



Red Bird Christian High School  
**DORMITORY PROGRAM**  
HANDBOOK



# RED BIRD CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

# **DORMITORY PROGRAM**

# HANDBOOK

In accordance with the Federal law, Red Bird Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

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HISTORY

Red Bird Christian High School was begun in 1921 by the Evangelical Church. It was one of the original “Settlement Schools” of Appalachia.

The Settlement School movement in Appalachia began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. During this period the nation became intensely aware of the economic and educational deprivation of the Southern Highlander via numerous published newspaper and magazine articles. John C. Campbell’s book, The Southern Highlander and His Homeland, was published in 1921 and issued a clarion call for Church and private organizations in the North and Mid-West to come into the mountains and establish boarding schools and other mission projects.

Red Bird Settlement School early on became a boarding high school serving mountain people from isolated communities spread far and wide.

The school and dormitories epitomized high quality secondary and college preparation education. Missionary teachers streamed to the school through the years making it a school comparable to the elitist private boarding institutions of the northeast.

The Evangelical Church soon united with the Brethren Church to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB). In 1968, the EUB Church united with the Methodists to become today’s United Methodist Church.

Since 1921 Red Bird Settlement School, now Red Bird Christian High School, provided high quality, intensely academic college preparation for its students. Among our alumni are many doctors, lawyers, pastors, teachers, business men and women, and so on. These have made invaluable contributions to society. In addition, our graduates are faithful supporters of the school.

Today, our mission is as significant as ever: “Red Bird Christian High School, guided by Jesus Christ, empowers individuals and advocates justice by providing exceptional college preparation, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership development in a safe environment.”

Red Bird Christian High School has a glorious past. It is a beloved institution where youth and young men and women can come to receive an exemplary education in small classroom settings with committed Christian teachers.

In 2010, due to financial exigencies and the recession, the dormitories closed. Thanks to alumni and friends, we now re-open in the year 2014. May we serve another 90 years!

The girls’ dormitory is named “The Bonnie Adams Lawson Dormitory” to celebrate the benevolence and fund-raising of Bonnie and her husband Leonard Lawson. Both are supportive alumni of Red Bird Christian High School. Mrs. Lawson was a dormitory student throughout her high school years.

We welcome you to become a participant in this unique “Red Bird” experience. We seek a diverse student body; and reach out across the State, nation, and world for students.

Glory be to God and His Son, our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ!

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**Red Bird Christian High School Dormitory Program**  
**A Ministry of Red Bird Mission of the United Methodist Church**

**1. OUR PURPOSE**

Our purpose is to provide a place for Christian students to live in a boarding environment to attend Red Bird Christian High School. We seek secondary students who wish to seek and follow God's calling in their lives. The Dormitory Program strives to provide spiritual growth, social development, plus Church and general leadership development within a supportive, Christian, home-like environment. Students live in the dormitories so that they may attend the exemplary Red Bird Christian High School following the college preparatory curriculum.

**2. ADMISSION CONSIDERATIONS**

Students admitted to the Dormitory Program will be simultaneously enrolled in the Red Bird Christian School. Steps to Apply are included in the Application Packet. All requested materials must be received before an application will be processed. A phone interview will be scheduled. The interview, references, and previous academic work combine to give the selection committee the information needed to make admission decisions.

Extra considerations are given to students who live in southeastern Kentucky and the surrounding areas of Appalachia and to students who are feeling the call to go into the ministry, missionary service, or service in their church. However, we seek diversity in our dormitories so we solicit applicants from Kentucky, America, and the World.

Note: Red Bird Christian School is not a reform school. Our dormitories are not staffed to handle students with severe emotional or behavioral problems/needs, alcohol and substance abuse problems, or special custody issues including coordinated supervised visitation. We do have some (but limited) accommodations for those who are physically handicapped.

Any misrepresentation or withholding of pertinent information on the admission application will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the dorm and school programs.

**3. GENERAL CONDUCT**

The dormitories are places of diversity where young people with differing backgrounds live and learn together. Cooperation, civility, consideration of others and their feelings, and a Christian spirit are important. We must all walk in Jesus' footsteps. These traits can lead to life-long friendships with persons you can respect, trust, and rely upon.

Jesus says in Luke 6:31: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This admonition will serve you well – not only in the dormitories but in all your futures days.

Disruptive behavior, disrespect for persons; destruction of property; ad repeated rules infractions will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action that may include loss of privileges, extra chores, suspension, and possibly expulsion.

