



Athletic Handbook

2018-2019

The Fortune Academy

5626 Lawton Loop East Drive Indianapolis, IN 46216

Phone: 317-377-0544 Fax: 317-845-4285

www.thefortuneacademy.org

Dear Parents, Students, and Coaches,

This handbook outlines the philosophy and reflects the policies of the Fortune Academy Athletic Program for the 2017-2018 school year. Please read this document carefully, sign the attached agreement, and return it to school before attending the first practice date. The agreement states that you intend to abide by the policies of the Fortune Academy Athletic Program during the 2017-2018 school year.

The Fortune Academy athletic program was established to serve the needs of all students, enabling the gifted to excel and others to participate and improve. Athletes and teams do not receive special attention, but are taught the values of sharing the spotlight and enabling their teammates to fully participate, sharpen their skills and experience a healthy pride and self-worth that athletic improvement and success can bring.

The principles of fair play and sportsmanship must govern every practice and game. All participants should have the respect of others on their own team and the opposing team. Competitors should regard the opposition as friends not enemies. A student athlete is expected to represent Fortune Academy, his/her family, and the community in a positive manner. They must follow the code of conduct set forth by the administration and coaches that is described in this handbook.

Ultimate responsibility for the success of Fortune Academy Athletics lies with the adult participants i.e. coaches, parents, and other volunteers. Adults involved must remember that the program exists for the overall growth of young people.

Sincerely,

Ryan Demos

Athletic Director

Fortune Academy Athletics

Mission Statement of the Fortune Academy:

The mission of Fortune Academy is to be a comprehensive school dedicated to educating and equipping students with language learning differences to become competent and confident lifelong learners. The school is designed to provide an environment that nurtures each child's development, builds upon his/her individual strengths, and offers remediation in areas of weakness.

Mission Statement of the Fortune Academy Athletics Program:

The mission of Fortune Academy Athletics is to provide the best opportunity for student athletes to excel in teamwork, sportsmanship, self-discipline and moral character. The program is designed to allow any student who wishes to participate a chance to be a part of a team and enrich their educational path by building confidence, developing athletic skills, providing athletic opportunities, fostering an initiative to succeed, providing leadership experience as well as numerous opportunities for self-discipline.

Fortune Academy Sanctioned Sports:

During the fall season Fortune Academy provides a girl's volleyball team for students 12 years and older as well as a coed cross country team for students in 3rd grade through high school. The winter season provides two boys' basketball teams; one for 6th-8th graders and one for 9th-12th graders. There is also a co-ed cheerleading team during the winter season for students 12 years old and up. The final season of the school year is in the spring and Fortune hosts a co-ed track team for students in 8th grade through high school and a golf team for students in 9th -12th grade.

Fortune Academy Athletics

Fortune Academy Athletics General Information:

1. Fortune Academy has a “no-cut” policy. All team members will dress for games.
2. Being a member of Fortune Athletics is a commitment. Attending all practices and games is required. Quitting a team any time during the season is strongly discouraged. Reentry the following year to the same athletic sport will be by petition to the Athletic Director and Administration.
- 2A. While we encourage our student athletes to participate in many different after school activities, sporting events such as practices and games take priority over ALL other after school activities, with exception of theater productions and Robotics club.
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct: If an athlete is ejected or disqualified from a contest for any unsportsmanlike conduct there will be a conference with the School Administration and team coach on the following school day. Each case will be handled on its own merits with discipline being set by the specific case.
4. Any athlete caught possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, tobacco products, or any illegal substance will result in expulsion from the athletic program for the remainder of the season, in addition to the policies set forth and explained fully in the Fortune Academy Parent and Student Handbook.
5. Any student that engages in bullying behaviors will be suspended from play until a conference with the School Administration and team coach has taken place. Each case will be handled on its own merits with discipline being set by the specific case.
6. All school owned athletic equipment and uniforms issued are the responsibility of the athletes. An athlete will pay for any damaged equipment or uniforms not returned at the end of the season.

7. Athletes may be required to purchase personal items such as pants, shoes, cleats, etc. Coaches will determine required items.

*Additional rules may be instated as deemed necessary by the coaches with approval by administration.

