McCarthy, (802) 535-3664
- Director of CTE: David Schilling, (802) 535-3796
- Director of Specialized Instruction and IEPs: Judd Levine, (802) 535-3659
- 504 & EST Coordinator: Carol Amos, (802) 535-3675

**The Division of Campus Life** coordinates all non-academic aspects of student life including safety and governance. This division is led by Dean of Students, Paul Hansen.

- Dean of Students: Paul Hansen, (802) 535-3670
- Assistant Dean of Students: Robert Carey, (802) 535-3674
- Director of Residential Life: Richard Angell, (802) 535-
- Office of Campus Life: Kristy Lefebvre, (802) 535-3681

**College and Career Counseling: (802) 535-3688:** Responsible for the coordination of and assistance with schedules, add/drop procedures, graduation requirements, and college and career options.

- College and Career Counselor: Miranda Fox, (802) 535-3799
- College and Career Counselor: Lindsay carpenter (802) 535-3671



Student Academic Services: (802) 535-3689: Responsible for school registration, withdrawal or transfer; change of contact information, transcript requests and general academic questions.

- Student Academic Services Coordinator: Kristy Lefebvre, (802) 535-3681
- School Registrar: Peg Hale (802) 535-3667
- Assistant to Student Services: Terri Cole (802) 535-3682

**The Division of Health and Wellness** is responsible for matters relating to students around physical or emotional health and wellness.

- Director of Health and Wellness: Bobbi Warner-Somers, (802) 535-3763
- School Counselor: Joy Ely, (802) 535-3761
- Case Manager: Brianna Lamothe, (802) 535-3722
- School Nurse Office: Danielle Myers, (802) 535-3692

**The Division of Athletics** is available to assist students, parents and the community in relation to all LI athletics.

- Director of Athletics: Eric Berry, (802) 535-3760
- Assistant Athletic Director: Rob Heath, (802) 535-3672

**The Division of Development and Advancement** is responsible for all matters relating to admissions, alumni, ancillary programs, marketing, communications, and development.

Admissions: available to provide information about applying to LI.

- Admissions Coordinator: Chad Simpson (802) 535-3677
- Admissions Coordinator: Lauren Belknap, (802) 535-3757

Communications and Marketing: available to provide information regarding marketing and communications.

- Director of Admissions and Marketing: Sara O'Connor, (802) 535-3673
- Marketing Specialist: Javin Leonard, (802) 535-3770
- Social Media Assistant: Indigo Griffith, (802) 535-3771

Development: available to support special projects, grant programs, alumni relations and charitable giving.

- Director of Development: Melissa Hall, (802) 535-3768
- Admin Assistant for Development: Heather Root Wheeler, (802) 535-3772

## **EQUAL ACCESS**

Policy Revised July 2014

All students are encouraged to participate in activities, clubs, and organizations. Accommodations needed to participate in non-academic events will be managed through the Individualized Education Plan (IEP)/504 teams.

The controlling factor in deciding whether an activity will be sponsored by the school will be whether that activity is directly related to the school's curriculum. No activity that is not directly related to the curriculum or educational mission of the school will receive sponsorship, regardless of whether it meets the other sponsorship criteria, and so will be considered extracurricular.

Procedures Revised July 2016

Students and an Activity Advisor must submit, in writing, a proposal to the administration for approval of any new student activity. The LI New Student Activity Application form must be used for this purpose. The Director of Athletics and Activities and the Dean of Students will review and approve or disapprove new requests for student activity sponsorship based on the below-listed criteria for the relationship to curriculum and determine whether the proposed student activity will be considered co-curricular (school-sponsored) or extracurricular (non-school-sponsored).

### **School-Sponsored (Co-Curricular) Student Activities**

All **co-curricular** activities are under the control of Lyndon Institute and will comply with all policies and procedures of Lyndon Institute, including those in the LI Student/Parent Handbook. The school may set standards for academic eligibility for participation in these activities. Activities that meet at least one of the following criteria will be considered curriculum related and thus co-curricular and are eligible for school sponsorship:

- the subject matter of the group or club is actually taught or will be taught in a regularly scheduled LI course;
- the subject matter of the group or club is such that it concerns the body of LI courses as a whole;
- participation in the group or club is required for a particular LI course; or
- participation in the group or club results in academic credit from LI.

To be considered co-curricular, all applications for school-sponsored student activities will be further assessed by the Dean of Students based on the following:

- the potential of the activity to help participating students meet the goals of Lyndon Institute's curriculum;
- the level of student interest in the activity;
- the fiscal ramifications to LI in relation to sponsorship;
- the availability of qualified personnel to advise the activity; or
- the impact of adding or eliminating the activity on the balance of types of activities available in the total student activity program.

### **Non-School-Sponsored (Extracurricular) Student Activities**

Student activities not meeting the above criteria for co-curricular activities and so not being related to LI's curriculum, shall not receive school sponsorship. However, a fair opportunity will be provided to non-sponsored student groups wishing to conduct meetings on LI's premises during non-instructional time provided that:

- any such meeting is voluntary and student-initiated;
- there is no sponsorship of the meeting by LI, the government or its agents or employees;
- employees or agents of the school or any governmental entity are present at religious meetings only in non-participatory capacities;
- the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- non-school persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of non-sponsored student activities.

Each non-sponsored student activity will have the same access as other non-sponsored groups to meeting space and listings in the school newspapers, calendars, or bulletin boards. Once approved, LI will provide a supervisor from among the school staff to supervise the non-sponsored student activity. Any faculty or staff representatives serving as supervisors to non-sponsored religious clubs must restrict their involvement in such clubs to keeping order and shall not be compelled to supervise a meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the employee. No person attending a non-sponsored event

shall be required to participate in prayer or other religious activity. LI does not sanction any meetings that would otherwise be unlawful or in violation of the rules and policies as presented in the LI Student/Parent Handbook. Listings and notices referring to non-sponsored student activities will include a disclaimer of school sponsorship or endorsement.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit the authority of Lyndon Institute, its agents, or employees, to maintain order and discipline on the school premises, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Revised June 2016

It is the policy of Lyndon Institute not to discriminate on the basis of a student's or their family member's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, age, military/uniformed service or veteran's status, disability, or other legally protected classification in the provision and administration of its educational programs, activities, services, and access provided to its students, its applicants, and to the public, in accordance with and to the limits of applicable requirements of state and federal laws. Lyndon Institute complies with the American Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as well as other applicable state and federal laws with respect to accommodating individuals with disabilities. Lyndon Institute provides special education to eligible students in accordance with the School's special education approval from the State of Vermont, state and federal legal requirements, the School's policies and in

coordination with the student's school district.

Lyndon Institute recognizes that some of our buildings and classrooms are inaccessible to people with disabilities. We will relocate programs and classes to meet the needs of individuals, ensuring their ability to participate to the fullest extent possible.

Questions, concerns or complaints regarding implementation of this Equal Opportunity Policy in the below-listed areas may be directed, to the individuals listed for each category, by phone at (802) 535-3636, in writing to Lyndon Institute, PO Box 127, Lyndon Center, Vermont 05850, or via the email addresses as provided below.

- With respect to disability, grievances, or a request for accommodations related to a disability by an applicant, student, or parent/guardian, please contact Judd Levine Lyndon Institute Director of Specialized Instruction, [judd.levine@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:judd.levine@lyndoninstitute.org). If Mr. Levine cannot be reached, please contact Head of School, Brian Bloomfield, [brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org).
- For concerns surrounding harassment, hazing, or bullying, please contact either Paul Hansen, Grievance Office for Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying, [paul.hansen@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:paul.hansen@lyndoninstitute.org), or Bobbi Warner-Somers, Lyndon Institute Director of Student Health and Wellness, [bobbi.somers@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:bobbi.somers@lyndoninstitute.org).
- All other protected classifications concerning the implementation of this Equal Opportunity Policy should be addressed to Kristy Lefebvre, Lyndon Institute Titles VI and IX Coordinator, [kristy.lefebvre@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:kristy.lefebvre@lyndoninstitute.org).
- Inquiries concerning the application of non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the Regional Director, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, J.W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse, Room 222, Boston, MA 02109-4557.

## **ADMISSION OF STUDENTS TO LYNDON INSTITUTE**

Policy Revised June 2017

Lyndon Institute welcomes applications from students who are enthusiastic about learning and who want to take full advantage of the many opportunities LI has to offer. The Admissions Committee bases its decision on academic performance, attendance, attitude and available program space as well as a candidate's ability to succeed and contribute academically and personally at Lyndon Institute.

### **Grades Served**

Enrollment in Lyndon Institute is dependent upon the successful completion of the eighth grade, or its equivalent, as determined at the time of admission to Lyndon Institute or in accordance with a student's IEP placement or Section 504 plan.

### **Application**

Application for enrollment must be made in a timely fashion prior to the beginning of a semester. Applicants applying for the fall semester are encouraged to apply before March 1. Applicants applying for the spring semester are encouraged to

apply before November 1. Once the application is complete, the Admissions Committee will review the materials and render a decision.

**Criteria for Admission or Denial**

Acceptance will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Admission Committee, in accordance with student academic performance, attendance, and behavior and availability of space, and in compliance with the School’s EEO policy above. During the admissions process, students will be asked to disclose their prior involvement with or violation of the substance abuse or other behavioral policy at their previous school. Failure to comply with this request may result in a student’s inability to attend Lyndon Institute.

Academic Performance and Attendance: A student may be denied admission on the basis of poor academic performance and/or poor attendance that is not a result of a documented disability.

Behavior: A student may be denied admission if the student has a documented history of behavior that is determined to be potentially detrimental to the operation of the education environment at Lyndon Institute and that is not a manifestation of a documented disability.

If poor academic performance, attendance or behavior is a manifestation of a disability, then consideration will be given as to whether the programs and services offered by Lyndon Institute are sufficient to meet the student’s needs, as set forth in their IEP or

Section 504 plan. A meeting between Lyndon Institute staff and the student’s IEP or Section 504 team may take place to discuss plan implementation, but the admission decision rests with the Lyndon Institute Admissions Committee’s assessment of the school’s ability to adequately serve the student.

Availability of Space: A student may be denied admission based on the availability of space in the program appropriate for the student, as indicated by class or program size, as well as existing facilities and staff. Specialized programs offered by Lyndon Institute are described at the beginning of each school year in terms of mission, facilities, and numbers of staff and students. These programmatic descriptions will be utilized in considering the availability of space.

**Residency**

For Vermont students whose tuition is publicly funded, Lyndon Institute relies upon each town’s school board determination regarding residency. Such determination is made in accordance with 16VSA 1075. Any questions regarding residency will be referred to the appropriate sending school district’s superintendent.

**Tuition Payment**

Upon acceptance, but before enrollment, a student from a voucher town will obtain a signed tuition voucher from the student’s school district. In the case of a student who will receive special education services from Lyndon Institute, a signed special education or Section 504/ADA Services tuition agreement as to tuition and costs must also be entered into between LI and the student’s school district. For all students whose tuition is being privately funded, payment for the following semester must be received prior to enrollment for that term in accordance with the terms of an enrollment agreement with the parents/guardians.

## **State or Agency Placed Students**

Students who have been placed (by a state agency, licensed child placement agency, or designated community mental health agency) into a Vermont town having publicly-funded tuition will be served by Lyndon Institute so long as they have been admitted and LI has received a signed tuition voucher from the sending school district's superintendent.

In reviewing a request for admission from a state-placed student, in addition to other admission factors outlined above and utilized by the school, Lyndon Institute must also consider the availability of space in the program or class appropriate for the student after meeting the needs of students already enrolled, or, during the summer, those expected to be enrolled at the beginning of the semester.

Availability of space is generally indicated by class or program size, as well as existing facilities and staff. Lyndon Institute specifically reserves the right to refuse admission of a state-placed student when there is a lack of available space in the program or class appropriate for the student.

## **Fifth-Year Students**

Fifth-year students should apply for admission by June of their senior year. Consideration will be based on available space and possibility of graduation. See the above description for space availability.

## **Special Education Services**

Lyndon Institute is approved by the State of Vermont Board of Education to provide special education services to students with disabilities. Students who are eligible for special education will be served after completing four years in accordance with their IEPs, including, for new students, an admission decision. Lyndon Institute may provide case management services, at the request of local Supervisory Unions, for resident students in an education placement other than Lyndon Institute, in accordance with an IEP or Section 504 plan.

## **Transfer of Credit**

Lyndon Institute will accept the following credits from students transferring into Lyndon Institute from other schools:

- 9<sup>th</sup> grade: LI will recognize up to 2 credits and require a minimum of 22 credits earned at Lyndon Institute to receive a diploma;
- 10<sup>th</sup> grade: LI will recognize up to 7 credits and require a minimum of 17 credits earned at Lyndon Institute to receive a diploma;
- 11<sup>th</sup> grade: LI will recognize up to 12 credits and require a minimum of 12 credits earned at Lyndon Institute to receive a diploma;
- 12<sup>th</sup> grade: LI will recognize up to 18 credits and require a minimum of 6 credits earned at Lyndon Institute to receive a diploma;

## **Student Readmission**

Lyndon Institute is not obligated to re-admit any student who was previously enrolled and subsequently withdrawn from the school. Parents or guardians wishing their child to be considered for re-admission must complete a new admissions application and submit it to the Admissions Office. Exceptions to this policy will be considered by the Head of School on a case-by-case basis.

## **Parent-School Relationship**

Lyndon Institute believes that a positive and constructive working relationship between the school and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) is essential to the

fulfillment of the school's mission. We reserve the right not to continue enrollment or not to re-enroll a student if we reasonably conclude that the actions of a parent/guardian are inconsistent with a positive and constructive relationship or seriously interfere with the school's accomplishment of its education objectives.

### **Appeal of Denial of Admission**

In cases where the Admissions Committee denies admission to a student, the decision may be appealed by the applicant student to the Head of School. The Head of School's decision shall be final.

**Admissions Materials in Languages Other than English and in Alternate Formats** Interested parents and guardians and students should access admissions information, materials and forms from the admissions pages of the school's website, <http://www.lyndoninstitute.org>. The admissions pages and attachments can be translated into other languages by utilizing the Google Translate software available on the website's pages. Admissions information, materials, and forms are available in alternate formats. A request for materials in alternate formats, e.g., braille, should be

made to Dr. Brian Bloomfield, (802) 535-3683,  
[brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org).

## **ADMISSION OF HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO LYNDON INSTITUTE**

### **Policy Adopted 1999; Revised June 2012**

#### **Criteria for Admission or Denial for Home-Schooled Students**

Acceptance of a homeschooled applicant to take classes at Lyndon Institute will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Admission Committee, in consideration of the applicant's academic performance, attendance, and behavior and availability of space, and in compliance with the School's EEO policy above.

If poor academic performance, attendance or behavior is a manifestation of a disability, then consideration will be given as to whether the programs and services offered by Lyndon Institute are sufficient to meet the student's needs as set forth in their IEP or Section 504 plan. A meeting between Lyndon Institute staff and the student's IEP or Section 504 team may take place to discuss a plan implementation, but the admission decision rests with the Lyndon Institute Admission Committee's assessment of the school's ability to adequately serve the student.

#### **Academic, Athletic, and Activity Standards for Home-Schooled Students**

Home-schooled students will participate in Lyndon Institute's programs and activities under the same rules and policies as any other student. Additionally, the participation of home-schooled students in programs and activities shall be subject to the following conditions:

- The Lyndon Institute Admissions Committee will review an official homeschool record of the last two years of courses. For students applying for the Fine Arts Program, interviews, auditions, and portfolio review may be included in the process and used as criteria for admission.
- Home-schooled students must supply to LI a copy of their formal home study enrollment notification for the Vermont Commissioner of Education.

- All Students are subject to the same age, performance, and prerequisite standards for admission to course and co-curricular activities.
- Home-schooled students seeking admission to courses requiring prerequisites will be asked to demonstrate academic achievement comparable to that required of fully enrolled students meeting prerequisite standards. The teacher, guidance counselor, and Assistant Head for Student Affairs will discuss with parent's alternative ways for their students to demonstrate achievement. Final determination of a student's qualifications to enroll in a course requiring prerequisites rests with the teacher, guidance counselor, and Assistant Head for Student Affairs.
- Home-schooled students may not enroll for single subjects which are taught as part of integrated courses, those courses covering two or more subjects and which are taught by a single individual or team. They may, however, seek admission to the integrated course.
- Participation in athletic and other extracurricular programs and activities will be in compliance with the school's eligibility requirements as well as with the guidelines adopted by the VPA.
- Only those homeschooled students enrolled in Lyndon Institute's academic programs will be allowed to participate in Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) activities.
- It may be neither practical nor feasible for home-schooled students to participate in special programs that have unclear or flexible schedules. The parents of home-schooled students must take the initiative to check with the school on the scheduling of events and possible changes that may occur.
- The parents of home-schooled students may be asked to provide supervision for some activities on the same basis as the parents of fully enrolled students.
- Home-schooled students may participate in the school's standardized testing program at the regularly scheduled times after giving appropriate notice to the school as outlined in the administrative procedures.

### **Home-Schooled Student Fees**

Home schooled students will be billed at the same rate of 1/7 of the annual tuition for each course in which they enroll. Fees will be prorated for semester-long, as opposed to year-long, courses. Fees will be billed by semester to the town of residence; applicants must obtain the signature of the sending school district's superintendent prior to enrolling.

### **RELEASE OF STUDENT INFORMATION TO RECRUITERS**

Revised July 2011

Lyndon Institute is required to notify parents and guardians that they may request their child's name, address, and phone number not be released to recruiters from the military or to institutions of higher learning without prior consent.



# Academics

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Policy Revised July 2011

Academic integrity is important for two reasons. First, independent and original scholarship ensures that students derive the most from their educational experience and their pursuit of knowledge. Second, academic dishonesty violates the most fundamental values of an intellectual community and depreciates the achievements of the entire school community. Accordingly, Lyndon Institute views academic dishonesty as one of the most serious offenses that a student can commit while in school. Each teacher can provide guidance to students about academic dishonesty. Students with questions about whether particular situations may be considered to be academically dishonest should ask a teacher or the Dean of Academics.

Academic dishonesty is prohibited at Lyndon Institute. Violation shall result in discipline in accordance with the school's Academic Dishonesty Procedures below.

Procedures Revised June 2016

A student found to be violating the school's Academic Dishonesty Policy for the first time in their LI experience:

- Will be reported to the Dean of Academics in writing;
- Will receive a failing grade on the project in question, including, but not limited to, mid-year and end of year exams;
- may receive in-school, or out-of-school suspension: one day for the first offense, two days for the second offense and so on;
- may lose a full letter grade from the marking period for the course in which dishonesty occurred and/or;
- may lose academic credit in the course for which academic dishonesty occurs more than once.

A student found to have violated the school's Academic Dishonesty Policy for a second time at Lyndon Institute may be expelled from school. The parents/guardians shall be notified in writing and may be required to attend a meeting with the student, a member of the Administration, and the teacher involved. The student has the right to receive disciplinary procedures as may be established by the Head of School for their specific case and in accordance with the LI Student/Parent Handbook.

## **Definitions**

*The following is a broad overview of academic dishonesty components. It is not meant to be an all-encompassing definition.*

Cheating is defined as intentionally using or attempting to represent someone else's thinking or work as one's own.

*Examples of cheating include:*

- unauthorized use of notes, text, or other aids during an examination;

- copying from another student's examination, research paper, case write-up, lab report, homework, computer disc, and so on;
- talking during an examination;
- handing in the same paper for more than one course without the explicit permission of the instructor;
- perusing a test before it is given; and
- hiding notes in a calculator for use during an examination.

Fabrication is defined as intentional and unauthorized falsification, misrepresentation, or invention of any information, data, or citation in an academic exercise.

*Examples of fabrication include:*

- making up the data for a research paper;
- altering the results of a lab experiment or survey;
- listing a citation for a source not used; and
- stating an opinion as a scientifically proven fact.

Plagiarism is defined as representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise without providing proper documentation of source by way of a footnote, endnote, or citation within the text.

*The following sources demand notation or else constitute plagiarism:*

- word-for-word quotation from a source, including another student's work;
- paraphrasing: using the ideas of others in your own words;
- unusual or controversial facts - not likely to be found in many places; and
- interviews, radio and television programs, and telephone conversations.

Unauthorized Collaboration refers to instances when students, each claiming sole authorship, submit separate reports that are substantially similar to one another. While several students may have the same source material (as in case write-ups), the analysis, interpretation, and reporting of the data must be each individual's.

*Examples of unauthorized collaboration include:*

- stealing an examination;
- purchasing a pre-written paper through a mail-order or other service, including via the Internet;
- selling, loaning, or otherwise distributing materials for the purpose of cheating, plagiarism, or other academically dishonest acts;
- alteration, theft, forgery, or destruction of the academic work of other students, library materials, laboratory materials, or academic records including transcripts, course registration cards, course syllabi, and examination/course grades; and

- intentionally missing an examination or assignment deadline to gain an unfair advantage.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty is defined as intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to violate any provision of this policy.

*Examples of facilitating academic dishonesty include:*

- inaccurately listing someone as co-author of a paper, case write-up, or project who did not contribute;
- sharing with another student a take-home examination, homework assignment, case write-up, lab report, and so on, without the explicit permission of the instructor; and
- taking an examination or writing a paper for another student.

All members of the Lyndon Institute community, including students, faculty, and staff, share the responsibility to bring forward known acts of apparent academic dishonesty. Any member of the academic community who witnesses an act of academic dishonesty should report it to the appropriate faculty member or to the Dan of Academics. The teacher, as a professional educator, makes the final decision as to whether or not cheating has occurred. In a case of a student looking at another student's work during a test, for example, a teacher needs no further evidence than to be sure that this is what they saw.

## **ACADEMIC RECOGNITION**

Revised June 2016

### **Honor Roll**

High Honors will be computed as no grade below a B, with an average of A- or better. All students making High Honors for one marking period are excused from study halls, providing:

- good grades are maintained;
- no discipline problems arise;
- students do not leave school grounds; and
- no automobiles are used.

Honors will be computed as no grade below B-.

### **National Honor Society**

The Lyndon Institute Chapter of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools has the following objectives, which mirror those of the National Honor Society: to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to promote worthy leadership, to stimulate a desire to render service, and to encourage the development of character in students of Lyndon Institute.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- Candidate must be a member of the junior or senior class who has been enrolled full time for at least one semester at Lyndon Institute.

- Seniors must have a scholastic average of a 3.33 (B+); juniors must have a scholastic average of 3.67 (A-).
- Candidate participates in activities, in and out of school, that provide the student opportunities to develop and demonstrate character, leadership and service.
- Candidates who are seniors must have completed a minimum of 50 hours of community service; juniors must have completed a minimum of 35 hours of community service. Evidence of service in our school, community, and beyond are an essential piece of NHS eligibility. Service opportunities that foster growth as an individual, student, and citizen are something we highly value. Documentation for this service must be submitted to Student Services before a candidate can apply.

#### Application Timeline:

- In late September, eligible students meeting the above criteria will be notified by letter from the Chapter Advisor and asked to pick up information from the Student Services office.
- Students will then have two weeks to finalize community service paperwork and in addition, submit a one to two-page essay highlighting their scholastic accomplishments, character strengths, leadership qualities, and community service engagements.
- All application materials, including digital feedback forms sent to the LI community, are reviewed and discussed by LI's NHS Faculty Council with the Chapter Advisor overseeing the process/discussion.
- Applicants will be notified by the last week in October regarding their acceptance or denial.

Formal written notification of acceptance or denial regarding a National Honor Society application will come from the Lyndon Institute Student Services office.

All LI National Honor Society students are required to participate in the School's recycling service project. Failure to sign-up and participate in this service project may result in a probationary meeting and/or dismissal from NHS. The School may require members to attend regularly scheduled meetings and/or uphold other commitments.

The Lyndon Institute Chapter of the National Honor Society is governed by two sets of documents: Local Chapter By-Laws and the Constitution of the National Honor Society. The National Honor Society is an independently governed organization and is not a part of Lyndon Institute.

### **National Art Honor Society**

Students who participate in the National Art Honor Society are required to fulfill two hours of volunteer work in the arts per month. Ultimately, NAHS students cannot be inducted in May unless they have a total of 18 hours of volunteer work documented per school year.

## **ADDING/DROPPING CLASSES**

Procedures Adopted November 1994, Revised June 2015

All full-time students are expected to enroll in and maintain at least six class periods of instruction. Only with special permission from the Assistant Head for Student Affairs may a student remain full-time and be enrolled in five class periods of instruction.

Students may add a course up to the second Friday of the semester. Students may not drop a class on or after the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters without receiving a failing grade for the current semester.

The above deadlines may be waived by the Dean of Academics due to extenuating circumstances, (e.g., appropriate placement of students in courses based on academic ability).

