

# NHCS Service Learning

## Program Guidelines 2026-2027

Service is an essential part of Christian education and one of our school's Core Values. Scripture calls believers to fellowship with and serve one another. In order to encourage students to see the value and joy in serving, the following are guidelines for service learning hours for each student enrolled in the upper school:

Students may serve in a group or as individuals for hours. These hours added together should include at least the following hours:

Grades 5-6: 9 hours per year, which must include 3 or more per trimester

Grades 7-8: 15 hours per year, which must include 5 or more per trimester

Grades 9-12: 25 hours per year, which must include 10 or more per trimester ( 5 hours per trimester without Bible, 10 hours per trimester with Bible)

Community service completed during the summer (June-August) may be counted toward your service hours for the first trimester of the following school year as follows:

Grades 5-6: 2 hours from summer service will be counted in the first trimester.

Grades 7-8: 3 hours from summer service will be counted in the first trimester.

Grades 9-12: 5 hours from summer service will be counted in the first trimester.

*\*\*You may not carry over hours from one year to the next.\*\**

Service Learning forms will be sent to each student through their Service Learning Google Classroom (High School) and will also be available from their Bible teacher (Middle School).

At the end of each trimester, students will be required to turn in their service learning hour logs with reflection. **Reflections must be a paragraph of at least 5 sentences or more, a video, voice recording, or even a piece of art.**

Grade 5-8 can turn their service hour forms into their Bible teacher while Grades 9-12 need to submit their service hour forms through Google Classroom.

Service Learning grades for Middle School will be included in the students' Bible class grade. High School Students' hours will be reported on their transcripts as well as count as 50% of their final exam grade during the trimester with Bible.

High School students, please note that the total number of hours served during grades 9-12 will be indicated on official transcripts. As a result, we encourage you to log all of your service hours for scholarships, college admissions, and job benefits.

We encourage participation with local civic clubs, organizations, churches, or the school. If you

have difficulty in finding opportunities for community service, you should discuss your options of service with the Service Learning Coordinator.

1) *Approved Service Activities:*

- You are encouraged to engage in service that will allow you not only to serve but also to learn. Therefore, you are strongly encouraged to engage in activities that stretch you beyond your comfort zone.
- Refer to “Approved Service Activities & Ideas” for a list of activities that are already approved.
- All teacher-initiated service activities (i.e. assisting with athletics, school beautification, assisting a teacher, etc.) for North Hills are pre-approved.
- Many other activities are likely to be approved. Please get permission from the Community Service Coordinator when in doubt.

2) *Verification of Service:*

- You must obtain a document with a signature **OR** a name, email address, and phone number from the person you served or from the person who supervised the service. Please note: Parent signatures are not accepted as verification of service hours unless your parent is the official head of the organization. Do **NOT** wait until the last minute to try to collect signatures.

**Approved Service Activities & Ideas for Service** (Contact organizations in advance to ensure they are accepting volunteers)

- Contact a homeless shelter or food bank and discuss possible opportunities.
- Make kits with combs, toothbrushes, shampoo, etc. for homeless people and drop them off at a shelter.
- Organize a canned goods drive; donate the goods to a food pantry.
- Tutor younger students who need help in school.
- Help someone paint or repair their home or provide free childcare for those who cannot otherwise afford it.
- Volunteer at a nursing home, help an elderly individual with household activities.
- Ask the leaders in your church if they know of anyone in the church who has an unmet need that you can meet.
- Volunteer at a local humanitarian organization.
- Serve at NHCS by joining the Junior Civitan Club, volunteering at the annual Impact banquet, or contacting the Athletic Director to help at athletic events

# NHCS Community Service

## Service Verification Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Trimester \_\_\_\_\_

**Attention Service Supervisors** We want our students to make significant contributions to your organization. If you have any comments or concerns about a student, please do not hesitate to contact Shiree Gabelman ( Service Learning Coordinator) at sgabelman@northhillschristian.com.

| <b>Date of Activity</b> | <b>Activity Description</b> | <b>Agency Name</b> | <b>Verification:</b><br>1. -Supervisor Name<br>-Phone number<br>-Email address<br><b>OR</b><br>2. A document with signature from the Agency—please attach and upload to your Google Classroom | <b>Number of Hours</b> |
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|                         | (Do not leave blank) —>>    |                    | <b>Total Hours</b>                                                                                                                                                                            | _____                  |

Reflection: Choose one of your service experiences to explain (in 5 sentences or more) how what you did meaningfully reflects "Christ Likeness" to those you helped.

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