Fortune Academy Athletics

Fortune Academy Eligibility Rules:

In order to be eligible to represent Fortune Academy in interschool athletics, you:

1. Must have a contract with Fortune Academy for the current school year.
2. Must be 12 years old or older (unless running cross country, then 4th grade and up)
3. Must attend 10 individual days of organized practice with Fortune Academy coaching staff before playing in an inter school match.
4. Must have had a physical examination between May 1st and your first practice, and have it filed with the Fortune Academy Athletic Department.
5. Must not show discredit to Fortune Academy or bring about negative influence on the moral, discipline, or good order of the educational environment at Fortune Academy.
6. Must show written consent from a physician stating ability to participate if you miss five or more days due to illness or injury.
7. Students must remain eligible to participate in sports by maintaining **GOOD STANDING IN ALL ACADEMIC CLASSES!** Students demonstrate good standing by turning in all homework, and meeting daily Fortune Academy academic standards in each class. Coaches and the Athletic Director will check student-athlete academic classes every Friday to determine if the student athlete is eligible and maintaining good standing in all classes.
8. Must follow all Fortune Academy rules and policies.
9. Must actively participate in all practices determined by coach.
- 9A. Fortune Academy operates on a 3 strikes and you're out policy for missing practices or meets/games.
 - 1st unexcused miss of athletic event----- email communication to parents

- 2nd unexcused miss of athletic event-----1 game suspension; athlete works for coach and helps team in other ways
- 3rd unexcused miss of athletic event-----Removal from team

10. Must contact coach if you will be absent from practice or contests. Any absences not given prior notification will count as unexcused. Three unexcused absences will result in removal from the team.

11. Must be in attendance the final 3 periods of class the day of the athletic contest in order to participate in that day's contest.

Parent Communication

Coaches will communicate with you via email every Thursday regarding what the schedule looks like for the next week. If you have any questions or concerns, please email the coach first. If they cannot assist you, the athletic director will be more than glad to help.

Also, before each sports season we will host a parent information night. This meeting will last about 25-30 minutes long and simply cover important information regarding the sports being offered. Parents will be allowed to meet the coaches and ask any questions they might have. They also will be able to pick-up necessary paperwork required to play sports.

Parent Athletic League (P.A.L)

Fortune Academy athletics is growing and we need help in order to maintain our growth. We are looking for parents to assist in all home sporting events. Parents in the PAL would assist with the following:

- Running the Concession Stand at Home meets
- Keeping accurate inventory of concessions
- Loading and unloading the coolers into the school van for transportation on basketball home games.
- Taking entry fee money for home athletic contests

Fortune Academy Athletics

Fortune Academy Athletics Uniforms and Fees:

To participate on any athletic team there is a fee that ranges from \$100-\$125 depending on the sport that goes to cover the costs of equipment/uniform maintenance, officials/tournament fees, transportation, and other costs associated with running an athletic program. **Once a student has participated in one sport for the year and choose to be a part of another team there will be associated additional fees.** All student athletes are expected to be picked up at the designated end of practice time. If parents do not pick up their student at the given time a late fee will be charged \$10 for every ten minutes late. (Financial Aid is available to those who qualify.)

- Volleyball- \$125
- Cross Country- \$100
- Basketball- \$125
- Golf- \$125
- Track and Field- \$100
- Cheerleading- \$100

Also, each sport will be required to participate in 1 fundraiser to help Fortune Academy offset costs associated with athletics. The fundraisers will be put on by the athletic director and coaches.

There may be items required by the coach to purchase for players.

Volleyball players are required to purchase a pair of black volleyball spandex shorts with a minimum of a 4 inch inseam, or plain black gym shorts as part of their uniform for games as well as knee pads and appropriate footwear for playing.

Cross Country runners are required to have appropriate footwear for running outdoors.

Basketball players are required to have appropriate footwear for playing.

Cheerleaders are required to purchase black/white leggings or spandex to wear under their cheer skirts as well as appropriate footwear.

Track runners are required to purchase appropriate footwear for running outdoors as well as under shirts/pants for cold weather if necessary.

Golf team members must purchase the fortune golf shirt to participate in matches and provide their own set of clubs. Golfers must also pay for their own greens fees and driving range buckets during practice.

All other parts of the sports uniforms are provided by the school during the season and must be returned at the end of the season. **If a uniform is NOT returned or is damaged, Fortune Academy will bill the family the cost of the uniform.**

Optional:

Fortune Academy may provide some optional athletic wear that can be purchased on the school website and worn to school on Friday or days that your team has a contest.