## **ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION LOCATION PLAN (AELP)**

The Lyndon Institute (LI) curriculum may occasionally be implemented in an alternative educational location, as determined to be in the best interests of an enrolled student and LI by way of example only, an alternative educational location may include study at home or in the community for all or portions of the school day, or – for a period of time during the school year – in settings that are out of state or in a foreign country. Education of LI students in an alternative educational location must meet the rigorous, high academic standards of Lyndon Institute and must be approved by the Head of School. A program that is not a public school or approved or certified by a state or governmental agency will need to be reviewed on a case by case basis by LI relative to course content, rigor, and relevance.

### **AELP Structure**

The curriculum implemented in the AELP is required to track the core standards being followed in the student's grade and must be fully described in the AELP. The Plan must also specify the methods of instruction and the person/s responsible for carrying out the instruction, as well as a schedule a conferences to occur among the parents or guardians, the Assistant Head for Student Affairs, the College and Career Counselor, the instructor specified in the Plan, and the case manager for the student who receives special education services or Section 504 accommodations. The activities and services of Lyndon Institute will be available to a student being instructed pursuant to an Alternative Educational Location Plan, e.g., participation in co-curricular or extracurricular activities, sports and field trips. Such participation should also be written into the Alternative Educational Location Plan.

Plans can be no longer in duration than the current academic year. If the parents or guardians wish to propose an Alternative Educational Location Plan for additional periods beyond the current academic year, then a new Alternative Educational Location Plan must be proposed and an application submitted to the Dean of Academics.

### **AELP Approval**

An Alternative Educational Location Plan is effective only after it has been both

approved and signed by the Dean of Academics, the College and Career Counselor, and the student's parents or guardians. For a student on an IEP or a Section 504 Plan, the AELP must also be approved by the student's IEP team or Section 504 Team.

Lyndon Institute specifically reserves the right to refuse to approve a proposed AELP. Notification of a decision not to approve a proposed Plan will be sent in writing to the parents with a copy to the College and Career Counselor and, if applicable, the student's case manager.

An application for an AELP must be submitted to the Dean of Academics at least six (6) months in advance of the Plan's start date.

## **AELP Implementation**

Once approved, the implementation of the Alternative Educational Location Plan will be overseen by the Dean of Academics and the student's College and Career Counselor as well as any case manager who the student may have for special education services or a Section 504 Plan. LI will, in each case in which a student participates in an AELP, monitor and review all academic work carried out by the student and grant the student credit from Lyndon Institute as the school deems appropriate. The process for monitoring and reviewing academic work will be designed on a case by case basis, and typically includes a review (by the Dean of Academics and the student's College and Career Counselor as well as any case manager who the student may have for special education services or a Section 504 Plan) of the student's work, together with the instructor's description and assessment of the work, as well as student presentations to LI administrators/faculty members upon the student's return to Lyndon Institute. LI accepts responsibility for the oversight of the student's academic work, but the responsibility for student well-being, safety, and health, by agreement with the parent(s), remains with the student's parent(s) during periods of AELP attendance.

Lyndon Institute reserves the right to terminate a Plan that has been previously approved if the Dean of Academics determines that it is not being implemented as specified in the Plan or if the Dean of Academics cannot verify that the Plan is being implemented. In that event, notice of termination will be sent in writing to the parents with a copy to the College and Career Counselor and, if applicable, the student's case manager.

## **AELP Tuition and Related Costs**

Full tuition is owed to Lyndon Institute for a student participating in an Alternative Educational Location Plan, and, again, any student being instructed in accordance with an Alternative Educational Location Plan must be enrolled at Lyndon Institute. Lyndon Institute has no obligation, and this policy shall not be deemed to create any responsibility, to pay the costs related to the implementation of an approved Alternative Educational Location Plan. Lyndon Institute may, however, enter into agreements with accredited semester programs or schools abroad. In such cases, Lyndon Institute may pay a portion of LI's tuition to that program. (Typically, for accredited programs, LI pays 95% per diem, with 5% used to cover administrative costs).

The following AELP application form is also available in the College and Career Counseling Office.

**LYNDON INSTITUTE  
ALTERNATIVE EDUCATIONAL LOCATION PLAN (AELP)  
APPLICATION**

Please complete all the information below and submit to LI's Dean of Academics, with copies to your College and Career Counselor and to your Advisor. This Application, Waiver and Release must be submitted at least six months prior to the proposed commencement of your AELP, along with copies of whatever application you submit to the alternative program provider.

Lyndon Institute, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to reject any and all AELP applications.

Date submitting this AELP Application:

Student Name and Phone Number:

Student Mailing Address:

Student Email Address:

Parent/s or Guardian/s who will serve as the Contact/s for all AELP application correspondence:

Contact Parent's/Guardian's Mailing Address, Email Address, and Phone Number to use for application correspondence:

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\*Proposed AELP name and general description:

\*If the AELP is not with a school or school program, please describe the course content and method of instruction. Please also attach the c.v. credentials of the instructor.

\*If the AELP is through a school or school program, please provide the contact person and physical address of the program.

a. What is the program's approval status? (e.g. public school, government approved school, accrediting agency-approved school, program of an approved school):

b. What is the status of your application to the school or program?

c. School or Program tuition amount to be paid to the AELP, if any, and proposed method of payment.

\*If the AELP is located in a foreign country, have you applied and been provided with all necessary visas? If so, please attach a copy of your passport and visa to this application.

\*What is the expected duration of your participation in the AELP?

\*Please provide a specific proposal for LI academic credits sought for your academic work in the AELP, including your understanding of the most equivalent course(s) provided by LI

\*Please include a specific proposal for how LI can carry out its requisite review and oversight of AELP academic work (e.g., will submit all grades received and/or AELP instructor feedback; will submit all academic work carried out for review by LI teachers/administrators; will present work to LI administrators and faculty once the student returns to LI)

\*Please describe any LI course work in which you intend to enroll during the AELP:

\*Please describe any LI co-curricular activities, extracurricular activities or sports in which you intend to participate during the AELP:

\*Please describe your residential arrangements while attending the AELP, including the address and contact person for where you'll be staying:

**We (LI student and responsible parents/guardians) agree to execute the attached Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release in order for the AELP application to be complete and evaluated.**

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

**Lyndon Institute Alternative Education Location Plan Acknowledgement, Waiver, and Release**

My son, daughter or ward ("my student") is currently enrolled in Lyndon Institute ("LI") and is applying to participate in an Alternative Educational Location Plan ("AELP"), as described on the attached application. I have reviewed LI's AELP Policy. I acknowledge and agree that, if this AELP application is approved, my student will remain enrolled in LI. LI's responsibility with respect to my student during my student's participation in the AELP will be strictly limited to assessing whether credit will be granted for my student's



academic work which occurred during their participation in the AELP. That oversight and assessment will primarily occur once my student has returned to LI. LI is not responsible for contacting the AELP contact person or program for that or any other purpose.

I acknowledge and agree that, if my student's AELP request is approved and implemented, LI bears no responsibility for my student's well-being, safety or health during their participation in the AELP when they are not on the LI campus. If my student proposes as part of the AELP to participate in one or more LI courses or activities, then LI's responsibility for supervision of my student is strictly limited to those occasions when he or she is on the LI campus to participate in extracurricular activities, as approved as part of his or her AELP, and on those occasions, LI is only responsible to exercise the duty of ordinary care.

I further acknowledge and agree that there is no guarantee LI will grant academic credit for the work my student carries out in the AELP. I also acknowledge and agree that LI can terminate the AELP at any time, based on its best and sole judgment that the AELP is not being implemented, or is not being implemented as specified in the Plan. In that event, notice of termination will be sent in writing to the parents/guardian and my student, with a copy to the College and Career Counselor.

On behalf of myself and my student, I hereby waive and release LI from all manner of causes of action and liability related to my student's AELP application, participation in the AELP, and return transportation to LI or another school during or after the AELP. I also hereby freely and knowingly waive any and all claims that my student or I may have against Lyndon Institute and its trustees, employees, agents and volunteers (hereinafter, collectively "Lyndon Institute") and freely and knowingly release LI from any and all claims, damages, rights of action, present or future (whether or not they are known) resulting from or arising out of my student's participation in the AELP, transportation to and from the AELP, and off-campus residence during the AELP or any or all of related activities

**Student's Full PRINTED Name:**

Student Signature:

Date:

**Parent's/Guardian's Full PRINTED Name:**

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

**Parent's/Guardian's Full PRINTED Name:**

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

## **ANIMAL DISSECTION IN CLASS**

Policy Adopted June 2011

It is the intent of Lyndon Institute to comply with the requirements of 16 VSA 912 regarding the right of students to be excused from participating in or observing activities involving the dissection or vivisection of animals. Students shall have the right to be excused from participating in any lesson, exercise or assessment requiring the student to dissect, vivisection or otherwise harm or destroy an animal or any part of an animal, or to observe any of these activities as part of a course of instruction.

### **Definition**

As used in this policy, the word "animal" means any organism of the kingdom Animalia and includes an animal's cadaver or the severed parts of an animal's cadaver.

### **Alternative Education Method**

A student who is excused under this policy shall be provided with alternative methods through which he/she can learn and be assessed on material required by the course. The alternative methods shall be developed by the teacher of the course, in consultation with the Dean of Academics or the Head of School if necessary.

### **Discrimination**

No student shall be discriminated against based on their decision to exercise the right to be excused afforded by this policy.

### Procedure Adopted June 2011

Notice will be provided to students enrolled in a course, and to the students' parent(s) /guardian(s) of the student's right to be excused from participating in or observing the lesson and the process by which students may exercise this right.

## **ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY**

Policy Revised June 2017

School attendance by those under the age of sixteen who have not yet completed tenth grade is required by Title XVI, Section 1121, of the Vermont Education Laws. Further, any student enrolled in high school, regardless of age, is expected to attend classes per that school's attendance policy or face truancy.

Lyndon Institute's attendance policy ensures our students get the most out of their educational experience. Attendance and punctuality are life skills that directly relate to our school's Mission and Core Values. Students with good attendance reap the benefits of quality classroom instruction, discussion, labs and other experiential learning, and being an integral and engaged part of our community. Participation in the learning environment is known to deepen a student's understanding of the subject matter. Continuity of the learning process is disrupted by a student's frequent absence. Many classes include a participation grade that is difficult to make up, and students exceeding the allowable absences may be in jeopardy of failing one or more classes or having truancy filed.

Excessive absences, for any reason, are detrimental to a student's education.

## Procedures Revised July 2019

Students must sign in and out at the Receptionist's Office when entering school late or leaving early for any reason, including, but not limited to, appointments, internships, late arrival/early release, and senior privileges. A student's absence from school will be considered excused for the following reasons: illness; serious illness, death or emergency in the immediate family; necessary medical or psychological attention; religious holidays; situations beyond the student's or family's control; and other extenuating circumstances as approved by the administration. These are not intended to be additional vacation days. The administration will have sole discretion in determining whether a student's absence is considered excused or unexcused.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Excused Absence (EA):**

A student's absence shall be considered excused when written proof or verbal notification of illness is supplied by a parent/guardian, a doctor, or the School Nurse upon the student's return to school when the absence is due to:

- illness;
- serious illness or death in the immediate family; or
- necessary medical or psychological health attention.

Written proof or verbal notification is supplied by a parent/guardian and the absence is approved in advance by the Administration when the absence is due to:

- a death in the family (not immediate);
- a family emergency;
- religious holidays;
- situations beyond the student's control; or
- other extenuating circumstances, as determined by the Administration, in its sole discretion.

### **Unexcused Absence (UA):**

A student's absence shall be considered unexcused unless a valid excuse is presented to the Administration by phone before 9:30 AM on the day of the absence or by a signed note provided to the school no later than 24 hours upon the student's return. Notification of a UA will be done through the student's online account. Students will not be permitted to make up any missed work, tests, quizzes, etc. for any absence which is considered unexcused.

### **Excused Tardy (ET)**

A student's tardiness shall be considered excused when written proof or verbal notification is supplied by a parent or guardian and is approved by the Administration or:

- Written proof or verbal notification is supplied by the School Nurse or Administration.
- Written proof or verbal notification is supplied by a member of the faculty or staff and is approved by the classroom teacher.

Note: If a student misses half or more of the class they will be considered absent for the class. Four excused tardies is equivalent to one excused absence.

### Unexcused Tardy (UT)

A student's tardiness shall be considered unexcused unless a valid excuse is presented to the Administration upon the student's arrival to school. If a student misses half or more of the class they will be considered absent for the class. A student's tardiness between classes shall be considered unexcused unless a valid excuse is presented to the classroom teacher by a member of the faculty, staff, or Administration. Extenuating circumstances will be handled by the Administration.

Note: Four unexcused tardies is equivalent to one unexcused absence.

### Suspension Absence (SA)

A student who has been suspended (out of school) from Lyndon Institute is restricted from all school activities and from Lyndon Institute property during the suspension. A suspension that is non-academic in nature is considered an excused absence. A suspension that is academic in nature, (e.g., as the result of plagiarism or cheating), will count as an unexcused absence academically but as a suspended absence according to the Attendance Procedures.

### Major Medical Absence (MM)

Major medical absences are those documented, with specifics regarding medical need and time frame, and approved by the Administration. Students who participate in class through the provision of tutorial services pursuant to an MM or an IEP are not considered to be absent. Prior to returning to school, any student designated to be on a MM absence must provide to the school a signed release of information and discharge summary that includes the specific recommendation that they are allowed to return to school and informs of any necessary limitations, restrictions or monitoring. Not all health issues qualify as MM at Lyndon Institute. All questions regarding major medical issues must be directed to the Health Center at (802) 535-3692.

Major medical issues may include:

- a chronic health issue;
- major surgery;
- medical complications due to pregnancy; or
- serious injury.

### School Sponsored Absence (SS)

The following absences are considered school sponsored:

- academic class field trips; and
- athletic and extracurricular activity trips.

Students missing school due to school-sponsored activities are responsible for having work completed on the due date of the assignment unless otherwise approved in advance by their teacher(s). It is the responsibility of the students to collect all required work and homework. The individual teacher has the final say as to whether the assignment was completed on time.

### College/Military Visits (CM)

Absences due to college, military, or job shadow visits ('CA absences') must be pre-approved by the College and Career Center and confirmed via a note on letterhead from the college, workplace or military, or else they will be considered excused absences, counting against the total allowance of absences for that semester.

### Volunteer Services (Ambulance, Fire, etc.) (VS)

For absences due to volunteer duty to be considered excused, students must return a completed contract, obtained from either the Campus Life Office or the volunteer service. This contract must be returned and approved by the Administration before the student will be allowed to leave school during class time.

### Extended Vacation (EV)

Extended vacation is when a student adds vacation days to the beginning or end of a scheduled school vacation or takes vacation days at any other time while school is in session. Please note that LI does not feel extended vacations are generally in the best interests of the student. It is very important for students to attend all classes to get the full benefit of their courses. Extended vacations are considered unexcused absences. Teachers are not obligated to give make-up work to (nor accept makeup work from) students taking an extended vacation, nor to re-teach any missed instruction or activities.

### School-Sponsored Activities

Students absent from school for more than 50% of their school day may not participate in a school activity on the day of their absence unless extenuating circumstances are pre-approved by the Administration.

### January Term

Individual J-Term instructors will determine how many missed classes constitute a failing grade/loss of credit in their course. In regards to truancy, J-Term absences count toward the second semester absence tally.

### **If a student is going to be absent from school:**

- A parent or guardian is expected to call the school at (802) 535-3636 by 9:30 AM to notify the school of the student's absence.

- If a parent or guardian does not call in, the receptionist will attempt to reach the parent or guardian by phone. If they can't be reached, the student must turn in to the receptionist a note on the day of their return to school, written and signed by a parent or guardian, stating the date of absence, the reason, and a phone number where the parent or guardian can be reached that day.
- If the office is not notified through one of the above, the student will be considered unexcused absent for the day(s) missed.
- Homework can be found in the My BackPack portal of LI's website.

### **If a student is going to be tardy for school:**

- A parent/guardian is expected to call the school at (802) 535-3636 before 9:30 AM to notify the school of the student's tardiness.
- Upon arrival at school, the student must sign in with the receptionist and get a pass to class.
- If a parent or guardian does not call in, the student must turn in to the receptionist a note upon their arrival, signed by a parent/guardian, stating the date of the tardiness, the reason, and a phone number where the parent/guardian can be reached that day.

### **If a student is going to leave school early:**

- If a student needs to leave school early for a scheduled appointment, he/she must present a written note to the receptionist, signed by a parent/guardian, stating the time he/she must sign out and the reason.
- Permission will not be granted for any student to leave the grounds of the school without prior permission from a parent/guardian or emergency contact. Extenuating circumstances may apply and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Parents and guardians are expected to regularly use the school website to monitor their student's attendance and should notify the Student Services Office (535 - 3689) if extenuating circumstances prevent that from being possible.

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATING THE ATTENDANCE POLICY**

***Extenuating circumstances, including any related to disability, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the administration.***

- Absences from class, for any reason, may negatively affect a student's academic average and failing grades may be issued for the semester for those classes which are missed excessively regardless of the reason. Per departmental policy, students may lose credit for assignments or assessments which are missed due to unexcused absences. A student who accumulates excessive absences (not including those related to documented major-medical conditions) may not be entitled to:
  - senior privileges
  - High Honors status
  - Be excused from Study Halls
  - Opportunities to participate in trips, activities, or athletic events requiring loss of class time
  - Community volunteer work during school time (e.g., Lyndon Rescue, Lyndonville Fire Department, etc.)
  - Late arrival or early release privileges
  - Work Based Learning opportunities

Please refer to the Lyndon Institute Athletic and Extracurricular Activities Policy for additional consequences resulting from an unexcused absence.

Individual J-Term instructors will determine how many missed classes constitute a failing grade/loss of credit in their course. In regards to truancy, J-Term absences count toward the second semester absence tally.

For students with EXCUSED absences: Teachers may require students to make up class time, work, tests, etc. missed within three school days upon the student's return to class. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and complete all missed class work and assignments in a timely manner.

For students with UNEXCUSED absences:

- Each time a student has an unexcused absence their parents, guardians, advisor, and 504/ADA Coordinators (if applicable) will be notified and warned of the consequences of future absenteeism.
- Each unexcused absence (or four unexcused tardies)-will result in two blocks of detention.
- If a student is unexcused absent from all scheduled classes five times in a semester a truancy warning letter will be sent home. Truancy is filed following eight full days of unexcused absence in a semester, or fifteen unexcused absences within the school year.
- Students incurring truancy who continue to be chronically absent from school may be dismissed from Lyndon Institute.

## **DRIVER EDUCATION**

Procedures Revised June 2002

This is a state-regulated program following mandatory state guidelines. Driver Education enrollment is based on date of birth and issue date of driver permit. Driver permit issue date is required for all students.

## **EARLY COLLEGE EDUCATION**

Students who meet the criteria as specified by Act 77 under the VT AOE as well as criteria by a participating college or university in the Early College program will no longer be considered Lyndon Institute students should they choose to enroll in this program.

Consequently, students enrolled in the Early College program will not be allowed to participate in School-related activities including, but not limited to, Commencement ceremonies at the conclusion of the school year. In order to receive a Lyndon Institute diploma, Early College students must reapply to Lyndon Institute as an incoming student upon their successful completion of their college coursework for that school year. Upon

being accepted by Lyndon Institute, a high school diploma will be issued to the student through the mail or can be obtained directly from the Student Services office. Lyndon Institute reserves the right, upon receiving an application for re-enrollment from a

student who dis-enrolled from LI in order to participate in the Early College Program, to consider the student's academic performance, attendance, documented behavior and other relevant information from the period of Early College Program participation.

## **EDUCATION RECORDS**

Policy Revised June 2015

Lyndon Institute recognizes the importance of keeping accurate and appropriate education records for students as part of a sound educational program. The school is committed to acting as trustee of this information, maintaining these records for education purposes to serve the best interests of the students. The principle of confidentiality underlies all policies and procedures for the collection, maintenance, disclosure, and destruction of education records. The Head of School will be the legal custodian of all student records and has overall responsibility for school records and for assuring that adequate systems are in place to maintain such records.

### **Definitions**

**School Official** means a person with legitimate educational interests who needs to review a student's education record or receive information there from in order to fulfill his/ her employment or official responsibilities for Lyndon Institute and who is

- a person employed by Lyndon Institute as an administrator, supervisor, educator (or substitute educator), paraprofessional, or support staff member including tutorial, health, law enforcement, custodial, transportation, nutrition, athletic, extracurricular, clerical, and other support staff and others as designated by the Lyndon Institute Executive Committee or Board of Trustees;
- a member of the Board of Trustees;
- a person or company with whom Lyndon Institute has contracted to perform a special task (or tasks), including an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, evaluator; or student teacher; and who has an obligation not to disclose information received;
- a volunteer assisting another school official in the performance of their tasks;
- an administrator or educator for the student's home school district or supervisory union; or
- any other person designated by the Board of Trustees or the Head of School within Lyndon Institute to have legitimate educational interests.

**Directory Information** means information contained in a student's education record which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. The school will release directory information without prior written consent unless the parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student (age eighteen or older) informs the Head of School in writing that any or all of the information designated below should not be released without prior consent:

- Student's name, address, and date of birth
- Date of enrollment, dates of attendance, and enrollment status
- Student's grade level classification
- Student's participation in recognized school activities and sports
- Student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team



- Student’s diplomas, certificates, awards, and honors received
- Student’s telephone listing and e-mail address
- Most recent educational institution attended by a student
- Photographs of the student which may be incorporated in school publications or on the school website are taken at the request of the school by a photographer who is under contract with Lyndon Institute or are taken during school activities and involve school programs.

A parent or adult student has the right to refuse to let Lyndon Institute designate any or all of the types of information listed above about the student as directory information. Within 30 calendar days of the student’s enrollment and by October

1<sup>st</sup> of any subsequent school year, the parent or eligible student must notify Lyndon Institute in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student designated as directory information.

### **Notification of Rights**

Annually, the school will notify parent(s) /guardian(s) of students currently in attendance, and eligible students (age eighteen or older) currently in attendance, of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. Notice will be given in a manner outlined by the Head of School and likely to inform parent(s)/ guardian(s) and eligible students of their rights including their right to:

- inspect and review the student’s education records;
- request the amendment of the student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights;
- consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent;
- file with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning alleged failures by the school to comply with requirements of the FERPA; and
- obtain a copy of the school’s policy and written procedures or protocols related to student records.

Most specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

Disclosure of student information will be made only with the written consent of the parent(s)/ guardian(s) or eligible student (age eighteen or older), subject to the following exceptions. Information may be disclosed, without written consent:

- to officials of the school in which the student is enrolled who have a legitimate educational interest in the records and require the information to adequately carry out their jobs;
- upon request to officials of a school in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, and once information has been provided, Lyndon Institute may provide updates;
- under court order or subpoena;
- to individuals seeking directory information (see Definitions, above);

- in connection with a student’s request for financial aid;
- to appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency;
- to federal and state authorities in compliance with 34 CFR 99.31;
- to accrediting organizations, (e.g., the Vermont Department of Education and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges) to carry out their accrediting functions;
- to parents, as defined by 34 CFR 99.3. and to eligible students (eighteen years old or older); and
- in other instances, as authorized by 34 CFR 99.31.

Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, Lyndon Institute will maintain a record of all requests for and/or disclosures of information from a student’s education record according to the School’s procedures. Lyndon Institute will also record all requests for amendment of the record and the disposition of the request (s). Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students or eligible students may inspect and review the student’s records upon request. Parent(s)/ guardian(s) should submit requests to the Head of School in writing specifying as precisely as possible the information they wish to inspect. The Head of School will make appropriate arrangements to meet with the parent(s)/guardian(s) for such inspection according to procedures developed by the school’s administration.

If an eligible student or parent(s)/guardian(s) believe the education records contain information that is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of any of the student’s rights, they may request the Head of School to amend the record. If the Head of School decides not to amend the record as requested, the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) may appeal using the district’s general appeal process.

Parents and eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of  
Education 400  
Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

## **Noncustodial Parents**

Access to a student’s school records shall not be denied to a parent solely because that parent has not been awarded parental rights and responsibilities by a court. However, access will be denied where a court order or other legally binding document specifically revokes a parent’s right of access to such records.

- Each contract entered into between Lyndon Institute and persons or entities who may receive either a student’s education record(s) or personally identifiable information shall contain a provision setting forth the restrictions on disclosure of information from education records.
- Lyndon Institute will maintain a record of all requests for and/or

disclosures of information from a student's education record according to the school's procedures.

- Lyndon Institute will also record all requests for amendment of the record and the disposition of the request(s).

## **Juvenile Court Record**

Within seven days of a court finding, the Family Court is required to inform in writing the Head of School of an independent school in which a student is enrolled that the student has committed a delinquent act requiring notice.

### **Sharing of Information**

The Head of School shall inform only those for whom the information is necessary for the rehabilitation program of the student or for the protection of staff or students, and only after first evaluating rehabilitation and protection measures that do not involve informing staff or students. "Need to know" should be narrowly and strictly interpreted. Persons receiving this information shall not discuss the information with anyone except the Head of School, the student, the student's parent(s) /guardian(s), law enforcement personnel, the student's probation officer or others who have been similarly informed by the Head of School, law enforcement personnel or the student's probation officer.