It is not necessary to be good friends in order to be good roommates; however, many roommates become good friends indeed. Why? Because they take care to respect each other's privacy, each other's property, and each other's right to considerate use of their share of the dorm room.

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It is not necessary to be a Christian; but we expect you to emulate Christ.

Dormitory students must also abide by the rules and regulations embedded in the school's student handbook.

**4. DORMITORY PARENTS**

Red Bird dorm parents are Christian men and women who see to the needs of our dormitory students.

Any time you are not in school, a dormitory parent is available. Most live in the dormitory and are on duty twenty-four hours a day to help you with every day exigencies, emergencies, health care needs, homework and spiritual life.

Dorm parents play an active role in the church life of each student. They attend worship services with their students just as parents would at home.

Attending Sunday school and church on Sundays plus Youth Group on Wednesdays is an integral part of the dormitory experience.

Transportation will be provided to and from church activities.

The Jack's Creek United Methodist Church will be the church of attendance for all dormitory students and dorm parents. However, accommodations will be made for students of different faiths and different denominations. Nothing shall preclude students from outside the Christian faith from applying.

**5. GENERAL DAILY SCHEDULE**

6:30 a.m.	Rising Time
7:20 a.m.	Depart for School
3:15 p.m.	Return to Dormitory
3-5 p.m.	Chores & Laundry
5-6 p.m.	Evening Meal
6-8 p.m.	Finish Chores/Free Time
8-9 p.m.	Study Time
9:00 p.m.	Devotions
10:00 p.m.	Bedtime

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE – Example**

9:30 a.m.	Depart for Sunday School and Worship Service
12:30 p.m.	Sunday Dinner
1:30 p.m.	Rest Time; Free Time: Homework; Etc.
6:30 p.m.	Supper

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**6. ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL, WORK, CHURCH, SEMINARS, AND ACTIVITIES**

You must attend church services. Appropriate dress is required; indeed, students must follow the school's dress code which applies to the dormitories and campus at all times

For spiritual growth, attendance at devotions is likewise required.

Should you miss school, church, or special activities and programs due to illness, you must remain in the dormitory during free time each day of your absence whether a full or partial day. Should you be ill for part of a day in the morning, you may return to school for the remainder of the day with permission of the dorm parent.

**7. ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

The fundamental reason for the resident student program at Red Bird Christian High School is to provide students who come to us an exemplary college-preparatory education in a Christian environment that prepares them for a life of service in God's kingdom.

Preparation for university, the world of work, the ministry, and leadership are fundamental goals of the Dormitory Program and are central to the mission of Red Bird Christian High. Our Mission Statement reads, "Red Bird Christian High School, guided by Jesus Christ, empowers individuals and advocates justice by providing exceptional college preparation, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership development in a safe environment."

As a resident student you are expected to display a positive attitude toward academic achievement and attain acceptable academic progress in school.

Personal academic and spiritual goals will be established in consultation with the student's advisory group. The advisory team will be comprised of dormitory parent(s), teacher(s), pastor and school counselor plus school administrator.

Minimal academic requirements for remaining in the dormitory are:

- a. **Study Hall** – A guided study time will be required each evening. Dormitory parents will determine the extent and nature of the study period. We will provide tutoring on an individual basis.
- b. **Acceptable Grade Requirements** - You must maintain a GPA of at least 2.0 on cumulative work.
- c. **Academic Probation** – Should your GPA drop below 2.0 for a semester, you will be placed on academic probation. This triggers a conference with teachers, dorm parents, and your parent or guardian either in person (preferred) or by Skype or telephone.

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**8. LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINARS AND STUDIES –**

An important feature of the Red Bird Dormitory Program will be special seminars and experiences in leadership for future work in secular world and/or the Church.

These uniquely designed experiences and seminars will feature opportunities to learn about leadership styles; the theoretical and research underpinnings of organizational science; learning about one's own leadership styles and leanings; plus practical experiences in leadership in this area and beyond.

You may wish to consider God's call in your life. Do you feel God's leading to a life of service in the Church as a pastor, a missionary, or Church worker? No matter the denomination, you will have opportunities to experience a closer relationship with God and His Son Jesus Christ: to come to Him; to serve Him; serve the needy, the downtrodden; to follow in His footsteps throughout the remainder of your life. "Enter to Learn; Leave to Serve" is our motto, indicating our clear objective to train leaders and servants of the Father and Son.

