

GTA Student Expectations 2024-25



GT Academy Shared Beliefs

- We believe it is essential to create an engaging, safe and challenging environment that nurtures the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students.
- We must develop critically-thinking minds through rigor and authenticity of conceptual ideas and encourage students to take ownership of their inherent intellectual abilities and tendencies for leadership.
- Each teacher is instrumental as a facilitator and developer of meaningful, relevant, and integrated curriculum.
- It is our responsibility to provide abundant opportunities to foster a gifted and talented student's ability and to promote growth.
- Our obligation to struggling students is to quickly identify the underlying causes and intervene with support. Likewise, mistakes and struggles are opportunities for students to grow, not final measures.
- Parents, teachers, and the community must be active partners to provide accountability, support, and guidance to students.
- Communication and positive interaction are essential to the development of mutual trust among stakeholders.
- To be successful in a constantly evolving society, students need interpersonal skills to work in teams in multi-cultural, multi-lingual environments.
- Students need to be prepared for leadership roles in an increasingly complex and technological global society based on teamwork, contributions, creativity, and excellence.

GTA Website

- www.fortbendisd.com/gtacademy

GTA Twitter

- www.twitter.com/FBISD_GTA

GTA Leadership Team

Audra Ude, QVMS Principal
Joseph Bernhart, GT Academy Coordinator

Rachelle Wooten, 6th Grade Assistant Principal
Sunni Walter, 7th Grade Associate Principal
Joe Schulz, 8th grade Assistant Principal
Ed Connolly, GTA 6 Team Leader
TBD, GTA 7/8 Team Leader

Kafi Downs, 6th Grade Counselor (LEAD)
Danielle Henry, 7th Grade Counselor
Zorya Briggs, 8th Grade Counselor
Jose Doreen Lee, GTA 7 Team Leader
Jeanette Morales, GTA 8 Team Leader

Doreen Lee & Nasreen Momin, *Champion(s) of Gifted Services*

**This document can be viewed
FULL SIZE in the Grade Level
GTA Schoology course.**

**Grade 6 Join Code:
KK9J-JBC3-S7FD2**

Grades 7&8 are already registered for this course.

GT Academy Expectations, Probation, and Dismissal Procedures

Academy Expectations:

The GT Academy is a program of choice. Therefore, students enrolled in the program are held to higher standards. It is expected that students in the GT Academy represent QVMS and the academy in a positive and respectful manner.

I. Character and Community Interactions:

To establish a physically, emotionally, and intellectually safe environment, GTA students must uphold the highest standard for how they interact with one another. Behaviors that disrupt the learning and/or positive experience for other academy students will not be tolerated. Bullying, teasing, laughing at answers/ideas, excluding, dismissing, threatening, cyberbullying, and other hurtful behaviors will be investigated and handled on a case-by-case basis.

If a GT Academy student shows a pattern of negative character behaviors, interventions will be put in place to support this student's growth. However, should the pattern of behavior remain unchanged, the Academy Review Committee shall determine whether probation or dismissal will be recommended.

II. Behavior and Conduct (see "SAMPLE FORM A" below)

Discipline referrals (notification that a student is not following the FBISD Code of Conduct) are not acceptable for GT Academy students because they do not reflect the values and behavior expected of students in the Academy. It is recognized that students sometimes make mistakes. However, a pattern of behaviors that breach the code of conduct may result in probation or dismissal from the GT Academy.

Discipline referrals resulting in **In-School Suspension (ISS)** will be handled in the following manner:

- 1st Offense = official warning signed in student conference with Campus Administrator and GTA Coordinator.
- 2nd Offense = probation to remain in place for one academic year. Parent/Guardian and student required to sign an acknowledgment of consequences for further ISS referrals. Behavior action plan also issued by Academy Coordinator.
- 3rd Offense = discretionary removal from the academy at end of semester if so determined by Academy Dismissal Committee.
- 4th Offense = mandatory removal from the academy immediately.

Discipline referrals resulting in **Out of School Suspension (OSS)** will be handled in the following manner:

- 1st Offense = student placed on probation, signed in parent conference with Campus Administrator and GTA Coordinator.
- 2nd Offense = discretionary removal possible from the academy if so determined by Academy Dismissal Committee.
- 3rd Offense = mandatory removal from the academy immediately.

Referrals resulting in placement in the District Alternative Education Program (DAEP) will result in immediate removal from the academy and return to the zoned campus upon completion of the DAEP assignment.

Appeals to dismissal by the Academy Dismissal Committee must comply with Policy FNG (Local).

Note: *Campus Administration reserves the right to dismiss any student from the Academy at any time based on the severity of an infraction or pattern of infractions.*

III. Class Performance (see "SAMPLE FORM B" below)

For a multitude of possible reasons, students sometimes struggle to maintain acceptable grades. However, as a school of choice program, in alignment with Policy EGA-R, Academy students maintain certain standards for grades. Therefore, grade expectations have been put in place ensure student success and appropriate supports are provided.

Academy students must maintain a 70 or higher in all courses. If a student's grades fall below a 70 at a progress report, the student will be required to attend tutorials as outlined by the classroom teacher. In the event that a student fails to meet expectations at the end of a semester, he/she will be placed on probation for one semester and receive an academic plan of action. During the academic plan of action period, the Academy Coordinator will initiate supports designed to help improve the student's performance.

