



Hilger Higher Learning Handbook 2026-2027 (Little Hilger)

This handbook has been compiled for Hilger Higher Learning families. We hope it will help you learn more about our program, policies, guidelines and overall structure.

Contact Information

Physical Meeting Address:

Brainerd Hills Baptist Church

6611 E. Brainerd Rd. Chattanooga, TN 37421

Little Hilger Director Phone number: 423.902.1440

Big Hilger Front Office Phone: 423.987.4276

Email: HilgerHigherLearningk12@gmail.com

Website: www.hilgerhigherlearning.com

Hours of Service: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm (closed on Friday)

Business Mailing Address:

Hilger Higher Learning, Inc.

412 E. and West Road, Lookout Mountain, TN 37350

This handbook serves as a guide to the students and parents of Hilger Higher Learning. We encourage our parents and students to view this handbook as a tool that gives direction on how to be appropriate and positive representatives of HHL, especially in terms of modeling Christ-like behavior. We encourage you not to view this as a rule book that is used to “keep students in line;” rather it is meant to provide general guidelines for them as they thoughtfully consider their role at HHL as image-bearers of God. Students and parents agree to the policies contained herein by signing the application form for acceptance into HHL.

Furthermore, by receiving this you understand that failure of the student and/or parent/guardian to comply with the standards, payment guidelines, criteria, terms and conditions, set forth on your application form and in this handbook, may result in the student being dismissed from his/her enrollment

at Hilger. You also understand that your child is attending classes at Living Word Fellowship or Brainerd Hills Baptist at his/her own risk. In receiving this, you will not hold Hilger Higher Learning, Inc., Living Word Fellowship, Brainerd Hills Baptist, or any teacher or employee affiliated with Hilger Higher Learning, Inc. liable in any way.

-Eddy and Carlee Hilger, co-founders

Philosophy

Higher Higher Learning is led by qualified teachers and an administration committed to supporting your child's education through a variety of homeschool classes in Chattanooga. It is our goal to reinforce the biblical values being taught at home while providing a quality education. Although the parent is not the teacher of the courses we offer, the parent maintains authority over their child's learning and is responsible for holding their child accountable for completed assignments and preparing for tests/quizzes/labs. Our teachers simply serve as support for the parents who have chosen to educate their child through the home.

Vision

Hilger Higher Learning aims to support the continuing education of homeschool children in the greater Chattanooga area, through a variety of classes based on a biblical worldview. Our classes are designed to enhance and help the home-education process, while you and your child still have the freedom and flexibility home-education provides. We are merely a support to what you are doing in the home.

Our Partnership

We believe in the primacy of the parent as educator and the home as the center of education and relationship. We also believe the Lord provides spiritually gifted teachers as a resource to His people. Hilger collaborates with parents to create an educational hybrid which strengthens home-education. Hilger Higher Learning is a distinctly Christian tutorial program providing quality educational classes from a biblical perspective for children of Christian families. Our classes and extracurricular activities supplement and complement the work of parents in educating their children. We come alongside families in the Chattanooga area, to serve and support them in the wonderful endeavor of homeschooling.

Facility Stewardship

All students are expected to use our facility as carefully as they would any other public or private building. Any abuse of the building, equipment, or fixtures will require immediate correction.

Guidelines

All parents and students are required to meet the following guidelines:

- At least one parent or guardian must profess faith in Jesus Christ and be in regular attendance at a local Christian church.
- The student must conduct himself/herself in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.
- The parent must be involved in every subject the student takes from HHL.

- The student should complete all homework on a consistent basis, unless the parent has discussed variations with the teacher.
- The student should not have excessive absences, unless discussed with the teacher.

Matthew 18 Principle

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.” Matthew 18:15-17

Students and families should love and honor one another by not participating in gossip or slander. Conflicts and disagreements should be promptly handled with love, honesty, humility, and direct communication. If an issue comes up in class, please contact your child’s teacher first. If further communication is needed, or you would like to talk to the director, Jessica Jones, please contact her directly.

Discipline

Correction is mandated by God through scripture for conduct that is unacceptable according to set standards. The ultimate goal for students is that they become self-correcting because they are truly committed to doing the will of the Father. We will work with you, the main and final human authority in your student’s life, should a disciplinary situation arise.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent, or you know they will be absent in the future, please contact your child’s teacher in a timely manner.