The United Methodist Church and other denominations are experiencing a paucity of individuals preparing for the Pastorate. Other denominations are likewise needing ministers of the Gospel to fill their pulpits.

If Divinity School is in your future, we will happily facilitate admission for you. We shall help you to develop a relationship to the Seminary of your choice.

Red bird Christian High School and Dormitory Program are uniquely poised to provide students who seek to become leaders special opportunities to prepare for their futures in the political, corporate, or ecclesiastic realms.

**9. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Athletics and recreation are necessary and desirable elements of the academic and dormitory experience at Red Bird Christian High and in our dorms. Basketball is tremendously popular in Kentucky and in the community. We strongly encourage you to participate in sports including cross-country, volleyball, track, baseball and softball. Dorm students are transported to these activities.

The *Kentucky High School Athletic Association* (KHSAA) rules state that an international student must sit out for one year before he/she is eligible to play varsity sports.

There are additional activities available to you: school clubs and groups; our nationally famous choral group "The Cardinal Singers;" school field trips; dormitory field trips; youth fellowship and church activities; athletic events; school concerts and plays; and so on.

**10. MEALS**

Attendance at all meals is required unless excused by a dorm parent. At each meal you are to be seated as a group from your dorm. You must stay in the dining room until dismissed. You may be expected to assist with clean-up after dinner.

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**11. VISITATION**

Guests are permitted in the dormitories only by invitation. Visitors may be allowed permitted in lobbies and outside in view of dormitory parents. You are responsible for the conduct of your guests at all times.

No student is allowed to have members of the opposite sex in a bedroom. Dorm parents may limit the number of guests and establish the dates and times guests are welcome. You are not permitted in any area of the opposite gender dormitory without express permission of both men's and girl's dorm parents and only if there is direct supervision.

Visiting hours are between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. only.

Guests who drive a vehicle must park in the parking area across the street from the Fire Department. You must not talk to guests while they are in vehicles.

Off-campus car dates are not permitted.

**12. DATING**

Names of prospective dates must be presented to the dorm parents before-hand. Express prior approval is required. Dates, as with all visitors, are approved at the discretion of the dorm parents. Proper conduct must be observed at all times. Holding hands is permitted; however, neither sitting on laps nor lying against one another will be tolerated.

As students in our Christian dormitory you must exhibit exemplary behavior with the opposite sex at all times. These and all rules are obligatory.

**13. CHORES AND WORK**

All dorm students are required to do routine chores daily including the cleaning of your room; assisting with cleaning commons areas; cleaning up after meals; maintaining the grounds and yards around the dorms; and assisting with Red Bird Mission maintenance projects. Ample opportunities are available for meaningful work that will contribute to the upkeep and attractiveness of the campus and buildings.

Schedules of work will be posted daily. Assignments will not be traded with another. Chores are to be completed before dinner daily.

Each student must have a laundry basket and do his/her own laundry.



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**14. WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY PROCEDURES**

Dormitories close for Christmas break and Summer break. You must sign out and be picked up by 6:00 p.m. on Friday prior to these breaks. Return time is generally Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Students may not spend the night with school friends.

**15. LEAVING CAMPUS**

One is only allowed to leave campus with individuals specified on the authorization form signed by parents or guardians. Only parents, guardians, or close relatives may check a student out. Carpooling, however, is encouraged.

Return time must be at 6:00 p.m. on return day unless prior arrangements are made.

Special arrangements may be made for out-of-state students and international students.

**16. TELEPHONE**

Dormitory parents answer the phone. Only local, collect, and credit card calls may be made by students. Any call that results in a charge to the dormitory must be paid for. Only calls from parents will be accepted after bed time.

Dorm parents will contact your parents in time of emergencies.

At present, cell phone service is not available in our area.

**17. MEDIA PLAYERS, SMART PHONES, PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Central to our mission is your education. Dorm parents control Internet access and media viewing in the dormitories. Should you be required to view a program or movie for a class assignment, a dorm parent will assist you. All students are expected to consider others when utilizing personal media devices.

Remember that we are a Christian school and dormitory. We seek a spiritually healthy environment that glorifies the Lord. Playing or sending vulgar, garish, tawdry, or offensive media is not allowed. Dorm parents are responsible for enforcing this rule. Such music and materials will be confiscated and not returned. Parents or guardians will be notified.