### **Maintenance of Records**

The notice from the Family Court shall be maintained by the Head of School in a file separate from the student's education record. Upon the graduation of the student or when the student turns eighteen, the Head of School shall destroy the notice. If a student transfers to another public or private school, the Head of School shall forward the written notice in the original marked envelope to the Head of School of the school to which the student is transferring.

### **Transfer of Records**

When a student transfers to another school or school district, all student records shall be forwarded, subject to any outstanding balance owed by the student. If a student owes a balance, the balance shall be paid in full prior to the official transcript being released. Students need to fill out a withdrawal/exit form prior to records being forwarded. The transfer/withdrawal form can be found in Student Services. A sample of the transfer/withdrawal form can be found in the addendum section of this Student/Parent Handbook.

### **Staff Training**

Annually, the Head of School shall ensure that training is provided to all members of the Board of Trustees and staff concerning their responsibilities to maintain the confidentiality of information from student education records consistent with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and state requirements for records of juvenile proceedings. Such training shall be tailored to the scope of the staff or Board member's duties and, so appropriate, include presentation of information on:

- the maintenance and storage of educational records;
- record-keeping requirements regarding disclosure of a student's education record;
- the potential penalties, both to the staff/Board member and the school, for inappropriate disclosure of a student's education records or personally identifiable information there from;

- the definitions of “record,” “education record,” “directory of information,” and “personally identifiable information” under federal law;
- where to receive advice and direction in circumstances where the Board or staff member’s responsibilities in this regard are unclear; and
- the penalties for violation of the rules of confidentiality set forth in Vermont law, including with respect to juvenile court records.

## **EVOLUTION EDUCATION: LYNDON INSTITUTE POSITION STATEMENT**

Lyndon Institute supports the position that evolution is a major unifying concept of science and should be part of every students’ high school curriculum. Both the national and state science standards include evolutionary theory as a principal concept. Consequently, students are required to exhibit a high level of understanding of evolution on all standardized tests at state and national levels. A student may believe as they wish, but the student will still be required to learn evolution from a scientific standpoint even if he/she does not accept it as being true.

## **GRADES**

### **Marking Periods**

Revised July 2011

There shall be four marking periods (or quarters), two per semester, per academic year

### **Makeup Work and Incomplete Grades**

Revised June 2003

- Work assigned during an absence will be made up within three days of the student’s return.
- A student able to show reasonable cause may be allowed a longer period of time. The teacher has final determination to grant or deny an extension.

### **Incomplete Grades**

- All makeup work associated with an incomplete grade must be made up during the first week of the following marking period.
- Makeup work not completed during the first week of the following marking period will result in a failing grade being issued for all missing work and the course grade calculated as such.
- Exceptions to the one-week requirement must be granted by the Dean of Academics.

### **Failed Course, Change of Grade Once Repeated**

Any student who repeats a course due to a failing grade and successfully passes that course shall have the failing grade replaced by the passing grade for the purpose of recalculating the student’s GPA. However, all attempts at passing a course, whether successful or unsuccessful shall be represented on the student’s transcript.

## **GRADUATION**

Policy Adopted June 2007, Revised June 2016

It is the goal of Lyndon Institute to provide its students with a genuine opportunity to complete a secondary program of studies and to receive a diploma. Genuine opportunity includes access to elective courses and other program options for all students with aptitude or interest to benefit from them.

Genuine opportunity also includes providing for the participation of students with special needs by:

- making available instructional accommodations as well as physical accommodation when required and reasonably possible, as specified by the student's IEP or Section 504 plan;
- using parallel curriculum that differs only in scope, sequence, or detail; and/or
- providing for alternative curriculum for those few pupils who cannot make progress in regular or parallel curriculum.

Lyndon Institute provides academic credit for all approved course work, regardless of the educational placement in which it occurs. Assignment of academic credit for approved course work will occur in accordance with procedures approved by the Dean of Academics.

In collaboration with the sending school district, students on IEPs will be ensured of their due process rights with respect to graduation through any required evaluation procedures which will typically occur at least six months prior to anticipated graduation.

Procedures Adopted June 1993, Revised June 2016

The student, their school counselor, and the Director of Specialized Instruction will adapt learning experiences to the student's age and ability when the standard course work at Lyndon Institute does not provide the student with a genuine opportunity to complete the number and distribution of credits as required to graduate from Lyndon Institute.

If the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) disagree with a refusal to assign academic credit for a particular learning experience outside the standard coursework offered by Lyndon Institute, that decision may be appealed to the Head of School. After considering information from all parties concerned, the Head of School shall make a final decision on the matter.

### **Annual credit requirements:**

Grade 9	8 credits
Grade 10 & 11	7 credits
Grade 12	6 credits

### **Academic Credit Requirements for Graduation**

English	4
Social Studies	3
Mathematics	3
Science	3
Fine Arts	1
Physical Education	2
Health Education	$\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>16 <math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
Electives	<u>CREDITS</u>
	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>CREDITS</u>
TOTAL	28 CREDITS

Lyndon Institute will recognize credits earned in a homeschooled program that has been registered with a state agency or department of education.

### **Graduation Attire**

This is a formal event. Caps and gowns may not be altered in appearance or decorated for the commencement ceremony.

## **EARLY GRADUATION POLICY**

Students who have met all the graduation requirements set forth by Lyndon Institute (and captured in this student handbook) may apply for early graduation to the Head of School using the form found [here](#). Lyndon Institute encourages students who have met all the graduation requirements as a senior to use the rest of their high school year to: take college courses, take career and technical education courses, engage in work based learning, apply for an internship, or explore other course offerings that would enrich their post-secondary education experience. The granting of early graduation will be limited in nature based on special circumstances. The form for early graduation must be submitted by the end of their Junior year for consideration.

Students who apply for early graduation and are approved by the Head of School will receive a diploma with a December graduation date and will not be allowed to participate in any additional School-related activities. This includes, but is not limited to, sports/extracurricular activities, J-Term, end of year assemblies, prom and commencement. The decision to graduate early means that one is no longer a student at Lyndon Institute and has formally transitioned to alumni status.

## **LIBRARY**

Revised June 2017

The Elliott Memorial Library is an integral part of the school's instructional program. It provides a peaceful environment for quiet study, academic research, computer access, printing stations, and reading.

The library consists of three floors to suit various needs. The MAC (Monahan Academic Commons) is a relaxed area for QUIET study for high honors students. It also shelves our fiction titles. The middle floor houses College and Career Counseling offices and the Seaver Conference Room. The bottom floor contains non-fiction and research books and the Simpson Room and Computer Lab.

### **Library Admittance and Privileges**

All students are welcome in the library before and after school. All students with High Honors and seniors with Honors are welcome in the library whenever they have free periods. Other students will utilize their assigned Study Halls as their venue for working on school assignments, during which time they can access our online library resources using their Chromebooks. Teachers may make prior arrangements with the librarian for other special academics-related uses, such as utilizing one of our alternative classrooms or hosting a class in the library, whereby they are responsible for accompanying and supervising their students. Inappropriate student behavior may result in limited or lost library privileges.

### **Research**

Several reliable databases are available to students through LI's website. The Cengage Learning (GALE) offers many useful and dependable databases for academic research and study. A descriptive overview handout is available at the library's main desk.

### **Checkouts**

Students may check out available library materials for up to four weeks. If the checked out titles have not been returned within four weeks of their due date, the student will be restricted from checking out additional material(s). After ten weeks, the student will be invoiced for the price of the material(s) and is subject to losing library privileges.

### **Use of Electronics**

Electronic devices may be used in the MAC for educational purposes. Headphones, earbuds, etc. must be used when audio is being used. Any student not complying with these guidelines will be asked to put their device away. If a second violation of this policy occurs, the electronic device will be confiscated until the student leaves the library. If a third violation of this policy occurs the student will no longer be allowed to use their device in the library and may lose library privileges.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

Revised July 2012

A research paper or project is often assigned as part of a course requirement. A bibliography will be included at the end of the project to give credit to the sources used (books, periodicals, videos, online sites, etc.) and may follow the American Psychological Association (APA) style or the Modern Language Association (MLA). Forms for writing a bibliography using the APA and MLA style are available in the library and from individual teachers. Students should also refer to the Academic Dishonesty/Anti-Plagiarism Policy in this handbook.

## SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION

Specialized Instruction Programs at Lyndon Institute adhere to the school's Mission and Core Values. In order to meet the needs of all students to enable them to achieve the greatest success in secondary school, we offer many programs and supports in integrated learning environments as well as specialized courses of instruction as necessary to comply with state and federal regulations.

**Special Education:** Students who have been identified as eligible for special education services are provided with a Special Education case manager who will work with students, families, and the school community to ensure that each student's Individualized Education Plan is carried out effectively and meets their unique needs while preparing them for further education, employment, and independent living.

**Section 504:** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal civil rights statute prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. At Lyndon Institute, students meeting eligibility criteria for Section 504 will have educational plans developed by the student, his/her family and appropriate teaching and support staff. The plan will be monitored by the 504 Coordinator.

**Educational Support Team (EST):** the EST is facilitated by the EST Coordinator. Students may be brought to the EST through a referral process or the team may use screening assessments to identify students who might need additional support. Referral information and data are used to determine the area to address and to set targets and time frames for improvement. It is anticipated that these additional supports, especially targeted, will only be needed for a limited time.



## **STUDY HALLS**

Revised June 2012

So that we may approach a degree of similarity in our study halls, the following regulations will be followed:

- Study halls are to promote an atmosphere conducive to studying.
- All students must bring study or reading materials to study hall.
- Permission to study together will be limited.
- Not more than one student at a time is to be excused to go to their locker or the bathroom unless an emergency situation arises, and they may not take their phones with them to the locker or bathroom.
- Students will not be allowed to leave study hall during the last six minutes of the period.
- Being late to study hall will not be tolerated and may result in detention.

## **TRANSFERS AND WITHDRAWALS**

A family needing to transfer or withdraw their student from our school should visit Lyndon Institute's Student Services Office in Main Building Room 202 between 8:30 and 4:00, Monday – Friday, to meet with Mrs. Hale and complete the proper paperwork. Parental permission is required before we can release any records to other schools, including transcripts, report cards, SEVIS records, and teacher recommendations. You may ask any teacher for a recommendation; teachers will give completed recommendations directly to Mrs. Hale in Student Services. Before departing LI, students will be required to turn in any school property including uniforms, Chromebooks, and Chromebook chargers.

# STUDENT ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

## RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY

### LYNDON INSTITUTE VIKINGS ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES DIGEST

All student participants and their parents should have a working understanding of the procedures contained herein. Completion of the consent forms confirm your understanding and agreement to adhere to the guidelines as stated here. Welcome to the 2023-2024 interscholastic athletic and student activities programs at Lyndon Institute. You are to be commended on your decision to participate in co-curricular activities. In choosing to become involved in your school outside of the classroom, not only will you experience enjoyment, competition and camaraderie, but you have also made a commitment to your team or group, your school, and your community. An important aspect of your participation is honoring that commitment. High school athletics and activities are valuable components of education, and we hope you find your experience here at Lyndon Institute to be rewarding and enjoyable. This digest is designed to provide students and parents with information about athletics and student activities. Parents, please familiarize yourself with this information so that you and your child(ren) understand and accept responsibility for the rules and policies set by Lyndon Institute.

## Athletics, Activities, Clubs, and Organizations (AACO)

### GENERAL STATEMENT

Policy Adopted June 1992, Revised June 2017 and July 2019

Lyndon Institute recognizes that athletic, extracurricular, and co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities provide additional opportunities and challenges for personal growth and development. Through participation and competition, students learn teamwork, self-discipline, and respect for the rules. Participants in co-curricular, and extracurricular activities and athletics become models for good citizenship.

Conforming to acceptable behavior is an expectation for all participants and athletes at Lyndon Institute. It is the responsibility of the participants and athletes, the parent(s)/guardian(s), and all interested individuals to be aware of the necessary rules and regulations as outlined in this Student/Parent Handbook. In addition, as a member of the Vermont Principals' Association (VPA), Lyndon Institute requires all athletes to conform to rules and regulations adopted by the VPA.

### VERMONT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Vermont Principals' Association, comprised of more than 300 Vermont high schools, sponsors sports and other co-curricular activities for students around the state.

1. A student who competes in any VPA-sanctioned activity must be under nineteen years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth birthday occurs on or after August 1 is eligible for all activities in the ensuing

- school year. Students who have attained the age of nineteen prior to August 1 shall be ineligible for all VPA sanctioned activities.
2. Students are ineligible if they have graduated from any course of study in a secondary school comparable to the Vermont system. The initial determination of whether the secondary school is comparable shall be made by the school's principal. If there is a question concerning the eligibility of a student under this rule, the Executive Director may review the principal's determination. Determining whether a secondary school is comparable, the principal, Executive Director, Activity Standards Committee, and Board of Appeals shall give consideration to the normal number of years of the primary and secondary school program; the length of the school day and year; the curriculum; whether graduation makes the student eligible for post-secondary education; and any other relevant information. If the total length of the normal primary and secondary program for the school system in question is less than twelve years, the secondary school may be deemed less than comparable. Waivers of this eligibility rule may be granted in accordance with these bylaws.
  3. Students have four consecutive years or eight semesters of eligibility for participation in school activities. Attendance of thirty school days of any semester shall be regarded as a semester. Attendance is defined as being included in the official roll and attendance records of the school and not being physically present in a class. A student that is enrolled for their eighth and final semester of eligibility; during the fall/winter term, may complete the winter sports season as long as he/she is an eligible student and has not graduated.
  4. No student may participate in the same sport for more than four seasons.
  5. Athletes must have a physical exam, adequate insurance, and parental or guardian approval before practicing or competing in an interscholastic contest. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student must also sign a consent and waiver/release form as provided by Lyndon Institute.
  6. Athletes who participate in competition in a school-sponsored sport shall not compete as a member of a non-school sponsored organized activity in the same sport during that season.

## **AACO: ACADEMICS**

Adopted June 1992, Revised July 2019

Academics are the primary focus at Lyndon Institute. It is the responsibility of all students who are participating in athletics and/or co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities to maintain satisfactory grades.

- Students are required to achieve a 65 or better, in all courses, for academic compliance. Each student must pass all courses.
- Any athlete who has failed a class or classes in the previous marking period and who wishes to participate in a sport must attend After School Support Study in the necessary academic area on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:05-3:35 p.m. and must maintain a passing grade during the sports season in order to maintain eligibility.
- Students will be excused from attending the After-School Support Study only for school-sponsored activities or an absence approved by the Administration.

- Any student with one unexcused absence from the After-School Support Study will be immediately suspended from activities. For athletes, this will include practices and scheduled contests for a period of 20 percent of their regular season schedule. If less than 20 percent of the season remains, the suspension will carry over into the next sports season. For students participating in extracurricular activities other than athletics, this penalty will be determined by the Advisory Committee. A second unexcused absence will remove the student from participating in athletics and extracurricular activities for the season.
- Student academic progress will be reviewed at the midpoint and end of each marking period. Any student athlete who meets the standard of 65 or above in each of his/ her courses at that time will no longer be required to attend the After-School Support Study.
- Parents/Guardians and students are required to sign a Student Athlete Contract. A copy of this contract can be found at the end of this AACO section or on our website.

### **AACO: REGULATED SUBSTANCES**

Policy Adopted June 1992, Revised July 2019

Lyndon Institute believes that individuals perform best when following intelligent training guidelines, which includes the prohibition of alcohol, tobacco, misuse of prescription/non-prescription drugs, and other regulated substances, including, but not limited to; marijuana. Therefore, no student who is participating in school athletics or activities shall purchase, sell, use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs that are not prescribed to him/her, or other regulated substances, including but not limited to; marijuana.

This VPA policy applies to on- and off-campus behavior and to any student who participates in any Lyndon Institute athletic or other activity at any time during the academic year, which runs from August 15, 2023 through June 15, 2024.

#### Procedures Revised July 2019

All violations will be reported to the Department Chair overseeing the extracurricular/co- curricular activity, the advisor/coach and the Director of Athletics overseeing the activity or team and Activities. These administrators constitute the Advisory Committee which will meet to evaluate each violation, generally within three days after a report is received. The student with the alleged violation and their parent(s)/guardian(s) will be expected to attend a meeting with the Advisory Committee.

Violations must be reported by a Lyndon Institute staff member, the student athlete, or the athlete or participant's parent(s)/guardian(s). While the review is underway, the student may be immediately suspended from any interscholastic and/or public performances. During this period of suspension, the student is expected to participate in all team and/or group-related activities, such as practice, unless suspended from school.

If the student is found to be in violation, all penalties enforced during the review

period will count toward the fulfillment of any sanctioned penalty. The student must seek assistance in a manner satisfactory to the Advisory Committee regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs that are not prescribed to him/her, and other regulated substances, including, but not limited to, marijuana. Failure to do so will result in immediate dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season and will bar the student from participating in any other athletic event, extracurricular or co-curricular activity during that semester.

The Head of School, or his/her designee will receive all appeals regarding the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Regulated Substances Procedures. Any appeal must be in writing. A student will generally be notified of the Head of School's decision within five school days. The Head of School's decision will be final.

### **Tobacco, Controlled Substances, and Alcohol**

#### **Violations First Offense, Student Must:**

- Meet with the school substance counselor for assessment
- Meet with the substance counselor, the Director of Athletics and the coach/advisor to develop corrective actions and to determine the suspension from an activity period
- Apologize to the team/club/organization and explain the corrective actions
- **Second Offense:**
- An athlete found to be in violation on a second occasion may be suspended from competition for fifty percent of the current season. If fifty percent of the season cannot be completed during the current season because too much of the season has elapsed at the time of the imposition of consequences for a second offense, then the penalty will carry over to the student's next athletic season. For students who participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities other than athletics, this penalty will be determined by the Advisory Committee.
- **Third Offense:**
- A student who participates in athletics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities found in violation a third time during any academic year may be suspended from participating in all athletic events, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for one calendar year following the time of the imposition of consequences for a third offense. After mandatory counseling and following through with all recommendations made by the Advisory committee, the student may apply for reinstatement into the athletic, extracurricular, and/or co-curricular program.

#### **Civil and Criminal Violations**

A student participating in athletic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities who:

- is convicted of a misdemeanor (other than one resulting from a motor vehicle offense that did not involve personal injury or careless and negligent driving);
- is charged with a felony for which probable cause has been determined, or is convicted of a felony; or
- vandalizes school property or steals property on school grounds;

shall be subject to the following penalties:

#### **First Offense:**

the student may be immediately suspended from all athletic

events, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the athletic season or semester.

### **Second Offense:**

- the student may be suspended from all athletic events, co-curricular and extra-curricular for one calendar year measured from the date of suspension.

Driving under the influence (DUI) may result in immediate suspension from all team, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities while charges are pending following confirmation of the underlying charges, facts and circumstances, as determined by the Advisory Committee, in its sole discretion. If convicted, the student will be suspended from all athletic events, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for one calendar year following the time of the imposition of consequences. After mandatory counseling, and following through with all recommendations made by the Advisory Committee, the student may apply for reinstatement into the athletic, extracurricular, and/or co-curricular program.

## **AACO: STUDENT CONDUCT**

### Policy

One of the most important aspects of athletics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities is developing good citizenship, which includes good conduct. Therefore, students are expected to abide by all the rules of student conduct as set forth by Lyndon Institute, whether they are on or off campus, from August 12, 2021 through June 15, 2022.

### Procedures Revised July 2019

If a student participating in athletics, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities skips a class or study hall, or is suspended by the Administration, he/she may not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled interscholastic contest in which he/she is eligible to participate.

In accordance with the Activity Transportation Procedures, students participating in athletics, co-curricular and extra-curricular are expected to travel to and

from away contests with their team. Exceptions can be requested from the Administration.

Students participating in athletics, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities must practice good school citizenship, including but not limited to the rules of student conduct set out in this Student/Parent Handbook. Any violation may result in suspension from athletic events, extracurricular, and/or co-curricular activities.

There will be no tolerance for harassment, bullying, or hazing of fellow teammates or other team members.

If a student participating in athletics, co-curricular and extra-curricular violates any athletic or academic rule during the spring sports season, the consequences may carry over to the fall sports season.

A student athlete may participate in no more than two sports per season. A "priority sport" must be determined prior to the start of the season. The priority

sport will take precedence for any conflicts in team schedules. Both coaches must agree to allow participation in both sports and must determine the practice and play procedure with the student athlete in advance of the sports start date. A student will not be allowed to miss more than three classes per week unless there are extenuating circumstances, which will be determined by the Director of Athletics and the Dean of Academics

### **Coaches Statement**

Each sport or team is unique. It is appropriate for individual coaches to determine and set team rules for participation in athletic contests. Athletes are responsible for complying with team rules, as well as the provisions of the Student/Parent Handbook and

this digest, and participation in athletics may be conditioned on compliance with any such team rules. These rules will be made known to the athlete prior to the start of practice for the season, and may not be contrary to the established policy. They are reviewable by the Athletic Council and the Director of Athletics and Activities.

### **Home Schooled Students and Athletics**

Only students enrolled in Lyndon Institute academic programs will be allowed to participate in Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) activities. Home school students will participate under the same rules and policies as any other student. Home school students will be billed fees at the same rate as regular students. However, the fees will be prorated depending upon courses taken and the activities in which the student participates. Fees will be billed by semester to the town of residence.

### **Tryouts**

In some sports, it may be necessary to reduce the number of participants to a manageable size, particularly when considering safety, fiscal resources, equipment, facilities and coaching personnel. The coaches will determine the composition of each interscholastic team.

### **Uniforms and Equipment**

Students are responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them, including keeping them clean and in good repair and returning them at the end of the respective season. Students are liable for lost and damaged items and will be charged as determined by the respective coach. Diplomas will be withheld from a student until such time as they have either returned their uniforms and/or equipment, or have reimbursed to the school the market value of the uniform and/or equipment.

### **Participation**

It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to require a physical examination every year for students who engage in interscholastic athletics. These exams are at the expense of each individual. The Athletics Office and the Office of Campus Life have the necessary forms, which must be completely filled out and signed. All candidates are required to furnish proof of accident/health insurance. An athlete must practice ten days with the team before they can play in a game. An athlete is expected to be at practice to participate or watch every day.

### **Awards**

- All participants will receive a certificate of participation.
- A participant who is a member of a varsity-level sports activity for

the entire duration of the respective season may be awarded a varsity letter or the appropriate metal insert award.

- A captain's pin shall be awarded to all participants recognized as captains of a varsity sport.

### **Eligibility: Day of Game/Activity**

Athletes absent from school due to illness or excused absence for more than two periods of the school day may not participate in an athletic activity the day of their absence unless extenuating circumstances exist and the absence is approved by the Director of Athletics and Dean of Students.

### **Administration: Concussion Guidelines**

LI follows the State of Vermont Concussion Guidelines, including the Return to Play Protocols. LI student athletes and their parents are required to review the student and parent concussion materials which are posted on the school's website in the Athletics Section under Concussion Policy. Copies are available in the Athletic Office and the Health Center. Each student athlete and their parent/guardian must annually sign a form acknowledging receipt of information from LI regarding the nature and risks of concussions and other head injuries during athletic activities, the risks of premature participation in athletic activities following a concussion or other head injury, and the importance of obtaining a medical evaluation of a suspected concussion or other head injury and receiving treatment when necessary.

### **NCAA and Collegiate Eligibility**

Students wishing to participate in intercollegiate athletics upon completion of high school must meet certain NCAA minimum grades in core high school courses and minimum scores on SAT/ACT standardized tests. They must also complete NCAA Clearinghouse forms, available in the Student Services Office, to participate at the collegiate level. It is a student's responsibility to monitor their own status with regard to meeting NCAA requirements.

### **Change of Sport**

Except in isolated and unusual cases, students will not be permitted to change sports during the season. Students should make every effort to fully and completely participate in the sport in which they displayed an initial and genuine interest. If a problem occurs in this area, the affected coaches and the Director of Athletics and Activities will render a final decision.

### **Academic Makeup Work**

Students who miss class as a result of contests and activities are expected to make up the work. This may include after-school sessions. Participants, families, and coaches should understand that practice is not an acceptable excuse for failing to complete make-up work or for failing to attend after-school help sessions or detention.

## **ACTIVITY TRANSPORTATION**

Procedures Adopted 1991, Revised July 2011

All students attending Lyndon Institute activity trips must travel both ways on the school-sponsored bus unless prior permission has been granted by the Administration. Permission may be denied by a coach or advisor in the case of special events or contests where bus transportation is required. Otherwise, the



student will be granted permission if an activity transportation form is completed and the parent/guardian signs the activity transportation form in the presence of the trip supervisor.

Violation of the Activity Transportation Procedures may result in game suspension or activity limitation. The decision of the Administration will be final.