Financial Information & Policies

Per your signature and initials on your student’s application form, you have a binding agreement with Hilger Higher Learning and are committed to the following:

Tuition Payments and Fees

- All invoices are due upon receipt and considered late if HHL has not received your payment by the 20th day of the month.
- A \$20.00 late fee will be added to each overdue monthly bill on the 21st of the month.
- If a check is returned for any reason, a \$45 charge will be applied to your invoice.
- Unless you specify otherwise, we will charge your card on file for all withdrawal fees. The card on file is the one you use to pay the application fees.

- If your account is not paid in full by the end of each semester, HHL will withhold your student's grades. Furthermore, HHL reserves the right to inform your umbrella school of your student's incomplete grade if deemed necessary.
- If your account becomes overdue by 2 months or more, you will be responsible for all late fees and collections fees if you are delinquent in paying. Also, interest at 1% per month will be charged if your balance becomes over 60 days past due. Further, you agree to pay all legal fees, costs, and expenses associated with collecting your balance and any other efforts Hilger Higher Learning makes to enforce the terms of our application agreement/contract. If your invoice has not been paid and your bill is 75 days overdue, and you have a credit card or bank on file with us, you give us consent and the right to authorize and charge your card or bank accordingly. This is in conjunction with your signed agreement and binding contract (application).
- If your student is dismissed at any time of the year, all application fees and tuition payments will be forfeited.
- If you are a current HHL family, have an overdue account balance and are applying for the next school year, we will hold (and **not process**) your application **until you are current on your tuition invoices**. In other words, if you apply in March but have not yet paid February's tuition fees, we will NOT process your application until you've fully paid February's tuition fees.

If you have not paid the withdrawal fees by the due date, and if we have not heard from you after two attempts to contact you, or if you are non-compliant, we will charge your card on file for all withdrawal fees. Your card is on file from the application fees that you will pay today to submit this application.

Elementary Immersive Program and Extracurricular Day Withdrawal Fees

- If you withdraw your student AFTER June 1, you are responsible to pay a \$150 withdrawal fee.
- If you withdraw your student AFTER July 1, you are responsible to pay a \$250 withdrawal fee.
- If you withdraw your student AFTER August 1, you are responsible to pay a \$250 withdrawal fee plus the ENTIRE financial obligation of the fall semester and will be billed accordingly.
- If you are planning on finishing out the fall semester, but not returning in the spring, and you withdraw anytime before December 1, there is a \$250 withdrawal fee.
- If you withdraw your student AFTER December 1, you are responsible for the ENTIRE financial obligation of the spring semester and will be billed accordingly.

Weather

We encourage you to opt into receiving text messages via "Remind" text messaging. We notify all parents via Remind when there is a delayed or canceled day. All delayed and canceled classes will also be updated on our website's homepage (www.hilgerhigherlearning.com). We try to update this area around 11pm the night before and/or by 6:30am (if an update is necessary) the next morning. We also post our delayed/closed classes on our Facebook page at facebook.com/hhlearning. If you are coming from a treacherous area, and we are still holding class, please use caution and decide whether the risk involved is worth coming to class.

Social Media

Hilger Higher Learning has a social media presence on Instagram and Facebook. Please take advantage of those platforms so that you can stay informed. We have a general Hilger Higher Learning Facebook page, as well as a Hilger Higher Learning Parent Facebook page.

Lost and Found Box

There is a “Lost and Found” box in the supplies closet, where items are put when left in classrooms. If your son or daughter has lost an item at the church, please contact your child’s teacher. Hilger Higher Learning Satellite Campus is only open during class hours, which is Monday and Thursday (9:00am - 2:45pm). NOTE: We do not hold classes on Friday, and there is no HHL staff member at the church on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday.

Grades

Hilger does not provide a grading scale! We simply provide a “Grade level, Below Grade level, and Above Grade level” assessment at the end of each semester. Parents will receive the teacher’s evaluation and assessment of your child along with some personal comments at the end of each semester.

Thank you for taking the time to read the Hilger Higher Learning Handbook.