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**18. ROOM, FURNISHINGS, AND SUPPLIES**

Our dormitories are open because alumni, supporters, and United Methodists choose to give. They give monetary donations as well as donations of time, labor, and supplies. For example, renovations to the dormitories and their modernization are the direct result of the benevolence and love of supporters across the nation.

Staff and students hold a special duty to preserve and protect our facilities and their contents. We are obligated to take great care throughout the dorms.

Your role includes keeping your room clean, neat, and free of damage. You are responsible for damages you cause and must recompense the dormitory program. Your parents will be billed. A damage deposit is required with the initial dormitory payment. It will be returned when you leave the dorm if there are no damages for which you are responsible.

Room checks are made by dorm parents each and every weekday morning. The check includes all storage areas including bureaus and closets. Unmade beds, dirty floors, clutter, and dirty bathrooms will be noted. These must be remedied during free time.

You will be given a key to your room. A \$5 charge will be made for a lost key. A \$10 charge will be made for a key not returned at the end of your stay.

You will need 3 bath towels, 2 hand cloths, 3 wash cloths, and two sets of twin-size bed linens. You may provide your own pillow.

Dorm room walls must be clean and free of clutter. With permission, posters and Christian crosses may be placed on walls. If you need assistance, let a dorm parent know.

To be good stewards of money and energy, windows may not be open while the air conditioning or heat is turned on.

**19. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY OF DORM PARENTS**

Our dormitory staff and administrators are charged with enforcement of all state and federal regulations regarding residential dormitories. Therefore, WE MAY ENTER ANY ROOM WITHOUT NOTICE AT ANY TIME TO CONDUCT SEARCHES.

**20. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

Strictly forbidden are alcoholic beverages, drugs, smoking materials, drinking, drug use, and use of tobacco in any form. Profanity, verbal, physical or relational bullying are also forbidden—even on social media. This rule applies to the entire Red Bird Mission campus.

Violations of these rules will result in immediate referral to the Head of School and/or Executive Director for disciplinary action and possible expulsion.

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**21. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS RULES**

No pets are allowed.

Disrespect, insubordination, or violence toward students, staff, teachers, and administrators are forbidden.

Prescription medications will be placed in the care of the dorm parents. Prescriptions and over the counter medicines must not be kept in the room. These will be dispensed by the dorm parents only.

There will be no soliciting in the dorms except for items authorized by the school for fundraising projects.

No ordering of merchandise while in the dorm will be allowed without permission of the dorm parents and your parent/guardian.

Appliances such as refrigerators, grills, microwaves, televisions, etc., are not permitted in the rooms.

Lighters, candles, incense, and potpourri are not allowed in the rooms.

Kitchen and dining room supplies must be left in the kitchen or dining room.

**22. PAYMENTS**

To continue in the dorm, payments must be up to date.

You will need some personal spending money for snacks, personal items, field trips, and so on.

**23. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Should you encounter a problem related to the dormitory program, you may take the following steps to seek a solution. The first step is to discuss the issue with dormitory parents. Should the issue not be resolved at this level, you may take the second step which is to discuss the problem with the Head of School. Should you not receive a satisfactory solution at this level, you may direct your concern in writing to the Executive Director. Finally, you may appeal to the Chairperson of the Education Committee of the Board which shall consider the grievance and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

You shall not take your grievances to individual Board members outside of this process and individual Board members shall have no authority to impose a solution apart from this process.

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**24. RULE OF “LOCO PARENTIS”**

The rule of loco parentis (Latin) means that school officials act in place of parents while students are in their care. That is, our dorm parents, teachers, and Head of School may act in any way that your actual parents/guardians may act on your behalf and in all dealings with you.

Dorm parents “take the place of” your parents in the eyes of the law while you are under our supervision. This right extends to dorm parents, Head of School, teachers, administrators, and the Executive Director of Red Bird Mission.

We reserve the right to act in any way to ensure the smooth running of our dormitories; to protect the health, safety, and well-being of yourself and others; and to maintain an orderly and safe environment in our dormitories, on our campus, and in our Red Bird Christian High School.

**25. ENTREATY**

We pray that you will heed the call of God in your life; that you will prepare diligently for entry into a university, seminary, or the world of work; that you will deport yourself with dignity and grace; that you will develop spiritually as well as intellectually for lifetime of service to others in the building of God’s Kingdom.

May you ever follow in the footsteps of Jesus: “And He said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” Luke 9:23.

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps.” 1 Peter 2:22.