## **LISTING OF CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS**

As stated in the Equal Access Policy in this Student/Parent Handbook, all co-curricular activities are under the control of Lyndon Institute and will comply with all policies and procedures of Lyndon Institute, including those in the LI Student/Parent Handbook. The school may set standards for academic eligibility for participation in these activities. Activities that meet at least one of the following criteria will be considered curriculum related and thus co-curricular and are eligible for school sponsorship. The following LI Activities, clubs and organizations have been determined to meet the following criteria for co-curricular status:

- the subject matter of the group or club is actually taught or will be taught in a regularly scheduled LI course;
- the subject matter of the group or club is such that it concerns the body of LI courses as a whole;
- participation in the group or club is required for a particular LI course; or
- participation in the group or club results in academic credit from LI.

**Dance and Tap Club (Dance):** The LI dance clubs offer supplemental dance instruction and the opportunity to learn various dance styles and techniques, along with the opportunity to appreciate the art of dance through educational and performance based events.

**Drama Club (Drama):** The LI theater program combines course work with an extracurricular production program. Students can take a theater class all four years of high school, with acting levels 1-4 offered during the day. The club provides students the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to qualify for excellent undergraduate theater programs and for work in local amateur productions. The LI theater company, a dedicated group of actors, singers, and dancers, meets after school and assists the acting classes with production, always working toward the next show.

**French Club (French):** French Club is a group of students enrolled in French classes who intend to travel to Quebec City and/or Paris.

**Latin Club (Latin):** The mission of this club is to promote knowledge and understanding of the classics. The club travels to Latin conventions to compete in contests, socialize with other students, and perform service projects.

**National Art Honors Society (Art):** The National Arts Honor Society emphasizes outstanding artistic scholarship and service to the school and community through the development of artistic endeavors, together with strong moral character.

**Athletic Honor Society (Personal Fitness/Wellness):** This club recognizes the academic and athletic achievements of our students. We encourage and promote good sportsmanship, citizenship, leadership, and the willingness to coach and

volunteer time in local schools and the community. This club will inspire harmony and friendships in school, athletics, and all social media.

**National Honor Society (Academics):** The objectives of this organization are to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in students.

Candidate selection is based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

**National Tech Honor Society (CTE):** The NTHS seeks to honor student achievement and leadership in career and technical education, promote educational excellence, award scholarships, and advance career opportunities for students at Lyndon Institute Technical Center.

**Outing Club:** A student-led program which plans and executes excursions throughout the entire school year. The club's goals are: to get outside in all seasons, be stewards to our natural surroundings, and build skills as well as friendships. This club also provides opportunities to explore and prepare for outdoor careers.

**Scholars Bowl:** Scholars Bowl is a game in which two teams compete head-to-head to answer questions from all areas of knowledge including history, literature, science, fine arts, current events, sports and popular culture. The LI Scholars Bowl team is made up of highly motivated students who choose various areas of study to explore and master. LI's Scholars meet regularly to practice and learn and compete in local, state, and regional tournaments through the VT-NEA Scholars Bowl League.

**Skills USA (CTE Programs):** Skills USA mission is to empower its members to become world-class workers, leaders, and responsible American citizens. It is a partnership of students, teachers, and industries working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Skills USA helps students excel providing educational programs, events, and competitions that support career and technical education in the classroom.

**Spanish Club (Spanish):** Our Spanish Club brings native Spanish speakers on campus and local students studying the language together weekly for activities and conversation. A Spanish language table meets in the dining hall weekly to promote cultural exchange and conversation. Spanish Club members may also travel to a Spanish speaking country to experience the culture first-hand.

**Student Government (Civics, Council, Debate, etc.):** Lyndon Institute Student Government is composed of Student Council and class officers. This group meets weekly to discuss school-wide initiatives, address student concerns, and plan activities for the student body. Student Council coordinates two major week-long school events - Spirit Week and Winter Carnival. Members of the Student Council also support LI through participation in 8th Grade Day, Open House, trustee dinners, fundraising, and community/school projects.

## **LISTING OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS**

The following LI Activities, clubs and organizations have been determined to meet the criteria for extra-curricular status:

**Vikings SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Acceptance):** The mission of GSA is to promote equality and understanding between and among the LGBTQ community, the LI community, and the extended community.

**Lyndon Institute Cultural Ambassadors (LICA) (World Language, Global Studies):** The Lyndon Institute Cultural Ambassadors is a student organization that offers cultural enrichment and social, ethical and personal development to its members while engaging in community service through education in a world view that emphasizes our basic commonalities and interconnections while promoting the exchange of cultural knowledge and the development of intercultural friendships and synergies.

**Mountain Biking Club:** This club meets every Tuesday and Thursday (weather permitting) for two hours on the Kingdom Trails in East Burke. This club is open to any level bike rider.

**NEK Clay Shooters:** The club is open to all freshmen through seniors. To cover insurance, all athletes must join the Scholastic Clay Target Program (\$20.00 fee), complete a medical waiver and sign a sportsmanship contract. All activities will take place at the NEKSC range in Burke. Club members must be in good academic and community standing in order to participate.

**Sustainability Club:** The Sustainability Club is in charge of the recycling program on campus. They meet weekly to collect recyclables from all over campus, helping to make sure items are properly sorted and transferred to appropriate collection points. They were also instrumental in getting a composting program started in the dining hall. In addition to reducing our waste stream, this group is also awaiting the results of an energy audit while currently investigating ways to incorporate other energy sources on campus.

**LI Interact Volunteer Club:** In the spirit of supporting Lyndon Institute's mission, as well as the school's core values, the Volunteer Club combines the idea of selflessness with making positive contributions to LI, the community, and the world beyond our local boundaries. By giving back to our local and regional community, students learn the value of becoming positive and productive citizens.

*Please note that current club offerings are subject to change based on student interest and involvement. Students (and their parents/guardians) who are participating in extracurricular programs may be required to execute required acknowledgement, consent and waiver forms.*

## **LYNDON INSTITUTE STUDENT ATHLETE CONTRACT**

Lyndon Institute recognizes that athletic and co-curricular activities provide invaluable opportunities and challenges for personal growth and development. Through participation and competition, students are expected to learn teamwork, self-discipline, and respect for rules, and to become good role models and good citizens.

**Athletic Core Values:** Students who take part in LI Athletics are expected to follow our Core Values, which are: Respect-for self, others, and Lyndon Institute, and Responsibility-to become accomplished learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate community members. Each athlete must sign this contract at the beginning of the initial sport they compete in to show they understand the

expectations and to agree to be an exemplary student athlete. Once an athlete and parent have signed the contract it does not need to be signed for each successive sport that they participate in.

**Academics:** Academics are the primary focus at Lyndon Institute. It is the responsibility of all students participating in athletics and other activities to maintain a minimum grade of 65 in all classes, or else be required to attend LI's After School Study Program to maintain eligibility. Student progress will be reviewed four-weeks into the following marking period. Students achieving a grade of 65 or better in all courses at that time will be allowed to exit the Study Program. Students with one or more grades lower than 65 at the checkpoint date will remain in the program for the remainder of the marking period. Absences from the Study Program are excused only for school-sponsored activities or if pre-approved by the Administration prior to their absence. A student with an unexcused absence will immediately be suspended from participating in 20% of their season. A second unexcused

absence leads to suspension from the team for the remainder of the season. After school study is held from 3:05-3:35 M, T, TH.

**Attendance:** Attendance at ALL scheduled practices and contests is required. Students must attend at least four periods of the school day to be eligible to participate in contests that same day. Only family emergencies, school-sponsored activities, or prior permission from the Administration are deemed excused absences. Students missing practices and/or games for personal reasons, including but not limited to school vacation days, will be suspended from participating in games for a period equal to the time missed. For example, if a student misses five days of practices/games during a school vacation period, the student will not be allowed to participate in a game until they attend five practices after returning to the team. Allowances are made for students missing practices due to participation in sports camps or sport-specific showcase events. Any unexcused absence(s) from class periods may result in suspension from a portion or entirety of the next athletic contest or practice (TBD by the coach and Director of Athletics and Activities).

**Use and/or Possession of Substances:** Students are prohibited from using or possessing drugs, tobacco, electronic cigarettes or alcohol. No student participating in athletics,

Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities shall purchase, sell, use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs that are not prescribed to him or her, or other legally controlled substances, including but not limited to marijuana.

All violations of this procedure shall be reported to the Director of Athletics and Student Activities, and all violations must be either self-reported by the student or their parent/guardian or reported by LI staff. Once a report has been received, the Director of Athletics and Student Activities along with the coach will meet with the student and their parent/guardian as soon as schedules allow. While the review is underway, the student may be suspended from participating in any school-sponsored activity. The student will be expected to participate in practices and/or group activities unless suspended from school. Once a violation has been confirmed, all penalties accrued or enforced during the review period will count toward fulfillment of any sanctioned penalty. The Director of Athletics and Student Activities, along with school counselors, and the coach will determine a course of action.

**Criminal Offenses:** A student who is convicted of a misdemeanor (other than one resulting from a traffic violation), or is charged with a felony for which probable cause has been determined, or is convicted of a felony, or vandalizes school property, or

steals from school property, may be immediately suspended from all student activities for the remainder of the athletic season or semester. A student committing a second offense may be suspended from all student activities for one calendar year measured from the date of the suspension.

**Hazing and/or Bullying:** Bullying is dangerous and disrespectful behavior and will not be tolerated or permitted at Lyndon Institute. Hazing is an act committed by a person that is intended to humiliate, intimidate, or demean another person and is also not tolerated or permitted at Lyndon Institute. Discipline for an act of bullying or hazing will be determined by the Director of Athletics and Student Activities along with school counselors, and the Dean of Students.

**Student Conduct and Team Rules:** One of the most valuable aspects of athletics and other activities that they promote good citizenship, which in turn promotes good behavior.

Participants are expected to abide by all of LI's student conduct rules and regulations. Additionally, team rules will be provided by the Head Coach of each sport and/or by the Advisor for any club or student organization.

**VPA Rules:** Every athlete must follow all Vermont Principals' Association (VPA) rules. I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood the athletic and activities policies, procedures, rules, regulations and the Student Athlete Contract of Lyndon Institute and the Lyndon Institute Athletic and Activities Digest. I agree to abide by the rules as presented. I also understand that this contract is in effect for the entire school year and may apply to current and subsequent athletic or activity seasons. By signing this contract, I will be responsible for my actions in and out of school.

**Athlete's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sport** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understood the policies and procedures of Lyndon Institute and agree to abide by the standards set forth by the school. I understand that these standards are set for my son/daughter and myself. By signing this contract, I will be responsible for the actions of my child and/or myself. I understand it is a privilege to watch my child participate and I will act in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.

**Parent/Guardian Signature**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PHILOSOPHY:** At Lyndon Institute we understand and appreciate the importance of athletics and co-curricular activities in the overall education of our students.

Experiences teach values such as hard work, commitment, leadership, discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness, all within a framework of academic excellence. Participation contributes to the physical, emotional and social health of our students, and promotes a sense of unity and cooperation among athletes, the student body and the larger school community.

In terms of competitive athletics, Lyndon Institute has a tradition of success as measured by wins and championships, and winning is a natural goal. Our teams will strive to win, but emphasis will be placed on effort, improvement, respect for the rules of the game, coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials, and learning to win graciously and lose with dignity. Winning is emphasized more strongly at the varsity level, but never at the expense of healthy attitudes, values, and perspective.

Winning however is not the only measure of success and many other valuable measures should be considered in the overall assessment of a students' experience and the success of a program. At sub-varsity levels, winning remains a goal, but is subordinate to participation and skill development. Above all, we want all of our athletes to have a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

**VERMONT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION ELIGIBILITY:** VPA eligibility rules and activities policies apply to all activities, athletic and non-athletic, sanctioned or sponsored by the Vermont Principals' Association. Waiver requests regarding undue hardship must be submitted through the school principal. The following are VPA eligibility rules:

- Contestants or participants must be bona fide students in their school. Students may only compete on school teams sponsored by their own school during the season; In an activity season, players who have participated in practice or competition as a member of a school team shall not practice or compete as members of a non-school organized group in the same activity;
- Transfer students are eligible at once, provided they were bona fide students in the school from which they transferred according to the definition in #1 above;
- Participants must be under 19 years of age, except that a student whose 19th birthday occurs on or after August 1st, is eligible for all activities in the ensuing school year;
- Students are ineligible if they have graduated from any course of study in a secondary school comparable to the Vermont system;
- Students have four consecutive years (8 semesters) of eligibility. Attendance of 30 days of any semester will be regarded as a semester. For a complete list of VPA rules and regulations, go to [www.vpaonline.org](http://www.vpaonline.org)

#### **VPA Loyalty Clause:**

VPA Policies Art. III, Sec. 3, Part B Non-School Competition (5/28/14)

A member of a school team is a student athlete who is regularly present for, and actively participates in, all team tryouts, practices and competitions. Bona fide members of a school team are prevented from missing a high school practice or competition to compete with an out-of-school team, practice or competition to include tournaments, showcases, combines or other athletic events. Whenever a conflict arises between the high school team practice/competition and an out-of-school practice/competition on the same day, the high school team practice/competition shall be honored by the student athlete.

Priority must be given at all times to the high school team, its practices, and its contest unless permission has been granted by the school. It is expressly understood that permission shall not be granted on a regular basis and shall only be granted in extraordinary circumstances. This loyalty clause adopted by the Vermont Principals' association replaces former Lyndon Institute procedures pertaining to participation in Non-LI Sports teams in an existing season.

**CUT POLICY:** One of the most difficult and unpleasant tasks of coaching a team or directing a production is making "cuts." Before deciding to try out for an athletic team or drama production at Lyndon Institute, you must be prepared to accept the possibility that you may not be selected. No one enjoys telling a student who wants to participate that he/she does not possess the ability to make the team or cast, but in some activities it is essential to reduce the squad/cast to a manageable size, considering safety, resources, facilities, and personnel. The decision regarding cuts is final. No candidate (including seniors and students who have played/performed on

the team/cast previously) is guaranteed a spot on any team or cast. You will improve your chances of making a team by reporting to practice on time, in shape, with the necessary paperwork, and with a good attitude. If extenuating circumstances will not allow you to attend all or part of tryouts, contact the coach or director.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Lyndon Institute is not responsible for students' personal property

that is lost, stolen or damaged in association with participation in co-curricular activities. Participants in the athletic program will be issued a locker in the locker room but will need to provide their own lock. We strongly urge students to lock up their belongings at all times.

**INJURIES:** The fundamentals of playing sports safely will be taught and emphasized. No protective equipment can totally eliminate the inherent physical risks of playing sports, which may include serious brain and/or neck injuries including paralysis or death.

Although the risk of serious injury is small, you need to be aware of the risk and stress the importance to your child of following and adhering to the techniques and direction of the coaches. LI employs an Athletic Trainer who is available to students to assist and/or advise in the care, prevention, treatment, referral and rehabilitation of injuries. All injuries occurring while participating in athletics or activities must be reported to the coach/advisor and/or trainer. Students who are treated by a physician, whether or not they are being treated by the trainer, must obtain written permission from the physician before returning to the activity. Our coaches will work hard to provide appropriate instruction designed to help keep our athletes safe, but there is an inherent risk of injury while participating in athletics.

**NCAA AND COLLEGIATE ELIGIBILITY:** Students may wish to participate in intercollegiate athletics after high school. The NCAA requires certain minimums on high school core courses, grades, and SAT/ACT standardized test scores. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor his/her status with regard to NCAA requirements. Questions in this area may be directed to the Guidance Department, or use the following resources:

For information about NCAA eligibility, go to <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

For a free copy of the Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete, call 1-800-638-3731 or go to:

<http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA.pdf>

**PLAYING TIME:** Decisions regarding playing time are made by the coach in the best interests of the team. At sub-varsity levels, playing time will not necessarily be equal, but every effort will be made to get all students playing time in each contest, regardless of their ability, provided the coach determines they meet the following requirements:

1. The student is in good mental and physical health and playing will not place the student at unreasonable risk of injury.
2. The student abides by all school, department and team rules.
3. The student strives to "earn" playing time by consistently demonstrating good sportsmanship, respectful behavior toward teammates, coaches and officials, a positive attitude and strong work ethic. At the varsity level winning is emphasized more strongly. Playing time is determined by the criteria above, an individual's ability, and the team situation.

At all levels, students and parents must understand that playing time is not guaranteed, coaches' decisions around playing time are difficult, and interscholastic sports are competitive. Regardless of playing time, every member of our team is

important and has the opportunity to help his/her team while having an enjoyable experience. We encourage all students to maintain a positive, team-first attitude, work hard to improve, and to always do their best. We ask parents to help their kids learn that playing time is not the most important aspect of their high school sports experience. Parents are encouraged, regardless of how much their son/daughter plays, to stay positive with their kids, their teammates, and their coaches. Students who have questions about their playing time should address them directly to the coach. Coaches are not required to discuss playing time with parents.

**COMMUNICATION OF ATHLETIC CONCERNS:** This section is intended to help improve communication between parents, coaches and administrators, ultimately for the benefit of the student. Involvement in co-curricular activities will allow your children to experience some of the most rewarding times of their lives. However, there will likely be times when things don't go their way, or they disagree with a coach. It is important that students and parents realize these difficult situations are as much a part of the learning experience as are the good times. Our coaches work hard to do the best they can for all of their athletes, and we ask you to respect the fact that their decisions are often extremely difficult and are made based on factors of which students and parents may not be aware. ***We strongly encourage the student, not the parents, to talk to the coach about any issues or problems that arise during the season.*** This is the most direct and productive means of communication, and also a valuable method of teaching responsibility.

We recognize that situations may arise where parents find it necessary to raise a concern, and we ask you to please adhere to the following communication guidelines.

**Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:**

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways the parent can help the child to improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

**Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:**

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play Calling
4. Other student-athletes

**Protocol for a parent registering concerns (This should only be done after the student athlete has met with the coach to discuss their concerns and a resolution has not been worked out):**

1. Contact the Coach first. If you cannot reach him/her, call the athletic office and a meeting may be set up for you upon the Director of Athletics discretion.
2. If the meeting with the coach does not provide satisfactory resolution, call to set up an appointment with the Director of Athletics.

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A PRACTICE OR CONTEST. THESE CAN BE EMOTIONAL TIMES FOR BOTH PARTIES. MEETINGS OF THIS NATURE DO NOT PROMOTE A RESOLUTION.**

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** Lyndon Institute promotes good sportsmanship among athletes and fans. We encourage students, parents and friends to attend games and support our teams, but we ask you to do so in a positive manner.

Individuals who choose to berate opponents or officials, use vulgar language, or make derogatory comments will be asked to leave. Furthermore, please remember that



negative comments about coaches, players, opponents, or officials, even in conversation in the stands, do nothing but undermine the coach and harm the team. We understand that contests can get emotional, and a poor call, a costly mistake, or a loss can be difficult to swallow. However, we ask you to keep high school sports in perspective, and to understand that kids, coaches and officials do make mistakes. Yelling at them from the stands, or even sharing a negative opinion about the situation can only make matters worse. Please keep yourself under control, at all times in the stands and around our fields of play and represent our school and community with the dignity that you expect from our coaches and teams.

## Health and Safety

### **AUTOMOBILE USE AND PARKING**

#### Policy Adopted June 1999

Students may drive to school, but all student vehicles are to remain in the designated student parking lots during the school day, and students must abide by the Automobile Use and Parking Procedures.

#### Procedures Adopted June 1999, Revised June 2015

- Vehicles arriving at and leaving school, and/or driving on the campus of Lyndon Institute, must abide by all traffic and safety rules.
- All vehicles parked on the campus of Lyndon Institute must have a permit in the back driver's side window. The permits are free and available at the receptionist's office.
- Seniors must park in the lot behind the main building. All other students must park only in the Ice Arena parking lot, the front side of Sanborn Hall or the track side of Sanborn Hall.
- Students park at their own risk. Lyndon Institute is not responsible for any damage to or theft of vehicles or vehicle contents.
- Students must get permission from the Administration prior to going to their vehicles during the school day. Students may not sit in their vehicles during the school day for longer than necessary to drop off or obtain something left in the car.
- Students are not allowed to congregate at vehicles before, during, or after the school day.
- Students may not park in the church parking lot adjacent to Sanborn Hall the Town House parking lot, nor on the Vail Campus. Students who are having their cars worked on may park in front of the King Building with permission from the auto mechanics instructor.
- Students must get permission from the Administration and a parent/guardian prior to driving during the school day.
- Students who violate the rules and regulations governing automobile use on the campus of Lyndon Institute may be disciplined in accordance with Lyndon Institute's Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures. Violation consequences for a first offense are two blocks of detention and a letter home. Subsequent violations result in suspension of parking privileges for one day, then two, four, eight, etc.

- Any driver using unsafe traffic practices may be reported to legal authorities.
- Lyndon Institute reserves the right to have any unpermitted or improperly parked vehicle towed or booted. Towing and boot removal occurs at the vehicle owner's expense. Any damage to the boot will be billed to the owner to whose vehicle it was applied.
- Lyndon Institute reserves the right to restrict any vehicle from driving/parking on the campus of Lyndon Institute. Students restricted from parking on campus are not allowed to drive on Lyndon Institute property to park in the Ice Arena parking area.
- All Lyndon Institute rules related to weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco and student conduct apply to the contents and conduct in student cars on campus. Please refer to the Search Policy.

## **SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

This information is being provided to you by Lyndon Institute in an effort to establish clear guidelines for appropriate student behavior, as well as expectations regarding the safe transportation of students by employees or transportation providers.

These policies and guidelines apply to home to school, school to home, school field trips, school class trips, transportation to and from sporting events and all other transportation provided by Lyndon Institute and or providers of transportation hired by Lyndon Institute.

It is important that all parents/guardians understand that the School's main concerns are the safety and welfare of all students and ensuring that students are transported in an efficient, timely, and safe manner to and from school. Since the School shares these concerns with parents, we need parental support and cooperation. Should any parent/guardian feel the need to discuss any situation, concern, or problem relating to his/her child, the parent should feel free to contact the TRANSPORTATION OFFICE AT 802-535-3714.

### **The Purpose and Goal of Student Disciplinary Regulations Are as Follows:**

1. To provide an atmosphere that is safe, healthy, and in which the students' welfare is the primary goal.
2. To promote an attitude of respect for public property and school transportation personnel.
3. To provide fair and reasonable treatment of students with regard to expected behavior.

### **If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 802-535-3714.**

Who is a Bus Student, and What Should a Student and Parent Know?

Riding the bus is a privilege.

Only students currently enrolled at Lyndon Institute may ride the bus. These students include only grades 9 through 12. The primary responsibility of a school bus driver is to transport students safely. Concentrating on the road is essential to

safe driving. Any inability to concentrate on the road would lead to a higher probability of accidents, and students should avoid distracting the bus driver.

**To assist the bus driver in concentrating on the road, students must comply with the following:**

### **Student Behavior and Responsibilities**

- Be on time to the school bus stop, arrive at least 5 minutes early: wait for the bus back from the road: wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before moving towards it.
- Be respectful of the property of others at the bus stop.
- Follow proper crossing and discharge procedures when entering & exiting the bus.
- Enter and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
- Take a seat as quickly as possible and remain seated during the entire ride.
- Keep the bus clean. Do not throw anything inside or out of the bus.
- Do not bring articles that create a hazard, such as water guns, matches, etc.
- Keep the aisle of the bus clear at all times: keep arms, hands and feet out of aisles, if you carry a musical instrument, backpacks, school project, laptops, etc., you must make sure it will fit on your lap in the seat with you.
- Leave personal items in your bags. If listening to electronic devices, the use of earphones, earbuds, etc., will be used. Be respectful of volume.
- Do not distract the bus driver. No hazardous materials, nuisance items: such as laser lights or aerosols
- Use proper conduct; horseplay or fighting will not be tolerated.
- Know all the emergency procedures.
- Obey all the driver's instructions.
- Must fasten seatbelts whenever they are provided in a vehicle, as it is a state law.
- Eating, drink or food items allowed on buses will be at the discretion of the bus driver and or faculty/staff.
- No damage or defacing of any part of the school bus.
- No carry on of any creatures (living or not) on the bus.
- Observe all other school rules and policies including but not limited to school policies/rules concerning profanity, obscene gestures, weapons, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or any other controlled substance.

### **Procedure for Handling School Bus Discipline:**

Based on the severity of the violation, the first through third disciplinary steps set out below may be bypassed.

1. All decisions related to school bus discipline, as outlined below, will be made by the Dean of Students, in consultation with the Transportation Director and other School administrators as the Dean of Students may consider to be appropriate.
2. Any revocation of student bus privileges may be appealed to the Dean of Students and/or Head of School.

3. Suspension or revocation of riding privileges shall be measured in school days.
4. Cases of criminal acts will be referred to the proper authorities.
5. Parents/guardians will be provided with written notice of any and all school bus offenses by their child(ren).
6. Student misconduct may also result in implementation of the School's disciplinary procedures.

#### 1. First Offense

Upon receipt of the first bus driver's report of a student's misconduct by the Transportation Director or the Dean of Students, the student may be given a written warning by the School, as determined to be appropriate by Dean of Students, Head of School or designee.

