

# The Bridge Homeschool Co-op

## Vision, Mission, and Values Statement

### OUR VISION AND MISSION

The Bridge Homeschool Co-op (BHC) is a ministry of The Bridge Church that endeavors to support homeschooling families and provide academically challenging opportunities in an environment where we help to “train up a child in the way he should go,” Proverbs 22:6.

BHC exists to build a community of homeschooling families that supports each other in our calling of teaching and instilling a lifelong love of learning in our children. Our goal is to provide educational experience in small class settings with parents working cooperatively to fulfill the many different roles required. To foster the community, we truly need “all hands on deck.” Parents/responsible parties with children participating in any morning classes must remain on BHC premises for the entire morning. Lunchtime and elective period participation is optional, but children must have onsite supervision.

### OUR VALUES:

#### CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

BHC operates from a distinctly Christian perspective. Students explore the intersection of faith and academics, learning to better understand and articulate what they believe.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

BHC is a Christian, conservative ministry. Our leaders and teachers are required to teach from a perspective that honors the basic tenets of the Christian faith and ascribe to a Christian worldview. However, our courses are not designed or taught from a particular denominational viewpoint or the viewpoint of a particular political party. One of our primary goals is to help parents raise their students to be godly, thinking individuals. We desire students to learn to think for themselves and critically assess all sides of any issue from a biblical perspective.

#### STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY

In an effort to maintain a safe and educationally effective environment, BHC expects students to be respectful and obedient as outlined in the Student Commitment Form. Disciplinary issues will be handled according to the Matthew 18 paradigm:

- The teacher will address the disciplinary issue with the student.
- In the event the issue is not resolved, the teacher will speak to the student and his/her parent/responsible party in the presence of a leadership team member.
- Should the issue persist, the leadership team will address the issue with the teacher, parent/responsible party, student, and guiding pastor, which could lead to dismissal from the co-op.

## **ADDITIONAL DOCTRINAL DISTINCTIVES**

In addition to the above statements, we teach the following:

- **CREATION:** We endorse and teach the theory of “Young Earth” Creation which holds that God created heaven and earth and everything in them in six twenty-four-hour days between 6,000 and 10,000 years ago, as described in Genesis 1-11.
- **MARRIAGE:** We believe in God’s definition of marriage from the Bible as the loving commitment between one man and one woman for a lifetime, as long as both parties are alive, Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19: 4-6. Along with defining marriage, God also provides boundaries and definitions for the two genders who were both created in His image and are immutable, Genesis 1:27, Romans 1:18-31.

**VALUE OF LIFE:** Human life begins at the moment of conception, must be protected, and has value at every stage. Each person has been made under the direct supervision of and with purpose by our loving heavenly Father, Psalm 139:13-16.

These statements define the beliefs of the leadership of BHC. We acknowledge that well-intentioned people may hold differing opinions on some or all of these statements. In order to preserve and protect the integrity of BHC, we require that all teachers and volunteers agree to enthusiastically teach and promote the above statements within BHC environments.

**I have read, understand, and agree to honor the BHC Vision, Mission, and Values Statement.**

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Signature of parent/responsible party

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Date