* The golf team has an optional purchase of a Fortune golf hat as part of their uniform.

Fortune Academy Athletics

Parent Volunteer Opportunities:

During the school year there are several opportunities for parents to volunteer during athletic events.

Volleyball home games will need volunteers to run the concession stand/admission. Someone to run the scoreboard and keep the scorebook as well as line judges.

Cross Country meets can use volunteers to help with timing and overall supervision of athletes during a contest.

Basketball home games will need a scoreboard person and a book person. We will also have concession/admission at home games. For junior high when playing at IBA they usually ask for scoreboard help or book help.

Track meets can also use volunteers to help with timing and supervision of athletes.

All volunteers will get credit for service hours to the school.

- If you are interested in being a volunteer assistant coach in any sport please contact the athletic director for more information.

Fortune Academy Athletics

Fortune Academy Coaches Code of Conduct:

Guiding our teams are dedicated coaches who are experts in working with athletes who have learning differences.

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times.

- The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, will never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
- The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
- The coach will not use alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
- The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school mission.
- The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members.
- The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.
- The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
- The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.
- The coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student special consideration.
- The coach shall work with the athletic director and administration in any case of discipline involved with a student athlete. Communication is essential.
- The coach is responsible for all student athletes on their team during practices and contests and shall provide supervision during these times until athletes are dismissed to parents/guardians or if of age their own recognizance.
- The coach shall contact parents/guardians of students when they are late to pick up and record the time of actual pick up and report it to the business office for billing.
- The coach shall contact the athletic director if they are unable to attend a practice or contest due to illness or other matters within 24 hours so that a replacement or decision to cancel can be made accordingly.

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Fortune Academy Athletics Awards:

Varsity Letter

A varsity letter is earned through hard-work, determination, and meeting the necessary requirements of participation. A letter is a significant recognition of achievement, the standards of which are as follows:

1. The athlete must have followed all rules and regulations of the sport.
2. The athlete must be an active member of the team and show unselfish cooperation and good spirit both in practice and in contests.
3. If an athlete began the season with a team, but due to an injury received while competing or during practice could not continue with the team, the athlete may be recommended for a letter by the coach.
4. If a student quits, is suspended, or is put on probation for disciplinary reasons, or otherwise becomes ineligible during the season, the student may forfeit any letter awards.
5. Student athletes are expected to represent their school well by following all school policies in school as well as at the location of their sport. If students fail to meet these expectations they may forfeit any letter awards.
6. On the year of receiving a 2nd Varsity letter award athletes will earn the right to purchase and wear a Letterman Jacket.

Pin

Every student who begins and ends a sports season in a particular sport will be awarded that sports' pin.

Chevron

Student athletes who earn a varsity year of experience in a certain sport will earn a chevron. Athletes must play in at least half of the varsity sporting contests and be in good standing at the end of the sports season. Coaches along with the athletic director make the final decisions on who earns a chevron. Students can earn a varsity letter in the following sports:

- Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Basketball
- Track and Field
- Golf

Scholar Athlete

A scholar athlete award is earned through hard-work, determination and finding a balance between extra-curricular activities and school work.

1. Athletes must maintain a 3.5 GPA during the season.

Participation Awards

For student athletes that participate in elementary athletics a participation award will be given.

Sports Awards Night

Fortune Academy will hold a sports award program in May of each year to honor all student athletes.

Fortune Academy Athletics Signature Sheet

Please sign and return to the athletic director before the first official practice of the sport you are participating in.

I _____ acknowledge that I have read and understand the Fortune Academy Athletic Handbook and agree to follow all rules set forth by the Athletic Department and Fortune Academy.

(Student Athlete's Signature)

(print name)

I _____ acknowledge that I have read and understand the Fortune Academy Athletic Handbook and agree to hold my student athlete accountable to all rules set forth by the Athletic Department and Fortune Academy.

(Parent Signature)

(print name)

Fortune Academy Athletics Signature Sheet

Please sign and return to the athletic director before the first official practice of the sport you are participating in.

I _____ acknowledge that I have read and understand the Fortune Academy Athletic Handbook and agree to follow all rules set forth by the Athletic Department and Fortune Academy.

(Coach's Signature)

(print name)