#### 2. Second Offense

Upon the Transportation Director's or the Dean of Students' receipt of a second report of misconduct by the same student from a school bus driver, an attempt will be made by the School to contact the student's parent(s)/legal guardian that same day. A notice shall be sent by the School to the parent or legal guardian within two school days of the infraction.

The student may be suspended from bus privileges for up to three (3) days. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified as soon as possible of any suspension of their child's bus privileges by the school administration, who will also notify the transportation provider.

#### 3. Third Offense

Upon the Transportation Director's or the Dean of Students' receipt of a third report of misconduct by the same student from a school bus driver, an attempt will be made by the school to contact the parent(s)/legal guardian that same day. A notice shall be sent by the school to the parent or legal guardian within two school days of the infraction.

The student's bus privileges may be suspended for up to five (5) days. Parent(s)/guardian will be notified as soon as possible of any suspension of their child's bus privileges by the school administration, who will also notify the transportation provider.

#### 4. Fourth Offense

Upon the Transportation Director's or the Dean of Students' receipt of a fourth report of misconduct by the same student from a school bus driver, an attempt will be made by the school to contact the parent(s)/legal guardian immediately. In any event, a written notice shall be sent by the school to the parent or legal guardian within two school days of the infraction.

The student's bus privileges may be suspended for at least sixty (60) school days, or, in the sole discretion of the Dean of Students, Head of School or designee, up to and including the remainder of the school year.

#### **Prohibited Bus Riding during Suspension:**

Suspension shall begin the next school day following written or verbal notification of the parent or legal guardian. Any student found to be riding during the period of

suspension may have his/her bus privileges revoked for at least sixty (60) school days, or, in the sole discretion of LI, up to and including the remainder of the school year.

### **Appeal Process in the Event of Revocation of Bus Privileges:**

1. Until any appeal of a revocation by parents/guardians is heard by the Head of School. If the revocation of the pupil's right to ride the school bus is not appealed or is upheld upon appeal, it shall be the parents' or legal guardians' responsibility to provide transportation to and from school for that pupil for the period of the revocation.
2. All appeals for discipline held by Lyndon Institute and all written and personal appeals shall be heard in nonpublic session by the Head of, and the decision shall be final.

### **Transportation of Injured Students on campus**

If a student has any health or injury that requires transportation around our local campus, the Transportation Department will provide the necessary accommodations.

#### **Procedure for Notifying School of Transportation need**

1. The parent will notify and/or have the student visit the nurse with a note signed by the parent or physician.
2. The nurse will notify the Transportation Department, the receptionist, and all parties that will need to be made aware of the student's transportation need.
3. If need be, the Transportation Department will contact the student through email to clarify any issues or concerns around the student's transportation needs, such as but not limited to: safe pick up and drop off locations, time of pickup, etc.
4. The student will wait for transportation in the locations that are deemed safe. Examples: The safe location for the Darling Campus would be the Main building cafeteria doors, for Daniels Hall, the student will wait in the RTC booth, for the Town House, the student will wait behind the building on the handicap ramp. The student should consult with the School Nurse or Dean of Students about safe pick up and drop off locations.
5. If the driver does not arrive within 5 minutes after the scheduled pick up time, the student may contact the receptionist or nurse for assistance.
6. LI's Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline will apply at all times.

## **BODY CONTACT**

### Policy Revised July 2016

Appropriate behavior on Lyndon Institute property is expected at all times. Kissing, intimate or romantic hugging, and close physical contact by students are prohibited on Lyndon Institute property. Violation of the Body Contact Policy shall result in discipline in accordance with the school's Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures.

## **DINING HALL AND MEALS**

Revised June 2015

LI Takes pride in the quality food service provided through Aladdin FitzVogt, which includes breakfast and lunch every school day (and all daily meals for residential students). Students may choose to eat a la carte, which can be purchased using cash, check or debit card.

Take-out food from an outside vendor may not be delivered during the school day. Students may have take-out food with them upon their arrival on campus.

### **Meal Charge Procedure for Lyndon Institute**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this procedure is to establish consistent procedures for Lyndon Institute to provide meals to students who have insufficient funds in their school meal accounts and the collection of unpaid meal debt.

#### **General Statement of Procedure:**

- Lyndon Institute recognizes proper nutrition is essential for adequate learning to occur and to establish lifelong, healthy eating habits while also working to maintain the financial integrity of the school food service program.
- It is the procedure of Lyndon Institute to offer high quality, healthy breakfasts and lunches that meet the federal guidelines to all students at a reasonable cost to ensure no child goes hungry.
- Payments to student accounts are made in one of three ways, payment can be accepted via cash, check or credit card at the business office, you can leave cash or a check at the register in the dining hall, or you can login to My Backpack and put money directly on the student's debit account.
- Families may apply for free and reduced-price meals at any time during the school year. Meal applications are distributed to households after July 1<sup>st</sup> and prior to the first day of school, by mail. Parents are encouraged to complete and return the applications as soon as possible. In addition, applications are available at the school office during regular business hours and online at [www.lyndoninstitute.org](http://www.lyndoninstitute.org). If household size changes or income changes, families may re-apply for meal benefits any time during the school year.
  1. Households who apply for free and reduced-price meal benefits are responsible for payment of all school meals and accumulated charges until approval is granted. Federal guidelines allow a maximum of 10 days to approve a new application. No child is allowed a free or reduced price meal without an approved application or direct certification information on file. Parents will receive a notification letter of the student's eligibility showing the effective date. If a notification letter is not received within 10 days, the parent should check with the approving official at the school to see if the application has been received.
  2. Households who are receiving 3SquaresVT or Reach-Up benefits will receive a notification of eligibility letter based on Direct Certification from the school if the school has received information about your child(ren). If your household receives these benefits

and you have not received this letter from the school, the school has not received information regarding eligibility of your child(ren), the household must contact the school immediately to provide current information.

3. Free and reduced-price eligible students may receive a breakfast and a lunch each day at no charge.
4. A la carte items, such as a separate carton of milk or a second entrée, are not allowed to be charged to the student's debit account.

### **Meal Charge Procedure:**

- If the student account has insufficient funds to pay for breakfast and/or lunch meals, they will be provided a meal regardless of their meal account status. All negative balances must be paid prior to the end of the school year. Any remaining balances will be carried over to the next school year.
- Free and reduced-price eligible students will always be provided a meal regardless of unpaid student accounts.
- A student eligible for paid meals who has 'cash in hand' at the time of meal service will be provided a meal regardless of unpaid student accounts. The 'cash in hand' will not be applied to past due accounts.
- Students with an overdrawn account are not allowed to charge a la carte items.

### **Account Status Notifications:**

Households are strongly encouraged to keep sufficient funds in the student accounts to cover weekly meal purchases. Lyndon Institute will notify each household of account balances by:

- The Food Service Program will send a monthly statement to the families.
- Families can check their account balances online through My Backpack.
- Families may contact the Business Office at 802-535-3729 or [businessoffice@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:businessoffice@lyndoninstitute.org).
- Students will be given a verbal reminder or written notice in the food service line.
- The family will be notified when the student account balance has reached \$0.00 by:
  - The Food Service Program will send a monthly statement to the families.
  - Students will be given a verbal reminder or written notice in the food service line.
  - Weekly emails will be sent to parents whose children have a negative account balance.
  - A second request for payment will be sent after 5 days if the household has not responded to the first request.

### **Collection of Unpaid Meal Debt:**

When the student balance is (\$25.00), the following collection activities will be followed:

- The Business Office will contact the household request payment.
- A certified letter will be sent to the household notifying them that the debt will be turned over to a collection agency if not paid by (6/30).
- All funds owed to the food service program will be paid in full on the last day of school.
- Checks returned with non-sufficient funds will follow the school's policy.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (ex., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

**mail:** US Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250-9410;

**fax:** (202) 690-7442; or

**email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## **DRESS CODE**

Policy Revised August 2023

### **Dressing for the Occasion**

Our clothing projects to others meanings and values. Wearing torn jeans has a different feeling than wearing a jacket and tie or a semi-formal dress. What is important is for students to consider how they want to project an image of themselves.

If an LI employee determines that a student's clothing does not meet the dress code standards, options may include

- having someone bring a change of clothes to school immediately,
- going to the school's clothing storage area in the counseling office to borrow clothes, or
- having the student remain in the Campus Life Office until the student can come into dress code.

LI honors religious accommodations to dress; families must contact the Dean of Students to arrange for such accommodations. If there are extenuating circumstances preventing the student from following the dress code, please



have an adult contact the Dean of Students before attending classes.

### **Academic Dress**

Worn from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and during official school functions such as open house and parents' nights, academic dress is the student's professional wardrobe. The primary purpose of academic dress code for school is to improve the academic performance of the individual student and the academic community and to honor each student's individual choices within the norms of the school community.

### **Dress Code Guidelines**

We expect all clothing and accessories to:

- be intended for an educational or professional environment, not a recreational environment;
- be safe;
- fit appropriately;
- be clean and well kept, free of holes and frayed areas; and
- be free of any alcohol, drug, and/or tobacco advertising, and any insulting or threatening words, phrases, pictures, and/or symbols.

Guidelines for tops:

- Shoulders, cleavage, midriff, and skin between neckline, shoulders, and back should be covered.
- No clothing designed as underwear or sleepwear

Guidelines for bottoms:

- Hemlines must be no more than four inches above the top of the kneecap.
- Must be worn at the waist or at the top of the hips.
- No sweatpants, wind pants, or flannel pants.
- No bottoms designed as underwear or sleepwear .
- Shorts are permitted only during certain times of the year. Dates will be announced.
- Leggings must be full length and may be substituted for nylons or tights only.

Guidelines for accessories, headwear, and footwear:

- Hats, hoods, headwear, or sunglasses are not permitted inside classrooms and other teaching areas.
- Jewelry with spikes or sharp points or sharp collars or any other accessory that could be a hazard is not permitted.
- Flip-flops or other shoes or sandals intended for beachwear are not permitted

### **Athletic Dress**

Worn during interscholastic and intramural athletic practice and competition as well as school activities requiring strenuous physical activity (such as aerobics, dance, weightlifting, and yoga), appropriate athletic dress is specified by the coach, teacher, or advisor in charge of the activity. Unless otherwise specified, teams traveling to away games will wear academic dress in transit as representatives of the school.

### **Formal Dress**

A few events call for formal dress, such as Commencement, Honors Induction

ceremonies, and formal dances. Featured participants in such events should wear special garments, such as academic gowns or more formal dress, but in general, those attending formal ceremonies or activities will be expected to wear clothing as listed in the academic dress code. Some events may require a tie, an academic robe, or a jacket; faculty will inform students of those requirements when necessary.

### **“Pajama” or other Optional Dress Days**

On special occasions, students will be permitted to wear casual dress to school when they make a specified contribution to the charitable cause announced as the beneficiary of the day. This rule is in keeping with our tradition of raising funds for worthy causes through dress down days.

On Optional Dress days, we expect all clothing and accessories to be safe, fit appropriately, be clean and well kept, free of holes and frayed areas, and free of alcohol, drug and/or tobacco advertising, and any obscene or threatening words, phrases, pictures, and/or symbols. In addition, we expect that all clothing will cover the same area of the body as specified in the regular dress code. Students choosing not to participate in Optional Dress days are required to be in academic dress code.

## **FALSE ALARMS AND BOMB THREATS**

Adopted July 1998

### **Revised June 2011**

Lyndon Institute maintains that false alarms and bomb threats:

- are a crime under Vermont state law;
- interfere with the education process;
- endanger the safety and welfare of students, faculty, and staff, and endanger the safety of community volunteers.

False alarms are a violation of Vermont state law as set out in Title 13 V.S.A., including the following:

#### **§ 1751. False alarms to agencies of public safety**

- (a) A person who willfully or knowingly gives, or aids or abets in giving, by any means any false alarm of fire or other emergency to be transmitted to or within any organization, official or volunteer, for dealing with emergencies involving danger to life or property shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00 or both.
- (b) If bodily injury or death is sustained by any person as a result of a violation of this section, the person convicted of the violation in lieu of any penalty imposed by subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned for not more than five years or fined not more than \$2,000.00 or both; however, this subsection shall not prevent the imposition of a greater fine or sentence against any person who is convicted of any degree of homicide including manslaughter.

### **§1752 Tampering with facilities**

A person who willfully or knowingly tampers with, interferes with or impairs any public fire alarm apparatus, wire or associated equipment shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00 or both.

### **§1753, False public alarms**

- (a) A person who initiates or willfully circulates or transmits a report or warning of an impending bombing or other offense or catastrophe, knowing that the report or warning is false or baseless and that it is likely to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly, or facility of public transport, or to cause public inconvenience or alarm shall, for the first offense, be imprisoned for not more than two years or fined not more than \$5,000.00 or both. For the second or subsequent offense, the person shall be imprisoned for not more than five years or fined not more than \$10,000.00, or both. In addition, the court may order the person to perform community service. Any community service ordered under this section shall be supervised by the Department of Corrections.
- (b) In addition, if the person is under 18 years of age, or if the person is enrolled in a public school, an approved or recognized independent school, a home study program, or tutorial program as those terms are defined in section 11 of Title XVI:
- if the person has a motor vehicle operator's license issued under Chapter 9 of Title 23, the commissioner of motor vehicles shall suspend the license for 180 days for a first offense and two years for a second offense; or
  - if the person does not qualify for a license because the person is underage, the commissioner of motor vehicles shall delay the person's eligibility to obtain a driver's license for 180 days for the first offense and two years for the second offense.

In addition to the above disciplinary procedures imposed by the State students or others who willfully report a false alarm or bomb threat are subject to the following Lyndon Institute disciplinary procedures:

- suspension or expulsion from Lyndon Institute;
- notification of local and state officials;
- recovery of any costs incurred by Lyndon Institute; and
- other restrictions placed upon the perpetrator.

## **HARASSMENT/HAZING/BULLYING**

Policy and Procedures Revised June 2015

### Statement of Policy

Lyndon Institute is committed to providing all of its students with a safe and supportive school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with respect.

It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to prohibit the unlawful harassment of community members based upon the community member or their family member's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, religion, creed, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, age, military/uniformed service or veteran's status, disability, or other legally protected classification. Harassment may also constitute a violation of Vermont's Public Accommodations Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and/or Title IX of the federal Education Amendments Act of 1972.

It is also the policy of Lyndon Institute to prohibit the unlawful hazing and bullying of community members. Conduct that constitutes harassment or hazing may be subject to penalties under state law. Lyndon Institute shall address all complaints of harassment, hazing, and bullying according to the procedures accompanying this policy, and shall take appropriate action against any person, subject to the jurisdiction of the Head of School, who violates this policy. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit punishment of a community member for conduct which, although it does not rise to the level of harassment, bullying, or hazing as defined herein, otherwise violates one or more of the board's disciplinary policies or the school's code of conduct.

## Privacy Considerations

Under this policy, the privacy of the Complainant, the accused individual, and the witnesses shall be maintained consistent with Lyndon Institute's obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to comply with laws governing the disclosure of student records or other applicable discovery or disclosure obligations.

### **Response to Complaints**

The scope of the School's response to a harassment/hazing/bullying complaint may depend upon the circumstances of the situation, including whether or not a student or parent of a minor asks that nothing be done about the alleged harassment/hazing/bullying in order to protect confidentiality. Responses may range from an informal meeting with the accused to a formal investigation. In all cases, the investigator will have an initial discussion with the Complainant addressing confidentiality standards and concerns. Lyndon Institute will inform the community member that a confidentiality request may limit the school's ability to respond. The School will remind the community member that retaliation is prohibited and that if he or she is afraid of reprisals from the alleged wrongdoer, the School will take steps to prevent retaliation and will take strong action if retaliation occurs. If the community member continues to ask that his or her name not be revealed, the School will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the community member's request as long as doing so does not prevent the School from responding effectively to this or any other instance of harassment/hazing/bullying. Lyndon Institute will evaluate the confidentiality request in the context of its responsibility to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all community members. The factors the School might consider in this regard include the seriousness of the alleged harassment/hazing/bullying, the age of the community member targeted, whether

there have been other complaints or reports of harassment/hazing/bullying against the alleged wrongdoer, and the rights of the accused individual to receive information about the accuser and the allegations if a formal proceeding with sanctions may result. If information about the incident is contained in an “education record” of the community member alleging the harassment/hazing/bullying, as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232q., the School will consider whether FERPA prohibits the school from disclosing information without the student’s consent.

### **Disclosure of Discipline Imposed**

Federal privacy laws prohibit disclosure of any discipline imposed under this policy unless the parent/guardian of the accused student and/or the accused eligible student (18 years or older) consent to such disclosure, pursuant to 34 CFR Part 99.30.

### **Notifications**

All notifications made under this policy and the underlying procedures shall be subject to state and/or federal laws protecting the confidentiality of personally identifiable student information, Pursuant to 34 CFR Part 99.30, a School Administrator may seek the consent of the parent/guardian of the accused student, or the accused eligible student (if 18 or older, the accused student has the ability to consent), in order to inform the Complainant of any disciplinary action taken in cases where the school determined that an act(s) of harassment, hazing, or bullying, or other misconduct occurred. The parent/guardian or eligible student shall provide a signed and dated written consent before the School discloses personally identifiable information from the student’s education records.

### **Reporting to Law Enforcement Authorities**

Again, information obtained and documented by school administration regarding the school’s response to a notice of student conduct that may constitute hazing, harassment, and/or bullying may constitute an “educational record” regarding the student or student(s) involved as defined by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Accordingly, such information may not be disclosed to law enforcement authorities without prior parent approval (or approval of the accused eligible student) except in response to a lawfully issued subpoena, or in connection with an emergency if disclosure is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

### **Document Maintenance**

The Head of School or their designee shall assure that a record of any complaint, its investigation and disposition, as well as any disciplinary or remedial action taken following the completion of the investigation, is maintained by Lyndon Institute in a confidential file accessible only to authorized persons. All investigation records created in conformance with this policy and procedures, including but not limited to, the complaint form, interview notes, additional evidence, and the investigative report, shall be kept by the Equity Coordinator, Designated Employees, and Lyndon Institute for at least six (6) years after the investigation is completed.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy and the accompanying procedures, the following definitions apply:

**“Bullying”** means any overt act or combination of acts, including an act conducted by electronic means, directed against a student by another student or group of students and which:

- is repeated over time;
- is intended to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the student;
- occurs during the school day on school property, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored activity, or before or after the school day on a school bus or at a school sponsored activity; or
- does not occur during the school day on School’s property, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored activity and can be shown to pose a clear and substantial interference with another student’s right to access educational programs.

**“Complaint”** means an oral or written report provided by a student or any person to an Employee alleging that a student has been subjected to conduct that may rise to the level of harassment, hazing, or bullying.

**“Complainant”** means a student who has provided oral or written information about conduct that may rise to the level of harassment, hazing or bullying, or a student who is the target of alleged harassment, hazing, or bullying.

**“Designated Employee”** means an employee who has been designated by the school to receive complaints of harassment, hazing, and bullying.

The following employees of Lyndon Institute have been designated by Lyndon Institute to receive complaints of harassment, hazing, or bullying pursuant to this policy and 16

V.S.A. §570a(a)(7), 16 VSA §570b(7), and 16 V.S.A. §570c(7) and under federal anti-discrimination laws:

Paul Hansen  
Dean of Students/Grievance Officer  
Lyndon Institute Office of Campus  
Life PO Box 127  
Lyndon Center, VT  
05850 (802) 535-3670

Bobbi Warner Somers  
Lyndon Institute Director of Health  
Services PO Box 127  
Lyndon Center, VT  
05850 (802) 535-3763

Lyndon Institute School  
Nurse PO Box 127  
Lyndon Center, VT  
05850 (802) 535-3692

**“Employee”**, for purposes of this policy only, includes any person employed directly by or retained through a contract of employment with Lyndon Institute, a Trustee, a student teacher, or an individual who has entered into a volunteer agreement with LI

**“Equity Coordinator”** is the person responsible for implementation of Title VI (regarding race-based discrimination) and Title IX (regarding sex-based discrimination) for Lyndon Institute students and for coordinating Lyndon Institute’s compliance with Title VI and Title IX in all areas covered by the implementing regulations with respect to students. The Equity Coordinator is also responsible for overseeing implementation of Lyndon Institute’s policies against harassment, hazing, and bullying of students. This role may also be assigned to Designated Employees with respect to students.

**“Harassment”** means an incident or incidents of verbal, written, visual, or physical conduct, including any incident conducted by electronic means, based on or motivated by a student’s or a student’s family member’s actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, age, military/uniformed service or veteran’s status, disability, or other legally protected classification that has the purpose or effect of objectively and substantially undermining and detracting from or interfering with a student’s educational performance or access to school resources or creating an objectively intimidating hostile or offensive environment.

Harassment includes conduct as defined above and may also constitute one or more of the following:

1. Sexual Harassment, which means unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, that includes sexual violence/sexual assault, sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, written, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature, and includes situations when one or both of the following occur:
  - Submission to that conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student’s education, academic status, or progress; or
  - Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as a component of the basis for decisions affecting that student.

Sexual harassment may also include student-on-student conduct or conduct of a non-employee third party that creates a hostile environment. A hostile environment exists where the harassing conduct is severe, persistent or pervasive so as to deny or limit the student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program on the basis of sex.

2. Racial Harassment means conduct directed at the characteristics of a student’s or a student’s family member’s actual or perceived race or color, and includes the use of epithets, stereotypes, racial slurs, comments, insults, derogatory remarks, gestures, threats, graffiti, display, or circulation of written or visual material, and taunts on manner of speech and negative references to cultural customs.
3. Harassment of Members of Other Protected Categories means conduct directed at the characteristics of a student’s or a student’s family member’s actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, age, military/uniformed service or veteran’s status, disability, or other legally protected classification, and includes the use of epithets, stereotypes, slurs, comments, insults, derogatory remarks, gestures,

threats, graffiti, display or circulation of written or visual material, taunts on manner of speech, and negative references to customs related to any of these protected categories.

**“Hazing”** means any intentional, knowing or reckless act committed by a student, whether individually or in concert with others, against another student, (a) in connection with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization which is affiliated with the educational institution; and (b) which is intended to have the effect of, or should reasonably be expected to have the effect of, endangering the mental or physical health of the student.

Hazing shall not include any activity or conduct that furthers legitimate curricular, extracurricular, or military training program goals, provided that:

- the goals are approved by the educational institution; and
- the activity or conduct furthers the goals in a manner that is appropriate, contemplated by the educational institution and normal and customary for similar programs at other educational institutions.

With respect to Hazing, **“Student”** means any person who:

- is registered in or in attendance at an educational institution;
- intends to attend an educational institution during any of its regular sessions after an official academic break.

**“Notice”** means a written complaint or oral information that hazing, harassment, or bullying may have occurred, which information has been provided to a Designated Employee from:

- another employee;
- the student allegedly subjected to the harassment, hazing, or bullying;
- another student;
- a parent or guardian; or
- any other individual who has reasonable cause to believe the alleged conduct may have occurred.

If the school learns of possible harassment, hazing, or bullying through other means, for example, if information about harassment, hazing, or bullying is received from a third party (such as from a witness to an incident or an anonymous letter or telephone call), different factors will affect the School’s response. These factors include the source and nature of the information; the seriousness of the alleged incident; the specificity of the information; the objectivity and credibility of the source of the report; whether any individuals can be identified who were subjected to the alleged misconduct and whether those individuals want to pursue the matter. In addition, for purposes of violations of federal anti-discrimination laws, notice may occur when an employee of the School, including any individual who a student could reasonably believe has the authority or responsibility, knows or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known about potential unlawful harassment, hazing, or bullying.

**“Organization”** means a fraternity, sorority, athletic team, association, corporation, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, or other similar groups whose members primarily are students at an educational institution, and which is affiliated with the educational institution.



**“Pledging”** means any action or activity related to becoming a member of an organization.

**“Retaliation”** is any adverse action by any person against a person who has filed a complaint of harassment, hazing or bullying or against a person who assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing related to the complaint. Such adverse action may include conduct by a school employee directed at a student in the form of intimidation or reprisal such as diminishment of grades, suspension, expulsion, change in educational conditions, loss of privileges or benefits, or other unwarranted disciplinary action. Retaliation may also include conduct by a student directed at another student in the form of further harassment, hazing, bullying, intimidation, and/or reprisal.

**“School Administrator”** means a Head of School or their designee, Director or Dean of students, a technical center director or their designee and/or School’s Equity Coordinator.

**“Student Conduct Form”** is a form used by students, staff, or parents, to provide, in written form, information about inappropriate student behaviors that may constitute hazing, harassment and/or bullying.

## **STUDENT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT KEY DEFINITIONS**

### **Definitions**

*The following is a broad overview of sexual misconduct components. It is not meant to be an all-encompassing definition.*

**Sexual Misconduct** is defined as a broad term that includes sexual assault and sexual harassment.

**Sexual Assault** is defined as non-consensual sexual intercourse or contact.

**Sexual Intercourse** is defined as penetration (anal, oral or vaginal), however slight, by any body part or inanimate object.

**Sexual Contact** is defined as deliberate touching of another person’s intimate parts (including genitalia, groin, breast, or buttocks or clothing covering any of those areas) or any act which forces, coerces or intimidates the other party to touch their own or another person’s intimate parts.

**Sexual Exploitation** is defined as taking non-consensual sexual advantage over another, including secret videotaping, sharing private nude pictures with third parties, knowingly exposing another to an STD.

**Dating Violence** is defined as violence by a person who has been in intimate or romantic relationship with the victim.

**Stalking** is defined as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or suffer substantial emotional distress.

**Retaliation** is defined as intimidation, threats or other adverse action against any person reporting or participating in an investigation involving a complaint of sexual misconduct.

# Reporting Complaints of Harassment, Hazing, or Bullying

## **Student Reporting**

Any student who believes that he/she has been harassed, hazed, or bullied under this policy, or who witnesses or has knowledge of conduct that he/she reasonably believes might constitute harassment, hazing or bullying, should promptly report the conduct to a Designated Employee or any other school employee.

## **School Employee Reporting**

Any school employee, as defined in the policy above, who witnesses conduct they reasonably believe might constitute harassment, hazing, and/or bullying shall take reasonable action to stop the conduct and to prevent its recurrence and immediately report it to a Designated Employee and immediately complete a Student Conduct Form.

Any school employee who overhears or directly receives information about conduct that might constitute harassment, hazing, or bullying shall immediately report the information to a Designated Employee and immediately complete a Student Conduct Form. If one of the Designated Employees is a person alleged to be engaged in the conduct complained of, the incident shall be immediately reported to another of the School's Designated Employee or to a School Administrator.

## **Other Reporting**

Any other person who witnesses conduct that he/she reasonably believes might constitute harassment, hazing, or bullying under this policy should promptly report the conduct to a Designated Employee.

## **Documentation of the Report**

If the complaint is oral, the Designated Employee shall promptly reduce the complaint to writing in a Student Conduct Form, including the time, place, and nature of the alleged conduct, the identity of the Complainant, alleged perpetrator, and any witnesses. Both the Complainant and the alleged perpetrator will have the right to present witnesses and other evidence in support of their position.

## **False Complaint**

Any person who knowingly makes a false accusation regarding harassment, hazing, or bullying may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion with regard to students, or up to and including discharge with regard to employees. There shall be no adverse action taken against a person for reporting a complaint of harassment, hazing, or bullying when the person has a good faith belief that harassment, hazing, or bullying occurred or is occurring.

## **Rights to Alternative Complaint Process for Harassment**

In addition to, or as an alternative to filing a harassment complaint pursuant to this policy, a person may file a harassment complaint with the Vermont Human Rights Commission or the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education at the addresses noted below:

Vermont Human Rights Commission 14-16 Baldwin  
Street Montpelier, VT 05633-6301  
(800) 416-2010 or (802) 828-2480 (voice)  
(877) 294-9200  
(802) 828-2481 (fax)

Email: human.rights@state.vt.us

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office  
U.S. Department of Education 8th Floor  
5 Post Office Square Boston, MA 02109-3921  
(617) 289-0111 (voice)  
(877) 521-2172  
(617) 289-0150 (fax)  
Email: OCR.Boston@ed.gov

## Responding to Notice of Possible Policy Violation(s)

Upon **Notice of Information** that harassment, hazing, and/or bullying may have occurred the Designated Employee shall:

1. Promptly reduce any oral information to writing, including the time, place, and nature of the conduct, and the identity of the participants and Complainant. Promptly inform the Administrative Team of the information;
2. If in the judgment of the Administrative Team, the information alleges conduct which may constitute harassment, hazing, or bullying, the Administrative Team shall, as soon as reasonably possible, provide a copy of the policy on harassment, hazing, and bullying and these procedures to the Complainant and the accused individual, or if either is a minor, cause a copy to be provided or delivered to their respective parent or guardian.

Upon **Initiation of an Investigation**, the Designated Employee shall:

Notify in writing both the Complainant and the accused individual (or if either is a minor inform their respective parent or guardian) that:

- an investigation has been initiated;
- retaliation is prohibited;
- all parties have certain confidentiality rights; and
- they will be informed in writing of the outcome of the investigation.

## Investigating Harassment, Hazing, and/or Bullying Complaints

### **Initiation of Investigation – Timing**

Unless special circumstances are present and documented, such as reports to the Department for Children and Families (“DCF”) or the police, the Administrative Team shall, no later than one school day after notice to a Designated Employee, initiate or cause to be initiated, an investigation of the allegations, which the Administrative Team reasonably believes may constitute harassment, hazing, or bullying.

### **Investigator Assignment**

The Administrative Team shall assign a person to conduct the investigation. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a member of the Administrative Team from assigning him/herself or a Designated Employee as the investigator. No person who is the subject of a complaint shall conduct such an investigation.

### **Interim Measures**

It may be appropriate for the school to take interim measures during the investigation of a complaint. For instance, if a student alleges that he or she has

been sexually assaulted by another student, the School may decide to place the students immediately in separate classes and/or transportation pending the results of the School's investigation. Similarly, if the alleged harasser is a teacher, allowing the student to transfer to a different class may be appropriate. In all cases, Lyndon Institute will make every effort to prevent disclosure of the names of all parties involved – the Complainant, the witnesses, and the accused – except to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation. In all cases where physical harm has resulted and/or where the targeted student is known to be expressing suicidal ideation, or experiencing serious emotional harm, a safety plan will be put in place. Safety plans must also be considered in cases where the targeted student is known to have difficulty accessing the educational programs at the school as a result of the inappropriate behavior. 'No Contact' orders, and/or their enforcement, may also be appropriate interim measures.

### **Due Process**

16 V.S.A. § 1161a requires approved independent schools to use "standard due process" in its discipline plan. The rights established under Title IX must be interpreted consistent with any federally guaranteed due process rights involved in a complaint proceeding, including but not limited to the ability of the Complainant and the accused to present witnesses and other evidence during an investigation. Lyndon Institute will ensure that steps to accord due process rights do not restrict or unnecessarily delay the protections provided by Title IX to the Complainant.

### **Standard Used to Assess Conduct**

In determining whether the conduct constitutes a violation of this policy, the investigator shall consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, past incidents or past or continuing patterns of behavior, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred. The Complainant and the accused will be provided the opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence during an investigation. The investigator will also consider the impact of relevant off-campus conduct on the school environment where direct harm to the welfare of the school can be demonstrated or the conduct can be shown to pose a clear and substantial interference with another student's equal access to educational programs. Whether a particular action constitutes a violation of this policy requires determination based on all the facts and surrounding circumstances.

### **Completion of Investigation - Timing**

No later than five school days from the filing of the complaint with the Designated Employee, unless special circumstances are present and documented, the investigator shall submit a written initial determination to the Administrative Team.

### **Investigation Report**

The investigator's written report should include a statement of the findings of the investigator as to whether the allegations have been substantiated. The report, when referencing student conduct, is a student record and therefore confidential. It will be made available to investigators in the context of a review conducted by either Vermont AOE or investigations of harassment conducted by the Vermont Human Rights Commission or U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights.

## **Review and Final Determination**

The Administrative Team will review the investigator's report and within two days of receiving it, issue a determination as to whether the findings of the investigator support his or her conclusion and whether there has been a violation of the School's Harassment/Hazing/Bullying Policy.

## **Notice to Students/Parents/Guardians**

Within five school days of the Administrative Team's determination, the Designated Employee shall:

Notify in writing both the Complainant and accused individual (or, if either is a minor inform their respective parent or guardian) that:

- the investigation has been completed;
- the Administrative Team has determined that a policy violation occurred (and which policy term was violated, i.e., harassment, hazing, and/or bullying); or that no violation occurred;

Notify the Complainant student – or if a minor, their parent(s) or guardian – in writing of the Complainant's rights to:

- an internal review by the School of its determination as to whether harassment, hazing, or bullying occurred;
- request an Independent Review, within 30 days of the final determination, of the School's "final" determination as to whether harassment, hazing, or bullying occurred, or, in the case where a final determination was made that harassment, hazing, or bullying indeed occurred, of whether the School's response to the conduct was adequate to correct the problem. The review will be conducted by an investigator to be selected by the Head of School from a list developed by the Agency of Education; and
- file a complaint, if a claim of harassment is substantiated, with the Vermont Human Rights Commission and/or the federal Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights.

Notify the Accused Student – or if a minor, their parent(s) or guardian – in writing of their right to appeal as set forth in Section V of these procedures.

## **Violations of Other Policies**

In cases where the investigation has identified other conduct that may constitute a violation of other school disciplinary policies or codes of conduct, the Designated Employee shall report such conduct to the Administrative Team for action in accordance with relevant school policies or codes of conduct.

## **Responding to Substantiated Claims**

### **Scope of Response**

After a final determination that an act (s) of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying has been committed, the School shall take prompt and appropriate disciplinary and/or remedial action reasonably calculated to stop the harassment, hazing, and/or bullying and prevent any recurrence of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying and remedy its effects on the victim(s). In so doing, the LI Student Conduct and Discipline Policy and Procedures may provide guidance but the specific procedures

set out here will be followed to the extent they are inconsistent with the Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures. For example, the appeal process set out in these procedures will apply in cases involving expulsions for harassment, hazing, and bullying. In determining an appropriate response to a substantiated claim, the following should be considered:

- **Potential Remedial Actions** Remedial action may include but not be limited to an age appropriate warning, reprimand, education, training and counseling, transfer, suspension, and/or expulsion of a student, and warning, reprimand, education, training and counseling, transfer, suspension and/or termination of an employee. A series of escalating consequences may be necessary if the initial steps are ineffective in stopping the harassment, hazing, and/or bullying. To prevent recurrences counseling for the offender may be appropriate to ensure that he or she understands what constitutes harassment, hazing, and/or bullying and the effects it can have. Depending on how widespread the harassment, hazing and/or bullying was and whether there have been any prior incidents, the school may need to provide training for the larger school community to ensure that students, parents, and teachers can recognize harassment, hazing, and/or bullying if it recurs and know how to respond.
- **School Access/Environment Considerations** Lyndon Institute will also make efforts to support victims' access to Lyndon Institute's programs, services, and activities and to consider and implement school-wide remedies where appropriate. Accordingly, steps will be taken to eliminate any hostile and/or threatening environment that has been created. For example, if a female student has been subjected to harassment/bullying by a group of other students in a class, the School may need to deliver special training or other interventions for that class to repair the educational environment. If the School offers the student the option of withdrawing from a class in which a hostile environment/bullying occurred, Lyndon Institute will assist the student in making program or schedule changes and ensure that none of the changes adversely affect the student's academic record. Other measures may include, if appropriate, directing a bully/harasser to apologize to the affected student. If a hostile environment has affected the entire school or campus, an effective response may need to include dissemination of information, the issuance of new policy statements or other steps that are designed to clearly communicate the message that the school does not tolerate harassment and/or bullying and will be responsive to any student who reports that conduct.
- **Hazing Case Considerations** Appropriate penalties or sanctions or both for organizations (or individuals) who engage in hazing, may include revocation or suspension of an organization's permission to operate or exist within the institution's purview if that organization knowingly permits, authorizes, or condones hazing.
- **Other Remedies** Other remedies may include providing counseling to the victim(s) and/or the perpetrator(s) and additional safety planning measures for the victim(s).

## **Retaliation Prevention**

It is unlawful for any person to retaliate against a person who has filed a complaint of harassment or against a person who assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing related to the harassment complaint. A person may violate this anti-retaliation provision regardless of whether the underlying complaint of harassment is substantiated.

Lyndon Institute will take reasonable steps to prevent any retaliation against a student who makes a complaint of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying (or was the subject of the alleged conduct), against the person who filed a complaint on behalf of

a student, or against those who provided information as witnesses. At a minimum, this includes making sure that the students and their parents, and those witnesses involved in the school's investigation, know how to report any subsequent problems and make follow-up inquiries to see if there have been any new incidents or any retaliation.

## **Alternative Dispute Resolution**

At all stages of the investigation and determination process, school officials are encouraged to make available to Complainants alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation for resolving complaints. Certain considerations should be made before pursuing alternative dispute resolution methods, including, but not limited to:

- the nature of the accusations (for example, face-to-face mediation is not appropriate for sexual violence cases);
- the age of the Complainant and the accused individual;
- the agreement of the Complainant; and
- other relevant factors such as any disability of the target or accused individual, safety issues, the relationship and relative power differential between the target and accused individual or any history of repeated misconduct/harassment by the accused individual.

## **Post Determination Reviews**

### **Rights of Complainants**

#### **Internal Review for Complainant of the Administrative Team's Determinations as to the Allegations of Harassment, Hazing, and/or Bullying**

A Complainant or parent of a Complainant may request an internal review by Lyndon Institute of the Administrative Team's determination (following investigation) that harassment, hazing, and/or bullying has not occurred via written request submitted to the Head of School. All levels of internal review of the Administrative Team's determination, and the issuance of a final decision shall, unless special circumstances are present and documented by Lyndon Institute, be completed within thirty (30) calendar days after review is requested.

#### **Independent Reviews for Complainants Final Harassment, Hazing, and/or Bullying Determination**

A Complainant may request an independent review within thirty (30) days of the

Administrative Team's final determination if she/he (1) is dissatisfied with the final determination as to whether harassment, hazing, and/or bullying occurred, or (2) believes that although the Administrative Team's determination was made that harassment, hazing, and/or bullying occurred, the School's response was inadequate to correct the problem.

The Complainant shall make such a request to the Head of School within thirty (30) days of a final determination. Upon such request, the Head of School shall promptly initiate an independent review by a neutral person and shall cooperate with the independent reviewer so that she/he may proceed expeditiously. The review shall consist of an interview of the Complainant and relevant school officials and a review of the written materials from the school's investigation.

Upon completion of the independent review, the reviewer shall advise the Complainant and school officials in writing: (1) as to the **sufficiency** of the School's investigation, its determination, and/or the steps taken by the school to correct any harassment, hazing, and/or bullying found to have occurred, and (2) of **recommendations** of any steps the School might take to prevent further harassment, hazing, and/or bullying from occurring. A copy of the independent review report shall be sent to the Secretary of Education.

The reviewer shall advise the student of other remedies that may be available if the student remains dissatisfied and, if appropriate, may recommend mediation or other alternative dispute resolution. The independent reviewer shall be considered an agent of the school for the purpose of being able to review confidential student records. The costs of the independent review shall be borne by Lyndon Institute. Lyndon Institute may request an independent review at any stage of the process.

Rights to Alternative Harassment Complaint Process In addition or as an alternative to filing a harassment complaint pursuant to this policy, a person may file a harassment complaint with either or both of the organizations noted below:

**Vermont Human Rights Commission**

14-16 Baldwin Street  
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301  
(800) 416-2010 or (802) 828-2480 (voice)  
(877) 294-9200 (tty)  
(802) 828-2481 (fax)  
Email: [human.rights@state.vt.us](mailto:human.rights@state.vt.us)

**Office for Civil Rights, Boston**

Office US Department of Education,  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor 5 Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02109-3921  
(617) 289-0111 (voice)  
(877) 521-2172 (tdd)  
(617) 289-0150 (fax) or email [OCR.Boston@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.Boston@ed.gov)

**Rights of Accused Students**

Appeal Any person determined to have engaged in an act(s) of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying may appeal the Administrative Team's determination and/or any related disciplinary action(s) taken, directly to the Head of School.



The Head of School shall conduct a review on the record. The standard of review shall be whether the determination that an act(s) of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying has been committed constitutes an abuse of discretion by the Administrative Team. Appeals

should be made to the Head of School within ten (10) calendar days of receiving the Administrative Team's determination that an act(s) of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying has occurred and/or any announced discipline. The Head of School shall set the matter for a review hearing as soon as practicable, but not later than 30 days from receipt of the appeal filing.

Accused Student/Appellant Access to Investigative Reports/Findings Subject to the Privacy Considerations outlined in the above policy, Lyndon Institute will make available upon request of the accused student/appellant any relevant information, documents, materials, etc. related to the investigation and/or related to any decision made after appeal that can be redacted and de-identified in compliance with the requirements set forth at 34 CFR Part 99. For those documents that cannot be provided due to the requirements set forth at 34 CFR Part 99, when the accused student/appellant seeks a review on the record before the Head of School, a school administrator may seek the consent of the parent/guardian of the targeted student, or the accused eligible targeted student (if 18 or older, the targeted student has the ability to consent), in order to inform the accused student of the findings which gave rise to the school's determination that an act(s) of harassment, hazing, and/or bullying occurred. Before an educational agency or institution discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, the parent/guardian or eligible student shall provide a signed and dated written consent.

## Reporting to Other Agencies

### **Reports to Department of Children and Families**

When a complaint made pursuant to this policy includes allegations of child abuse, any person responsible for reporting suspected child abuse under 33 V.S.A. 4911, et seq., must report the allegation to the Commissioner of DCF. If the victim is over the age of 18 and a report of abuse is warranted, the report shall be made to Adult Protective Services in accordance with 33 V.S.A. 6901 et seq.

### **Reports to Vermont Agency of Education**

If a complaint is made in an independent school about conduct by a licensed educator that might be grounds under Vermont law for licensing action, the Head of School is encouraged to report the alleged conduct to the Secretary of Education.

### **Reporting Incidents to Police in Response to a Subpoena or in an Emergency**

- First-Hand Reports Subject to the Privacy Considerations outlined in the School's Harassment/Hazing/Bullying Policy. Nothing in the policy shall preclude persons from reporting incidents and/or conduct witnessed first-hand that may be considered to be a criminal act to law enforcement officials.
- Hazing Incidents It is unlawful to (1) engage in hazing; (2) solicit direct aid, or attempt to aid, or abet another person engaged in hazing; or (3) knowingly fail to take reasonable measures within the scope of the person's authority

to prevent hazing. It is not a defense in an action under this section that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity. Hazing incidents will be reported to the police in a manner consistent with the confidentiality rights set forth above in this section.

- Continuing Obligation to Investigate Unless Instructed Otherwise by the Authorities Reports made to either DCF or law enforcement shall not be considered to absolve the school administrators of their obligations under this policy to pursue and complete an investigation upon receipt of notice of conduct which may constitute harassment, hazing, and/or bullying. Any such reports, however, may justifiably affect the timing of the initiation of an investigation by the School.

## Disseminating Information, Training, and Data Reporting

### **Disseminating Information**

Annually, prior to the commencement of curricular and co-curricular activities, Lyndon Institute shall provide notice of this policy and procedures to students, custodial parents or guardians of students, and staff members, including references to the consequences of misbehavior contained in the plan required by 16 V.S.A.

1161a. Notice to students shall be in age-appropriate language and include examples of harassment, hazing, and bullying. At a minimum, this notice shall appear in any publication of Lyndon Institute that sets forth the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards of conduct for Lyndon Institute.

### **Student Training**

Head of School or their designee shall use their discretion in developing age-appropriate methods of discussing the meaning and substance of this policy with students to help prevent hazing, harassment, and bullying.

### **Staff Training**

Head of School or their designee shall ensure that teachers and other staff receive training in preventing, recognizing and responding to harassment, hazing, and/or bullying.

## Legal References:

Title V, Section B, 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794 et seq. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq. Family Education Rights Privacy Act; 20 U.S.C. 1232g Public Accommodations Act, 9 V.S.A. 4500 et seq. Education, Classifications and Definitions, 16 V.S.A. 11(26); (30)(A);(32) Education , 16 V.S.A. 140(a)(1); Education, 16 V.S.A. 166(e) Education, Bullying, 16 V.S.A 570c Education, Harassment, Hazing and Bullying, 16 V.S.A. 570 Education, Harassment, 16 V.S.A. 570a Education, Harassment, 16 V.S.A. 570c Education, Harassment, 16

V.S.A. 570f Education, Hazing, 16  
V.S>A. 570b Education, Hazing,  
16  
V.S.A 570f Education,  
Discipline, 16 V.S.A. 1161a  
Education, Suspension or Expulsion of Pupils; 16  
V.S.A. 1162 Child Abuse, 33 V.S.A. 4911 et seq.  
Adult Protective Services, 33 V.S.A. 6901 et seq., all as they may be amended from  
time to time Washington v. Pierce, 179VT 318 (2005).

## **HEALTH CENTER AND MEDICAL PROCEDURES**

Revised June 2016

### Health Center Information

School Nurses provide health services in the Health Center (located in Amadon House) Monday through Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Health Center phone number is 535-3692. Students who become ill during the school day may see the Nurse. Parents will be notified by the nurse as necessary. Students are encouraged to use the Health Center only when necessary during school hours; the Nurse will make every effort to keep students in class. Minor first aid supplies are available in classrooms. It is important to remember that students who are ill before school should not come to school, but rather remain at home and consult a physician if needed.

Vermont law requires that all high school students have completed the following vaccines prior to admission to school:

- 5 doses of DTaP
- 4 doses of Polio (IPV or OPV)
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- 2 doses of varicella (or documentation of natural disease – Chicken Pox) 1 Tdap booster
- 1 dose of meningococcal (required for dorm students, strongly recommended for ALL students)

Actual immunization dates must be on the student's record. Students may be excluded from school for failure to comply with these state requirements.

### Procedure for Health Center Use During School Hours

Any student who needs medical attention during the school day must get a pass from their classroom teacher and report to the Health Center. If a student does not have a pass and is not having an emergency, they may be sent back to class to obtain a pass. Students who need to be seen before school must report to the Health Center prior to the start of first period. If they cannot do so, they must report to their first period class

and obtain a pass to the Health Center. Students must see the school nurse before

calling parents/guardians to pick them up. This is for reasons of safety and accountability of all students.

## Procedures for Medications

### **Prescription Medication:**

Lyndon Institute recognizes that some students are only able to attend regular school because of the effective use of prescription medication for the treatment of chronic disabilities or illnesses. ***It is most desirable for medication to be administered at home.*** However, if a student is required to take prescription medication during the regular school day, he/she must comply with the following procedure:

*Before the medication is given:*

- A physician's order must be sent to the Health Center. This can be faxed to (802) 535- 3690 and must also be signed by the parent/guardian.
- For certain medications, students are not required to come to the Health Center for self-administration (e.g., prescribed inhalers) however, all written permission and signatures must be in the Health Center prior to carrying medications.
- Medication must be brought to school in a labeled pharmacy container with a current date.
- Medication in the Health Center at Lyndon Institute is kept triple-locked.
- Over the counter medications are stocked at the Health Center. These include things such as Tylenol, Advil, Pepto-Bismol, Benadryl and cold medications. If you do not want your child to be given any such medications, please notify the nursing staff by indicating this on your student's health form.
- Unused medication will be returned to the parent(s)/guardian(s) at the end of the school year. If declined, the medication will be properly destroyed.

### **Nonprescription Medication**

No over the counter medication shall be carried by students during school hours but will be kept in the Health Center. Nonprescription medication must be accompanied by a written request from the student's parent/guardian. The request must also state that the student does not have an allergy to the specific medication.

## Life-Threatening Allergy Policy

### **Responsibilities of Parents and Students**

A student's history of one or more life-threatening allergies should be documented with a written statement from the respective student's physician identifying the life-threatening allergy(ies), the signs and symptoms thereof, possible accommodations, and the appropriate medications. This information should be submitted to the school nurse. Upon receiving such a statement and a request from the parent/guardian, the school will plan support for the student pursuant to these procedures.

The LI School Nurses can be contacted at (802) 535-3692 or at the following address:  
Lyndon Institute Health  
Center PO Box 127  
Lyndon Center, VT 05850

The parent/guardian should also provide the following to the School Nurse:

- Licensed provider's documentation of allergy(ies).
- Licensed provider's order for epinephrine by auto-injector, as well as other medications needed. Medication orders must be renewed at least annually, and it is recommended that the order is from an asthma and allergy specialist.
- The parent/guardian's signed consent to administer all medications. The parent/guardian's signed consent to share information with other school staff.
- A minimum of two up-to-date EpiPens, if required (more may be necessary based on the student's activities and travel during the school day)
- A description of the student's past allergic reactions, including triggers & warning signs.
- A description of the student's emotional response to the condition and need for support.
- The name and telephone number of the student's primary care provider and allergist.
- The method by which to reach the parent/guardian should an emergency occur.
- Age-appropriate ways to include the student in planning for care and implementing their individualized health care plan (HCP).
- An assessment for self-administration (it is important that students take more responsibility if they are developmentally ready to accept responsibility).
- The parent(s)/guardian(s) also share responsibility with the School Nurse for determining the appropriateness of particular field trips for students with life-threatening allergies; and if the field trip is deemed appropriate, for ensuring that Epi-Pens and a copy of the student's emergency plan accompany him/her on the field trip.

Students with known life-threatening allergies must make best efforts to avoid exposure to the allergic-reaction triggers.

Lyndon Institute recognizes that a student with a history of one or more life-threatening allergies may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Requests for accommodations related to a student's disability, including a Section 504/ADA Plan, should be addressed to Judd Levine, Director of Specialized Instruction, (802)535-3685, or [judd.levine@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:judd.levine@lyndoninstitute.org). If Ms. Kennedy cannot be reached, please contact Head of School Brian Bloomfield, (802) 535-3683, [brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:brian.bloomfield@lyndoninstitute.org). Either individual can also be reached at Lyndon Institute, PO Box 127, Lyndon Center, Vermont 05850. Additionally, the School Nurse may be requested to or may otherwise make such a referral.

### **School Interventions Upon a Student's Return to School Following a Severe Allergic Reaction**

Lyndon Institute acknowledges that students who have experienced an allergic reaction at school need special consideration upon their return to school. The school's approach to such circumstances will vary depending on the severity of

the reaction, the student's age, and whether their classmates witnessed it. A mild reaction may need little or no intervention other than speaking with the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) and re-examining the IHCP. In the event that a student has had a moderate to severe reaction, the school will:

- obtain as much accurate information as possible about the allergic reaction;
- Identify those who were involved in the medical intervention and those who witnessed the event;
- meet with the adults involved to discuss what was seen and dispel any rumors;
- provide factual information as appropriate (although the school may want to discuss this with the parent(s)/guardian(s), factual information that does not identify the individual student can be provided to the school community without parental permission; for example, a letter from the Head of School to parent(s)/guardian(s) and teachers that doesn't name names but reassures them the crisis is over);
- request assistance from the Director of Food Services if an allergic reaction is thought to have been from a food provided by the school food service to ascertain what potential food item was served/consumed, and review food labels from the Food Service Director and staff;
- agree on a plan to disseminate factual information to and review knowledge about food allergies with school mates who witnessed or were involved in the allergic reaction, after both the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the student consent;
- ensure explanations are age appropriate;
- review the student's IHCP, or if the student does not have an IHCP, then consider initiating one;
- amend the student's IHCP and/or the emergency response plan as necessary;
- and
- review what changes need to be made to prevent another reaction without assigning blame.

The student and their parent(s) /guardian(s) shall meet with the School Nurse and any staff who were involved in the allergic reaction, and be reassured about the student's safety, what happened, and what changes will be made to prevent another reaction. If a student demonstrates anxiety about returning to school, checking in with the student on a daily basis would be indicated until their anxiety is alleviated. If a student has a prolonged response to an anaphylactic event, strategies should be reviewed and clinical intervention may be recommended. Collaboration with the student's medical provider would be indicated to address any medication changes.

These procedures may be amended from time to time, subject to the school's discretion and changing laws.

## Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

Lyndon Institute is required by law to make known to members of our community that we have management plans for the safe control and maintenance of asbestos-containing materials found in our buildings. These management plans are available and accessible to the public at the Physical Plant Operations and Maintenance Office of Lyndon Institute. It is our intent to protect the health of our students, our staff, and those who visit our school by strictly observing the law's requirements. Please contact LI's Head of School with any questions.

## **LOCKS AND LOCKERS**

Revised June 2017

Lockers and combination locks will be assigned by request from Campus Life for a \$5.00 deposit, returnable to a student when they return their lock at the end of the school year. Because laws require that in an emergency we be able to open all lockers in a very short period of time, personal locks are not allowed and will be removed by school personnel. Since lockers are a permanent part of the building, students are expected to keep them in good usable condition. School personnel have the right to inspect/search lockers in accordance with the school's Search Policy, set forth in this handbook. Lyndon Institute is not responsible for student belongings stored on campus. Items not removed from lockers promptly at the end of the school year will be donated to local organizations.

## **PUPIL PRIVACY RIGHTS**

It is the intent of Lyndon Institute to comply with the provisions of the Federal Pupil Privacy Rights Amendment (PPRA) governing the administration of certain student surveys, analyses, or evaluations funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education. Please see the Annual Notification of Parental Rights included as Appendix A to this handbook.

### Definitions

"Invasive Physical Examination," means a medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

"Personal Information" means individually identifiable information including a student's or parent's name, address, telephone number, or social security number. "Instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of format. It does not include tests or academic assessments.

"Parent" means a natural or adoptive parent, a legal guardian, or other person standing in loco parentis (such as a grandparent or step parent with whom a child lives, or a person who is legally responsible for the welfare of a child).

## Student Rights

The rights provided to parents under PPRA and this policy transfer to the student when the student turns eighteen years old, or is an emancipated minor under applicable Vermont law.

## Policy

No student shall be required, without parental consent, to take part in a survey, analysis, or evaluation funded by the U.S. Department of Education that reveals information concerning:

- the political affiliations or beliefs of a student or a student's parents;
- the mental or psychological problems of a student or a student's family;
- sex behavior or attitudes;
- illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- critical appraisals of other individuals with whom student respondents have close family relationships;
- legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, or members of the clergy;
- income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program for receiving financial assistance under such program); or
- religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of a student or a student's parents.

Parents shall have the right to inspect upon request any survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to a student. Requests for inspection shall be in writing and shall be made in sufficient time to allow a response at least two weeks in advance of any survey to be given.

Parents shall be notified at least annually, at the beginning of the school year or when enrolling students for the first time in district schools, of this policy. The notification shall explain that parent(s)/guardian(s) or students (aged eighteen years and older), have the right to opt out of the following activities:

- The collection, disclosure, and use of personal information gathered from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information. This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational services for or to students.
- The administration of any survey not funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education that includes the eight subject areas listed above.
- The administration of any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance administered by the school which is not necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of a student or other students and not otherwise permitted or required by state law.

In addition, parents shall be notified, by U.S. mail, e-mail, or other direct means, at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of any activities described above, and shall be provided an opportunity to opt out of participation in those activities.



Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

The Head of School or their designee shall develop procedures as required to ensure implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Protection of Pupil Rights, 20 U.S.C. 1232h

### **SCHOOL CLOSINGS DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER**

Lyndon Institute will remain open except under extreme or emergency circumstances including severe weather conditions such as ice storms or flooding. Since Lyndon Institute serves students from such a large area, we make our decision based on conditions at the school. If conditions where you live are unsafe, we expect you will use common sense and not venture out until it is safe to travel. If Lyndon Institute remains open but you feel it is not safe to travel, please notify us. If the school is closed or we have issued a delayed start, it will be broadcast via voice message to all individuals with a phone number on file with the school, announced on Magic 97.7 and on WCAX-TV Channel 3 by 5:50 AM on the school's website [www.lyndoninstitute.org](http://www.lyndoninstitute.org).

### **SEARCH POLICY**

Revised June 2011

In order to help maintain a safe and secure environment for our students and staff, Lyndon Institute has adopted the following policy:

Members of the faculty and/or administration may conduct a search of a student's person or property, including but not limited to a school locker, backpack, dorm room, [cellular telephones and other personal electronic devices](#), and/or automobile on school grounds (including all parking and other adjacent areas), if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the student may be in violation of the school's policies regarding weapons, alcoholic beverages, and other regulated substances or cellular telephones and other personal electronic devices, or if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the student may be in possession of stolen property. In some instances, the Administration may perform a general search of school facilities, lockers, dorm rooms, and/or backpacks with the aid of law enforcement officers. Please do not leave bags, backpacks, or belongings unattended in halls, the MAC, or other areas of campus. Any bags found unattended by their owner may be confiscated and searched.

Lyndon Institute reserves the right to test any and all items or substances discovered during a search utilizing either an onsite field test, a third party laboratory or both.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

Policy Revised July 2016

It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to maintain a safe, orderly, civil and positive learning environment. In order to ensure that the school is free

from disruptive misconduct on the part of students, a system of classroom and school management practices, supported by consistent, clear, and fair disciplinary procedures, will be utilized. The goal of this policy is to create an environment where the rules for student behavior are clearly stated, are understood and accepted by students and staff, and are applied in compliance with the school's procedural requirements. For incidents involving harassment/hazing/bullying, please refer to the respective policy and procedures section set forth in this Student/Parent Handbook. This policy is to be applied in conjunction with the school's overall discipline plan developed pursuant to 16 VSA. 1161(a). It is the student's responsibility to be polite and courteous and to respect the rights of others. It is the responsibility of each student to contribute to a safe and productive learning environment in the school by demonstrating respect and consideration for fellow students and adults. This includes complying with all policies and rules of conduct of both the school and individual classrooms.

Policies and regulations of Lyndon Institute will be in effect and must be complied with at all times during the school day and while in attendance at school functions. The school day is defined as "that period of time from when students arrive on the school grounds (general proximity: bridge to bridge to bridge) until 3:30 p.m. (this includes students attending school activities and students waiting for rides)." During the school day, if a student is found on the property not owned or leased by Lyndon Institute (cemetery, the church and its parking lot adjacent to Sanborn Hall or other areas owned by the Town of Lyndon) consequences may occur.

**Omissions:** Students are expected to remove themselves from a situation involving a rule violation. Being knowingly present during the violation of a major school rule makes a student liable for consequences.

### **Rules of Conduct**

The basic rules for student conduct are set forth each year in the various policies and procedures contained in the Lyndon Institute Student/Parent Handbook, including the policy on Student Conduct and Discipline. Any questions as to content or application of these rules should be directed to the Dean of Students. Students should thoroughly review this handbook and share it with their parent(s)/guardian(s). Copies of this handbook are available to parents/guardians upon request.

A student shall follow the requests and orders of the Administrative Team, the Head of School, teachers, and any other personnel employed by Lyndon Institute. Members of the Lyndon Institute faculty, Administration, or supervisory staff may confiscate any substance or device that violates any policy, is a distraction to the educational environment, or may be considered a hazard. This includes, but is not limited to, digital devices or any object(s) that could pose a danger.

**Grounds for detention, suspension or expulsion include but are not limited to:**

- Disrespect for faculty/staff
- Flagrant disrespect for authority
- Continued violation of school regulations

- Repeated violations of the School's dress code
- Repeated use of profanity or obscene language
- Inappropriate body contact
- Possession of weapons
- Reported a false alarm or bomb threat
- Fighting
- Harassment, bullying and hazing
- Smoking/possession of tobacco in school or on school grounds
- Use, possession or distribution of alcoholic beverages
- Use, possession, sales or distribution of any non-prescribed, illegal, narcotic or chemical or drug paraphernalia
- Defacing, damaging or stealing of property
- Failure to have student ID
- Going to one's car without permission
- Leaving the school grounds without permission
- Truancy
- Cutting classes and/or detention
- Behavior no conducive to the welfare, safety or morals of others

Lyndon Institute uses a school-wide approach to help students become successful in school, college, careers, and life. It is expected that students be respectful and responsible at all times while in school and/or participating in school sponsored activities. Behavioral violations and consequences vary according to their severity and rate of occurrence. The following describes a list of behavioral violations and a typical response incurred. This list is not inclusive of all possible behavior violations. For incidents involving alleged harassment/hazing/bullying, please refer to the respective policy and procedures section set forth in this Student/Parent Handbook.

Administrative action may be taken for any infraction of Lyndon Institute's rules and may include, reparative measures, detention, suspension, or expulsion. Consequences for behavioral violations may be determined by the student, a faculty/staff member, an administrator or team of administrators.

### Procedures Revised June 2015

**Level 1 Violations:** (Faculty Detention. Teacher documents and communicates with home. Teacher communicates potential issues to Dean of Students.):

- Minor infractions that can be dealt with in the classroom with minimal disruption
- Inappropriate behaviors that do NOT lead to an unsafe environment and stop after the teacher intervenes
- Public display of affection
- Disrespect for others (minimal level)
- Use of profanity/inappropriate language
- Minor infractions of *Electronic Devices Policy*
- Dress code infractions
- Violations of classroom rules

**Level 2 Violations:** (Administrative Detention. Teacher documents and may or may not communicate with home. Dean of Students communicates with home.):

- Ongoing level 1 behaviors
- Behavior that is not conducive to safety, welfare and/or morals of others

- Minor infractions that cannot be dealt with in the classroom without disruption
- Inappropriate behaviors that do NOT stop after teacher intervenes and may lead to an unsafe environment
- Repeated infractions of school regulations
- Behaviors that cannot be handled in the classroom or general school environment
- Excessive public displays of affection

**Level 3 Violations:** (Other: Teacher calls for immediate assistance when appropriate. Teacher documents. Administration communicates with home. Situation may be turned over to legal authorities.):

- All criminal behavior
- Possession of a weapon or object that may pose a danger to self and/or others
- Inappropriate body contact
- Flagrant violation of school regulations
- Flagrant disrespect for others
- Unlawful conduct and/or conduct that requires an investigation
- All unsafe behaviors
- Bomb threats and/or reporting a false alarm
- Fighting
- Violations of our Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Policy
- Habitual use of profanity and/or other offensive language
- Defacing, damaging or stealing personal and/or school property
- Leaving grounds without permission

## Discipline Options

### Reparative Measures

Students may be required to do community service, restitution, apologize to affected parties, and/or develop behavioral plans. Members of the faculty may keep students after school to make up work or to receive help.

### Faculty Detention

A student may be required to remain after school for detention by the faculty when the student has a level 1 behavioral violation (as listed above). When appropriate, the faculty member will give the student and their family a 24-hour notice to make necessary arrangements. If a student fails to meet with the teacher for detention, the matter will be turned over to the Administration.

### Loss of Privilege

A student who repeatedly violates rules governing privileges on campus, including but not limited to vehicles on campus and digital device use policies may lose the privilege for a period of time to be determined by the Administration.

### Administrative Detention

*The Administration and any support staff in a supervisory position (e.g., traffic control, Sanborn and dining hall supervisors, etc.) have the authority to impose administrative detention.*

Administrative detention will be served from 3:00 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. on weekdays,

with the specific weekdays being determined at the start of each semester based on staffing needs.

Administrative detention will be served with the administrative supervisor under their guidelines.

A student assigned to administrative detention will be notified at least two days in advance, allowing ample time to make arrangements.

A student is excused from administrative detention if he/she is absent from school on the day of detention. All other absences from detention will be considered unexcused and will result in additional detention unless the student gets prior approval from the Dean of Students and provides appropriate documentation.

If a student is absent from administrative detention, it is their responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students within two school days to resolve the issue.

If a student has ten absences for which detention has not been served, or any disciplinary detentions they may face a range of consequences, including but not limited to: loss of privileges, required parent meeting and in school suspension.

### Immediate Removal

When a student, because of their conduct or condition, is an immediate threat to self or others, property, or the school's educational environment, Lyndon Institute may take whatever action is appropriate under the circumstances, including but not limited to, immediate removal from the school premises and school functions, pending a meeting as to suspension as soon as possible thereafter. Lyndon Institute staff, at the direction of the Head of School or their designee, will make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) by telephone as to their removal from school. If the parent(s)/guardian(s), or other responsible person designated as an emergency contact by the parent(s)/guardian(s) cannot be notified, the student will be detained at school or at another safe and secure setting for the remainder of the school day. If the school is unable to reach the parent(s)/guardian(s) by telephone, a written notice will be sent to them. If requested, a follow-up meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be arranged by the Head of School.

In the event a student brings a weapon to school, the procedures set forth in the Lyndon Institute Weapons Policy shall apply.

Lyndon Institute students who are charged with a felony may be removed from school if it is determined that the crime the student is charged with could have a detrimental effect on school climate or safety, or will create a hostile environment for the student charged, the staff, or other students.

### Short Term Suspension

The Head of School (or their designee for either) has the authority to impose a suspension for up to ten consecutive days for misconduct occurring on or off

school grounds.

The Head of School or their designee will make reasonable efforts to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) by telephone. If the school is unable to reach the parent(s)/guardian(s) by telephone, a written notice will be sent to them. If requested, a follow-up meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be arranged.

#### Longer Term Suspension or Expulsion

The Head of School (or designees) may expel a student for misconduct on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity when the misconduct makes the continued presence of the student harmful to the welfare of the school.

The Chief Operating Officer may suspend a student for longer periods or may expel a student for misconduct: (a) not on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity where direct harm to the welfare of the school can be demonstrated; or (b) not on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored activity where the misconduct can be shown to pose a clear and substantial interference with another student's equal access to educational programs.

#### **Procedures for Longer Term Suspensions and Expulsion**

The Dean of Students will recommend any long term suspension or expulsion to the Head of School with written notification to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Head of School will review the committee's recommendation and accept or reject the recommendation. If the recommendation is accepted, the Head of School will follow up with a letter to the parent(s)/guardian(s) imposing a long term suspension or expulsion. The parent(s)/guardian(s) or a student age 18 or older may appeal the long term suspension or expulsion decision by the Head of School, and as a part of such an appeal, they may also request a hearing with the Head of School. These appeal procedures will be processed through the Head of School's Office. The appeal and any request for a hearing on the appeal must be submitted to the Head of School in writing within five school days of the date of the long term suspension or expulsion letter. If a written appeal is submitted but no hearing is requested, then the Head of School or their designee will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or adult student in writing concerning a decision on their appeal as to whether the long term suspension or expulsion is upheld or modified.

If a hearing is requested, then a hearing date will be scheduled as soon as is practicable. An appeal hearing will provide the parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or adult student with an opportunity to present evidence, to pose evidentiary questions to the Administration through the Head of School, and to make additional requests including concerning the duration of the longer term suspension or expulsion and concerning a date when the student may return to school or reapply for admission. Following the hearing, the Head of School or their designee will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s)

and/or adult student in writing concerning a decision on their appeal as to whether the long term suspension or expulsion is upheld or modified.

If not otherwise stated in the case of an expulsion, the student may apply the next semester for readmission after one calendar year of expulsion.

Students who are suspended or expelled are not permitted to be on the LI campus during suspension or expulsion periods.

### **Discipline of Students with Disabilities**

Notwithstanding the above provision, a legal student who has a disability or is suspected of having a disability, and is eligible for special education services or Section 504 services may not be removed from his or her current educational placement for disciplinary reasons for more than ten consecutive days, or for more than ten cumulative days in a school year, except in accordance with the procedures established by Vermont State Board of Education Rules 4312 or 4313. The Head of School, with the agreement of the Director of Specialized Instruction, may impose short- term disciplinary sanctions on special education students as provided in Vermont State Board of Education Rule 4313. The Head of School and coordinator of special education will develop additional procedures as needed to govern the discipline of students with disabilities.

### **Use of Restraint & Seclusion**

#### Policy

It is Lyndon Institute's policy to emphasize the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports to avoid the use of physical restraint or seclusion to address targeted student behavior. Lyndon Institute complies in its Use of Restraint & Seclusion with State Board of Education Rule 4500. Physical restraint and seclusion is not a form of discipline or punishment and is used, only as reasonable and necessary, as a temporary intervention by trained staff when a student's behavior poses an imminent and substantial risk of physical injury to the student or others.

#### Procedure

The Head of School, the Superintendent, and the parents will be notified concerning any use of restraint or seclusion.

Following the use of restraint or seclusion, a proper staff person shall review the incident with the student in a manner appropriate to the student's age and developmental ability to discuss the behavior that precipitated the use of restraint or seclusion.

Lyndon Institute will attempt to provide verbal or electronic notice of any incident of restraint or seclusion to the student's parents as soon as it is practical but not later than the end of the applicable school day and will provide written notice to the parents within 24 hours of each use of restraint or seclusion in compliance with State Board Rule 4503.1.

Within four days, parents will have the right to participate in a meeting to review the incident of restraint or seclusion and to be consulted in determining any specific follow up actions to be taken.

Any parent or school personnel may file a complaint regarding the use of restraint or seclusion in writing to the Head of School. Such complaints will be investigated by Lyndon Institute and written findings issued within thirty (30) days. Unresolved complaints shall be directed to the Superintendent of the Supervisory Union where the student resides. A student on an IEP or Section 504 Plan may also use the dispute resolution options available under State Board Rules a-2365.1.6, if appropriate.

## **STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

Adopted June 2016

### **Student Identification (ID) Card Policy**

In an ongoing effort to maximize student and campus safety, Lyndon Institute will issue an ID card containing a photographic image of the individual student. This ID will be free of charge to all its enrolled students at the commencement of their program. Students must carry their photo ID badge at all times. The ID card provides proof of enrollment and will be used as identification for purposes that may include admission, examinations, area student discounts, and library borrowing privileges.

The ID card must be produced on request and remains the property of Lyndon Institute.

### **All Lyndon Institute ID cards will require a photograph of the student**

LI is responsible for taking the photograph and will schedule this at the commencement of the student's program. No headgear or sunglasses are allowed unless there is a medical or religious reason to wear them. No other item that obstructs the face should be worn at the time the ID picture is taken. The upper portion of the forehead to the lowest point of the chin may not be covered.

### **If your card has been stolen or misplaced**

The cardholder is responsible for safeguarding their ID card. Should a card become lost, either accidentally or by theft, LI assumes no responsibility. Students will need to report a lost or stolen card to the Campus Life Office and have another ID card issued. After 4:30 p.m. and on weekends you may notify the Administrator on Duty (AOD). The name of the serving AOD is communicated every Friday from the Resident Life Office to the student body, via email. If you find your card, you will need to notify Campus Life immediately. For each replacement card, students will incur a \$15.00 charge. Please allow two business days for this process to take place. Depending on where your card was lost, your ID may be mailed back to the ID card office. You must be a current student to claim a lost card. Students withdrawing from LI must return their ID card to the Campus Life Office in order to complete the withdrawal process.

## **SUBSTANCES: ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND TOBACCO**

Policy Adopted July 1992, Revised July 2015

It is the policy of Lyndon Institute that no student shall knowingly possess, sell, give or otherwise transmit, be under the influence of or show in any manner any evidence of having used or consumed any illegal drug, regulated substance, or alcohol, or misused prescription/non-prescription medication on any school property, or at any school-sponsored activity away from school property (wherever it may be held) or within the school.

Any student believed to be in violation of the above regulation shall be immediately turned over to the administrator on duty and/or law enforcement.



Arrangements will be made for the student to leave the school, school property, or school-sponsored activity.

When the Head of School or their appointed designee believes an infraction of this regulation is also a violation of state or federal laws, the fact and circumstances of the infraction shall be promptly reported to the State's Attorney and/or such law enforcement officers who have jurisdiction.

A student's person or property, including but not limited to a hall locker, backpack, and/or automobile on school property (including all parking and other adjacent areas), may be searched if the school has reasonable grounds to believe that the student may be in violation of this policy. In some instances, the Administration may perform a general search of school facilities, lockers, and backpacks with the aid of law enforcement officers.

Violation of this policy shall result in discipline in accordance with Lyndon Institute's Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures.

### Procedures Revised July

#### 2015 First Offense:

- The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified;
- The student may be expelled from school for the equivalent of one semester; the minimum consequence for this violation will be a five-day suspension from school;
- Substance and/or paraphernalia will be turned over to an investigating law enforcement agency;
- If expelled the student must complete or be in the process of completing all school recommendations before the student will be allowed to re-enroll at Lyndon Institute. This includes a full substance abuse assessment comprised of evidence based tools and urinalysis with a Certified and/or Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor. Student or guardian must sign a full release of information for all testing results, attendance, level of participation, and treatment recommendations;
- In every case, as a condition of continuance at Lyndon Institute, the student and/or the student's parents must agree to random drug testing for the student for the rest of the student's tenure at Lyndon Institute and remain in good academic standing. The drug testing will be required to be done at the moment of the school's request. Any attempts to circumvent the integrity of the test may be seen as a positive test. Honesty is a guiding principle of our core values and may have a considerable impact on the student's consequences. Refusal to accept this condition will constitute grounds for the immediate termination of the student's enrollment at Lyndon Institute.
- Following suspension, the student will be restricted to classes and study halls for the remainder of the semester (a minimum of one marking period).

#### Second Offense:

- The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified.
- A second violation or a positive drug test following the original incident will result in immediate expulsion.
- Substance and/or paraphernalia will be turned over to an investigating

law enforcement agency.

The selling of a controlled substance on school grounds or the proximity (bridge to bridge to bridge) during school hours will be subject to the following procedures:

- The parents/guardians will be notified.
- The student will be expelled from Lyndon Institute.
- Substance and/or paraphernalia will be turned over to an investigating law enforcement agency.

## **TOBACCO**

### Tobacco Policy Revised July 2015

Smoking, chewing or possessing tobacco, of any type (including smokeless tobacco), electronic cigarettes (e-cig or e-cigarette), personal vaporizers (PVs) and electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) and other vaporizers at any time within any school building, on campus, or during a school-sponsored activity is prohibited.

### Tobacco Procedure Revised July 2016

If a student is found smoking, chewing or possessing tobacco of any type (including smokeless tobacco) electronic cigarettes (e-cig or e-cigarette), personal vaporizers (PVs) and electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) and other vaporizers on school property or during a school function, the following procedures will be followed:

#### ***FOR ALL OFFENSES, EVERY TIME:***

- The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified.
- If the student is less than 21 years of age, the tobacco products and smoking/vaping devices will be turned over to the Lyndonville Police Department. If the student is 21 years of age or over, the tobacco products and/or smoking/vaping devices will be returned when the student leaves campus for the day.

#### ***Additional Consequences, First Offense:***

- The student will receive six blocks of administrative detention.
- The student will be restricted to classes and study halls for the remainder of the semester (a minimum of one marking period).

#### ***Additional Consequences, Second Offense:***

- The student will receive a one-day in-school suspension.
- The student will be restricted to classes and study halls for the remainder of the year.
- Following a second offense, unannounced searches may be conducted of a student's backpack, person, dorm room and/or locker, as determined necessary by the Dean of Students and/or Head of School.

#### ***Additional Consequences, Third Offense:***

- The student will receive an out-of-school suspension, with the number of days determined based on the severity of the offense.
- The student will be restricted to classes and study halls for the remainder of

the year.

- Unannounced searches may be conducted of a student's backpack, person, dorm room and/or locker, as determined necessary by the Dean of Students and/or Head of School.

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION**

Revised July 2016

Lyndon Institute recognizes that chemical dependency is, unfortunately, a fact in some parts of society today. Without in any way minimizing individual responsibility for one's actions, Lyndon Institute recognizes that the full explanation for chemical dependency is often complex and involved. We also recognize that individuals with chemical dependency may include people who could otherwise make meaningful contributions to the Lyndon Institute community. Chemical abuse and dependency are treatable health problems that are primarily the responsibility of the home and the community. The school shares this responsibility in the areas of prevention (education) and intervention (identification and referral). Lyndon Institute wishes to extend every reasonable aid and encouragement to any chemically dependent student who wishes to obtain help. Lyndon Institute will assist the student in finding appropriate counseling and support.

A student asking for help with their chemical dependence will not be disciplined. However, if the student is found to be selling, buying, in possession or engaged in an omission as set out in the Student Conduct and Discipline Policy, Lyndon Institute will adhere to the Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures as stated in the Student/Parent Handbook.

Lyndon Institute reserves the right to require a student to submit to a drug test when concern warrants such a procedure. The drug test may consist of having to provide a breathalyzer test, a urine sample, a blood test, a hair sample, or any other appropriate medical test. Refusal to submit to a drug test will be treated as a positive test result and an admission to the accusation and may result in dismissal. All costs of drug testing are the responsibility of the student's parents/guardians.

### **Admissions**

During the Lyndon Institute admissions process, students are asked to disclose prior substance abuse or any violation of substance or other behavioral policy at their previous school. Failure to disclose may result in a student's inability to attend LI.

### **Student Assistance Team**

Lyndon Institute has a Student Assistance Team (SAT), which is a group of professionals within Lyndon Institute that receive health and safety referrals about students in need of help. The main goal of the SAT is to systematically and professionally respond to students' problems. The SAT is composed of members of the Lyndon Institute community, including the Director of Health Services, Dean of Students, School Nurse, Dean of Students, Director of Special Services, Student Assistance Counselor, and Director of Residential Life.

It is the responsibility of the SAT to work within the Lyndon Institute community to identify, evaluate, and help resolve health and safety issues which may include

alcohol and/or drug related problems. Wherever possible, appropriate, and within federal and state law the SAT will involve the parents or guardians in this process. The SAT is not involved with the discipline of the school as outlined under the Alcohol/Drug Policy.

The SAT supports all Lyndon Institute guidelines around the use of alcohol and other drugs.

### **Confidentiality**

Our health care professionals, counselors, advisors, and administrators strive to respect the privacy of our students; however, there are times when information may need to be shared with parents, select faculty, and school officials. Therefore, parents and students consent, as a condition of enrollment, that otherwise confidential health care and counseling information may be disclosed on a need to know basis to the extent necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the student and community.

### **Educational Program:**

The school conducts substance abuse education programs on a sequential basis in accordance with the mandates of 16 VSA 909, the Vermont Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan.

### **Cooperative Agreements:**

In dealing with substance abuse cases, every effort will be made to promote responsible decision-making by the student involved and by other students who are aware of another student's use or abuse. The focus will be to encourage appropriate medical and/or psychological intervention by trained professionals. Students and their parents/guardians will be given information about outside agencies and will be encouraged to take advantage of their services and programs.

Students under the age of eighteen who have been referred or who refer themselves to the Student Assistance Program counselor may be seen individually by the counselor for the purposes of substance abuse screening and consultation. It will be the goal of the Student Assistance Program to encourage students to involve their parent(s) /guardian(s) at the earliest point in time.

No student under the age of eighteen will be referred to an outside agency for substance abuse treatment without parental consent unless, in accordance with 18 VSA 4226, the student is twelve or over and found by a licensed physician to be dependent upon regulated drugs or alcohol.

Parental consent is not required for student participation in group programs conducted within the school that are educational in nature and have been designed to impart information and/or assist students in improving their sense of self-esteem. Such group programs may be conducted only by trained professionals contracted by the school to perform such service or by trained school staff who have been approved by the Administration to conduct such groups.

## **TECHNOLOGY AT SCHOOL**

### **Use of Digital Technology at School**

Policy Adopted June 1996, Revised June 2017

Technology systems and electronic devices that constitute digital technology, both school owned and personal and including but not limited to smartphones, laptops, iPads, Chromebooks, the Lyndon Institute local and cloud networks, wireless access networks, and the School's Internet feed are all integral parts of learning at Lyndon Institute. The core values that define our community require that all systems and devices be used respectfully and responsibly. The use of electronics and other technology on our campus is a privilege and must be treated as such by all users.

Procedure Adopted June 1996, Revised July 2015

Using electronic services in a manner that is not consistent with our core values during the school day or at any school-sponsored event, whether on or off-campus, will result in discipline according to the Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures outlined in this handbook. Lyndon Institute reserves the right to confiscate any electronic device that may have been used to violate this policy.

Additionally, all behavioral rules apply to student use of school owned electronic devices at all times and in all locations that school-owned devices are in use.

Additional rules related to harassment/hazing/bullying apply at other times and locations. Please refer to the Harassment/Hazing/Bullying Policy set out in this handbook.

### **Cell Phones and Other Digital Devices**

Students are not allowed to use cell phones during classes without express permission by the teacher as necessary for a legitimate program of study. Upon entering each classroom, students will store their cell phone in a specified area, where they will remain for the entirety of the class period. Students are allowed to use their phones during lunch periods. To reach students during the school day, parents should call the receptionist at 535-3636 to have a message delivered to the student. Students may use the landline phone available in the receptionist's office to contact parents.

Lyndon Institute is pleased to provide a Chromebook as part of its 1:1 mobile device program for students attending Lyndon Institute. Upon parent/guardian and student acceptance of terms and assumption of financial responsibility as outlined in the Lyndon Institute Chromebook Agreement, students will be issued a Chromebook. Chromebooks are bundled with their AC wall charger. Lyndon Institute retains ownership of the Chromebook as well as all accessories assigned to each student.

In lieu of using a school issued device, students may use their own computer provided that it has sufficient safeguards to prevent malicious software or programs from accessing, denying access or otherwise damaging computers, storage or software attached to the Lyndon Institute network. Parents and guardians of students opting to

use their own device also agree to allow school owned software, browser extensions and programs to be loaded on their computers while they are students at Lyndon Institute.

As a recipient of federal funding for internet access, Lyndon Institute reserves the right and is legally bound to block internet access to programs, software and websites that are deemed inappropriate per the guidelines of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), and Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) anytime a student is logged into a program or website managed by Lyndon Institute.

As per state and federal privacy laws, you may not use any electronic device or drone to take non-consensual photographs or video of anyone. Students should be aware that state criminal laws exist also concerning the practice of "sexting" and that a

student may face charges in juvenile court or be charged criminally as an adult for sending a sext or even possessing one. These laws are being enforced by law enforcement authorities.

## **Use of School-Provided Internet Access**

### **Meeting Our Education Objectives**

Lyndon Institute is pleased to offer our students access to the Internet. In making decisions regarding student access to the Internet, Lyndon Institute considers its own stated educational mission, goals, objectives, and core values. The purpose of school-provided internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. Internet technology allows students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups around the world, and significantly expand their available information base. Electronic-information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the internet enables students to explore thousands of online resources while connecting with people around the world. The school expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the Internet into the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students regarding its use. The Internet is a tool for lifelong learning.

### **Online Safety and Responsibility**

Families should be aware that some material accessible via the internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the internet that could result in unwanted financial obligations for which a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) would be liable. Ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

Students and their parents should be aware that LI employees may not provide or obtain "friend status" or otherwise communicate with LI students through social media unless it is through LI's Facebook account.

While the school's intent is to make internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. The school may provide technical methods or systems to

regulate students' internet access, but those methods may not guarantee compliance with the school's acceptable use policy. That notwithstanding, the school believes that the benefits to students of access to the internet exceed any disadvantages.

Online safety is a personal responsibility. It is important that students are aware of the implications of their actions online, both for themselves and for others. The actions students take in public forums such as social networks, blogs and podcasts can impact their safety and reputation.

### **Student and Family Responsibility**

Students' must use the internet in support of and in a manner consistent with the educational objectives of the school. Students utilizing school-provided internet access are responsible for good behavior online and should follow the same general rules for behavior and communication as they would follow in a classroom or other area of the school. Outside of school, families bear responsibility for the same guidance of internet use as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, radio, movies, and other possibly offensive media.

### **Network and Email Privacy**

Students are provided with network space in which to save their work and email. Email, in this instance, denotes a School-provided email account. If students access personal email, (Gmail, Yahoo, etc.) on School computers, the School retains the right to monitor or review content at will and such access through the School's technology system constitutes consent to such review. Users should not expect that files stored on school-based computers will always be private. This space is treated by the School's Administration like a desk or school locker. Network space is respected as belonging to the individual, but it is open to inspection by School administrators should there be a reasonable basis to access such spaces (e.g., virus, spam, inappropriate content, exceeding storage limits, to carry out an investigation of an alleged violation of School policy and rules, etc.). Administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are acting responsibly. Students must respect their own work and privacy. To that end, students must keep their own passwords secure and secret. Students must respect other people's work and privacy. Any attempts to "hack" into accounts or determine others' passwords will be treated as a serious breach of School policy. Students should not share their passwords with other people.

### **Uses Not Permitted**

The following uses of school-provided Internet access are not permitted:

- To access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material.
- To transmit obscene, abusive, sexually explicit, or threatening language.
- To violate any local, state, or federal statute.
- To vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another individual or organization.
- To access another individual's materials, information, or files without permission.
- To violate copyright or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.
- To harass or bully anyone.

Harassment and bullying are not tolerated by Lyndon Institute. If a student's digital activities inside or outside of school cause members of the Lyndon Institute school community to feel unsafe or uncomfortable, then the Administration may become involved. Lyndon Institute reserves the right to review any such activities and to respond as necessary to such situations.

Any violation of school policy and rules may result in loss of school-provided access to the internet. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language or behavior. Lyndon Institute reserves the right to confiscate any electronic device used to violate this policy. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

### **School Liability**

Lyndon Institute makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, for the internet access it is providing. The school will not be responsible for

- any damages users suffer, including but not limited to loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions in service
- the accuracy, nature, or quality of information stored on school hard drives, or servers
- the accuracy, nature, or quality of information gathered through school-provided Internet access
- personal property used to access school computers or networks or for school-provided Internet access
- unauthorized financial obligations resulting from school-provided access to the Internet.

### **Software Protection**

Lyndon Institute goes to great lengths to keep its network free of viruses, spyware, and adware. Students are part of this network and must assume responsibility in helping to ensure that it continues to run efficiently and effectively for everyone. Students may not boot School computers with their own media, or copy system or executable files onto the computers. Additionally, students' home computers should be kept up to date in anti-virus protection. Viruses from home are quickly transferred to School through USB drives and corrupted files. It is the users' responsibility to ensure that their USB drives do not bring harmful files into the School network. Students may not make alterations to School-owned computers, either to the machine itself or to the software on it, as this directly impacts its availability and usability for other users.

### **Copyright and Intellectual Property Laws Software**

Lyndon Institute is committed to the legal use of software. We support U.S. and international copyright laws. Users may not download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or devices unless they have the IT Director's permission. Students may not copy or transmit documents, software, music and/or video files without licensed authorization or appropriate credit within the School's ICT system or for purposes related to LI academic work or co-curricular activities. Plagiarism, copying and presenting the work of others as one's own, is unacceptable and illegal. The LI logo and name are the property of LI and shall not be used for personal purposes in external email or on the internet.



## Posting on the Internet

The availability of the Internet has also made publishing/posting of content (images, music, and the written word) extremely easy and powerful, offering a worldwide audience. Unfortunately, the ability to publish this information also threatens privacy rights and copyrights belonging to entities and individuals, Blogs, forums, social networks (e.g. Facebook), and video sites like YouTube are some examples of this new power: power that corresponds with students' personal responsibility.

Accordingly, the school is requiring all students to adhere to the following policy with respect to posting content.

- You will not electronically (or otherwise post) content onto the Internet that might violate the privacy rights or copyrights of others. If you have any doubts about the rights implicated by particular content, then you will not post it without the review and express permission of the Dean of Students or their delegate.

Be advised that individuals have privacy rights, the full scope of which you may be unaware. *Any information/images, for example, that could result in someone identifying a particular individual or individuals, or in tracing them back to the school, must not be published in any fashion. This would include, (but not be limited to), videos of athletic events, school meetings, student assemblies, school trips, etc.*

In many instances, the "Terms of Use" policy for various Internet sites (e.g., Facebook, YouTube) requires the permission of all primary copyright owners prior to publication. An individual or entity automatically owns the copyright to a work (i.e., the right to prevent the work from being copied) when the work (music, artwork, writing) is created. A copyright exists even when the copyright is not registered. Owning the copyright in a work, however, does not mean that the owner has any freedom to violate the privacy rights of others. Conversely, the copying of any work may constitute illegal copyright infringement or plagiarism in certain circumstances.

For students, permission to post on the Internet any materials that are obtained on school property, represent Lyndon Institute, or are entitled with the name "Lyndon Institute" should be obtained from the Assistant Head for External Affairs or their delegate prior to posting on the Internet.

Please refer as well to the school's Harassment/Hazing/Bullying Policy for additional limits on postings.

NOTICE: This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes.

## Consequences of Unacceptable Use:

Lyndon Institute's guidelines for acceptable technology use are non-negotiable expectations and violation of these will lead to consequences that may include, but are not limited to, being charged for repairs, having network access revoked, temporary confiscation of personal wireless devices, and disciplinary action. In severe cases, individuals may be referred to law enforcement personnel, and students are subject to the full range of student discipline as well for breaches of

these rules.

### **Electronic Communications by Students with Lyndon Institute Staff Members**

All electronic communications by students with Lyndon Institute staff members should be

- Made only for school-related purposes; and
- Carried out utilizing the school's computer and information systems only.

Texting between students and staff in instances where communication is necessary for school-related purposes (e.g., during a field trip) is permitted, but by doing so, it should be acknowledged and understood by the student that the school has a right to review that text message on the student's phone.

Students should not request or consent to "friend" status on staff members' Facebook accounts or on other social networking sites with the exception of the Lyndon Institute Google Apps for Education Domain.

### **UNAUTHORIZED RECORDINGS**

Policy Adopted June 2017

No audio or video recordings, regardless of the technology being used, shall be taken without the consent of the individual being recorded. Unauthorized recordings present both safety and privacy concerns. Drones, in particular, are federally regulated and must be used in accordance with those regulations. The only acceptable use of drones on campus is in conjunction with an approved LI course having teacher oversight and supervision where the drone use does not infringe on others' privacy in any manner.

### **VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL**

Policy Revised July 2011

Lyndon Institute recognizes the need to provide parents/guardians, the community, and the media with information about the school's programs and activities. It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to balance this need with the privacy interests of students and the responsibility of the school to operate with a minimum of disruption.

Procedure Revised June 2014

- **All visitors** to the school are required to check in with the receptionist, located by the Pierce Entrance in the main building, upon arrival on campus. The receptionist will keep a log showing the names of visitors, the date and time, and the purpose of the visit.
- **Visiting Students:** Lyndon Institute welcomes visiting students to the campus during the school day. Please the Office of Admissions at (802) 535-3700 or visit our website to arrange a tour.

The Head of School or their designee may regulate visits to the school by parents/guardians, community members, alumni and news media, subject to the following guidelines:

- **Visiting Parents/Guardians:** Lyndon Institute recognizes the need to provide parents and guardians information about the school's programs and activities. It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to balance this need with the privacy interests of students and the responsibility of the school to operate with a minimum of disruption.
- **Visiting Community Members:** Persons who are not parents/guardians of students may obtain permission from the Head of School or their designee to visit the school while it is in session. Requests to visit specific classrooms will be granted or denied after consultation with the teacher(s) involved and will be based on a consideration of the informational needs of the person making the request and the potential for disruption or invasion of the privacy of students.
- **Visiting Alumni:** Lyndon Institute welcomes alumni back to visit with former teachers, administrators, and staff. Please stop by the Alumni Office in Thompson Cottage, call Heather Wheeler at (802) 535-3772, or email [heather.wheeler@lyndoninstitute.org](mailto:heather.wheeler@lyndoninstitute.org) to arrange your visit.
- **Visiting News Media:** Visits to the school by representatives of the news media or other persons seeking to interview, photograph, record, videotape, or film students, employees, or school activities must be arranged after consultation with the Head of School or the Board Chair. Affected employees will be consulted before permission for such activities in their work spaces is granted. At the discretion of the Administration, parents/guardians may be asked to sign general or specific permission slips to authorize interviews, photographs, or recordings of their students while at school or while participating in school activities. Please note, such permission is not generally required for media recordings taken during school athletic events or productions open to the public.
- **Photo Opt Out Procedures:** Lyndon Institute is an integral part of our region, and proudly displays students' accomplishments through local media, on the school's website, social media, alumni newsletter, yearbook, and other appropriate publications. In addition, Lyndon Institute uses photographs, photographic images, and audio and video recordings of students for general publicity in publications, public relations, promotions, publicity, and advertising. Any students (or the parents/guardians of such persons, if under age 18) who do NOT want to have their names, voices, or biographical materials used in connection with any such recording, must complete a Photo Opt Out Release form and return it to the Dean of Students upon enrolling as a student at Lyndon Institute. This form will be provided to you at the time of enrollment and can also be found on LI's website at [www.lyndoninstitute.org](http://www.lyndoninstitute.org).

## **WEAPONS ON CAMPUS**

Policy Revised June 2011

No person shall enter Lyndon Institute grounds (including all parking and other adjacent areas, as well as the school building themselves) while carrying any kind of weapon on their person or with their belongings.

Further, it is the policy of Lyndon Institute to provide for the possible expulsion of students who bring weapons to school. It is the intent of Lyndon Institute to maintain a student discipline system consistent with the requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. It is the policy of Lyndon Institute to comply with the Gun-Free Schools Act, (20 USC 7151) and other state and federal laws related to weapons on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities.

This policy does not require a recommendation from the Administrative Committee and stands on its own as a disciplinary policy.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, the terms “weapon” and “school”, and “expelled” shall have the following meanings:

“Weapon” means a firearm as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code and 13 VSA 4004, including:

- any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
- the frame or receiver of any weapon described above;
- any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;
- any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb;
- a grenade;
- any rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces;
- any missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one quarter ounce;
- any mine; or
- any similar device.
- Any weapon which will, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or another propellant, and that has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter;
- any combination of parts either designed to convert or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled;
- any other weapon, device, instrument, material or substance whether animate or inanimate, that in the manner it is used or is intended to be used is known to be capable of producing death or serious bodily injury.

Lyndon Institute also considers the following items potential weapons and they are not allowed on the Lyndon Institute campus:

- pocket knives, handyman tools, or any other device that has a blade

“School” means any setting that is under the control and supervision of Lyndon Institute. It includes school grounds, facilities, school-sponsored events, whether held on or off school grounds and vehicles used to transport students to and from school or school activities.

“Expelled” means the termination of educational services to a student for at least one calendar year. At the discretion of the student’s school district, an expelled student may be afforded limited educational services at a site other than the school during the period of expulsion under this policy.

## **Sanctions**

Any student who brings a weapon to school shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. as recommended by an investigative committee. In compliance with the Gun-Free Schools Act, (20 USC 7151) and other state and federal laws, the Dean of Students may modify an expulsion on a case-by-case basis so long as the decision is in writing. Long-term suspension or expulsion may be appealed using the same process as that for bullying, hazing, and harassment.

Possible reasons the Dean of Students may choose to modify the expulsion include, but are not limited to:

- The student was unaware that he or she had brought a weapon to school.
- The student did not intend to use the weapon to threaten or endanger others.
- The student is disabled and the misconduct is related to the disability.
- The student does not present an ongoing threat to others and a lengthy expulsion would not serve the best interests of the pupil.

## **WHEELED RECREATION**

Policy Revised July 2011

Bicycle use is allowed as long as a properly fitted helmet is worn while riding. Operators must adhere to all rules of the road and operate in a safe and respectful manner. LI is not responsible for the theft of or damage to bicycles on campus; we recommend keeping bikes locked when not in use. Bikes may only be used to get to and from school; they are to remain locked up during the school day and may not be used as a method of transportation to and from classes. The use of skateboards, in-line skates, roller skates, and scooters is not permitted on the sidewalks, pathways, or driveways of the Lyndon Institute campuses. These items may be confiscated if a student is in violation of this policy. Violations are further covered within the Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures as stated in this Student/Parent Handbook.

## **YEARBOOK PHOTOS**

Approved June 1996, Revised June 2017

All photographs representing individuals in the LI community and being submitted for public consumption must follow the below requirements.

- The student must meet current dress code guidelines.
- There must be no extraneous objects in the photo.
- The photo must be submitted by the end of the fourth week in September.

### **Official Cynosure Photographs**

To ensure uniform appearance in the *Cynosure*, LI's yearbook, in September of each year a professional photographer will take official yearbook photos of all underclassmen, faculty, and staff at no charge to these individuals. Students, faculty, and staff may purchase extra copies of their own photograph from the photographer if they wish. These photographs will be the permanent record of that year at Lyndon Institute. All formal portraits will be taken from the waist up, with no extraneous objects visible.

### **Senior Portraits**

Senior portraits may be taken by either a professional or an amateur photographer. A snapshot is acceptable as long as it meets the above photo guidelines. Any photo not meeting the guidelines will not be accepted. If a student is unable to provide a Senior Portrait, Lyndon Institute will provide a photographer to take their yearbook photo at no charge.

### **Other Student Photographs**

Students may submit other photographs for the consideration of the yearbook staff for publication in other sections of the yearbook. A photograph of a student will be accepted and printed in *The Cynosure* provided that it follows the above guidelines.

# **Annual Notification of Parental Rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)**

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents/guardians certain rights regarding Lyndon Institute's conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These rights include the following:

The right to consent before a student is required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education.

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parents/guardians.
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family.
- Sex behavior or attitudes.
- Illegal, anti- social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior.
- Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships.
- Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parents/guardians.
- Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

The right to receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of

- any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
- any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law; and
- activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

The right to inspect, upon request and before administration or use

- protected information surveys of students;
- instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
- instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is eighteen years old or an emancipated minor under state law. Lyndon Institute has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other

distribution purposes.

Lyndon Institute will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Lyndon Institute will also directly notify, such as through U.S. mail or e-mail, the parents/guardians of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parents/guardians to opt their child out of participation of the specific activity or survey.

Lyndon Institute will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution;
- administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education;
- any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint  
with: Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202



# The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the [Name of school ("School")] receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students who wish to inspect their child's or their education records should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask [the School] to amend their child's or their education record should write the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want to be changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest must be set forth in the school's or school district's annual notification of FERPA rights. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

[Optional] Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school or school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school or school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request or the disclosure is initiated by the parent or eligible student.]

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the [School] to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of  
Education 400 Maryland  
Avenue, SW Washington, DC  
20202

[NOTE: In addition, a school may want to include its directory information public notice, as required by § 99.37 of the regulations, with its annual notification of rights under FERPA.]

[Optional] See the list below of the disclosures that elementary and secondary schools may make without consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without the consent of the parent or eligible student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the parent or eligible student, § 99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the school to record the disclosure. Parents and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the parents or the eligible student

- To other school officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2))
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as the State educational agency (SEA) in the parent or eligible student's State. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of § 99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of federal or state-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities

may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf if applicable requirements are met. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary for such purposes as to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To State and local officials or authorities to whom information is specifically allowed to be reported or disclosed by a State statute that concerns the juvenile justice system and the system's ability to effectively serve, prior to adjudication, the student whose records were released, subject to § 99.38. (§ 99.31(a)(5))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction, if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena if applicable requirements are met. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as "directory information" if applicable requirements under § 99.37 are met. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To an agency caseworker or other representatives of a State or local child welfare agency or tribal organization who is authorized to access a student's case plan when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student in foster care placement. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(L))
- To the Secretary of Agriculture or authorized representatives of the Food and Nutrition Service for purposes of conducting program monitoring, evaluations, and performance measurements of programs authorized under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, under certain conditions. (20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(K))