Two consecutive semesters below the standard will result in dismissal from the Academy and return to the zoned campus at the end of the semester in which the second violation occurs.

Failure to pass any course at the end of the academic year will result in a review by the Academy Review Committee to determine **probation** or **dismissal**.

Probation in the GT Academy is defined as notification and required interventions as outlined by the district administration. All probationary requirements will be implemented to improve student success in needed areas. The goal is to retain students, but, in the end, the onus to improve is on the student.

Dismissal is defined as removal from the academy program and return to the zoned campus. All dismissals will be approved by the Academy Review Committee. Appeals to dismissals decided by the Academy Review Committee must adhere to Policy FNG (Local).

IV. GT Academy Honor Code (see "SAMPLE FORM C" below)

As a GT Academy student, you join a community of learners who are committed to academic excellence. The faculty of the GT Academy at Quail Valley Middle School expect students to pursue their studies with integrity and honesty; therefore, all students should know that incidents of academy dishonesty are taken very seriously.

Interpretations of academic dishonesty may differ among individuals and groups. Therefore, the determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgement of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observations, information from students, or other evidence.

Cheating and plagiarizing are not only Honor Code violations, but are unacceptable behaviors that have moral and legal implications.

The following list identifies some infractions defined as academic dishonesty:

Cheating

- Copying, in part, or in whole, from someone else's test, homework, project;
- Altering or interfering with grading;
- Using, during a test or examination, any unauthorized source or digital device; using material not authorized by the teacher; accessing shared answers; or consulting others secretly or without permission .

Plagiarism

- Incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of another person's writing, without giving appropriate credit, and presenting the product as your own;
- Submitting a paper that was purchased from a research or term paper service, including the Internet; or undocumented web source usage.

Other Examples

- Allowing another student to copy your homework, or from your paper during a test, or examination;
- Giving your homework, essay, project, or other work to another student to copy;
- Altering a graded assignment or test after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading;
- Collaboration without permission from the teacher.
- Turning in work that is not your own, including work written by AI, not you.

Following Each Infraction:

- Student-teacher conference to complete the Academic Dishonesty Infraction Form (which includes parent signature). The student **must** re-do the assignment and will receive a grade reduction depending on the severity of the infraction. The student cannot earn greater than a 50 on any redone assignment on which the child was academically dishonest (daily or major).
- A completed copy of the Academic Dishonesty Form is provided to the student/parent, teacher, and GTA Coordinator.
- Every infraction after the first follows the same process. ***However, each subsequent offense will result in a disciplinary referral, and the student will now be subject to the procedures in place for Behavior & Conduct infractions*** (see Section II above).

V. Field Experiences:

Field Experiences (in-house or off-campus) are a required part of the GTA Curriculum. Students who have earned a discipline referral may not be allowed to attend a field experience following such a referral. ***Refunds will not be provided should a student miss a Field Experience due to a discipline referral.***

SAMPLE FORM A



Quail Valley Middle School
Fort Bend Independent School District
3019 FM 1092
Missouri City, TX 77459
281.634.3600

GTA Behavior Plan of Action (Probation)

In accordance with the G/T Academy expectations for behavior, the following student has been placed on behavioral probation at the G/T Academy.

Name: _____ ID: _____

Reason for Behavior Plan of Action/Probation (attach documentation as needed):

I understand that I am considered to be on a behavioral plan of action at the GT Academy until _____. The expectations will remain thereafter, but the terms of this plan will be adjusted at this time as needed.

As part of this plan of action, I will participate in the following:

The following actions will indicate a violation of this plan of action:

- Any discipline referral during this time frame.
- Failure to improve behavior in targeted area.
- Other: _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Administrator Signature _____ Date _____

Coordinator Signature _____ Date _____

CC: *Director of Gifted and Talented and QVMS Principal*

SAMPLE FORM B

Academic Plan of Action



Quail Valley Middle School
Fort Bend Independent School District
3019 FM 1092
Missouri City, TX 77459
281.634.3600

Academic Plan of Action

An expectation of a grade of 70 or above in all courses is required as put forth in the FBISD Academy Programs Overview (EGA-R) and as clarified in the GTA Handbook. However, we are aware that grades do not come easy for all students in all circumstances. Thus, this Academic Plan of Action exists to help students who are struggling achieve their potential.

According to policy, a student who earns below a 70 in any class will be placed on an academic plan of action. During this period, additional supports will be in place to support student success. The plan of action period will be one grading period. Upon completion of the plan of action period, the student will be released from this academic plan of action if passing all classes (with support as needed) **or continue on academic probation if still failing the class.**

Student: _____ Student ID: _____

Reason for Plan of Action: _____

I understand that I am on a Plan of Action until the end of this grading period. The terms of this plan of action include:

- **Beginning:** Meet with GTA Coordinator.
 - Discuss and note plan for academic success; set final meeting date.
- **During:** Attend tutorials once per week for any class that I did not earn a 70 or am at risk of not earning a 70.
 - Complete "Tutorial Log" on Academic Probation Form. *Teacher signatures required.*
- **During:** Complete grade check using Skyward for all Academy Classes.
 - Complete "Grade Check" on Academic Probation Form. *Teacher signatures required.*
- **End:** Attend a FINAL appointment with the GTA Coordinator. *Coordinator signature required.*
 - At this appointment, it will be determined if the plan has successfully intervened or if further action is needed. *Further action may include probation and/or consideration for dismissal from the program.*

Two consecutive semesters below standard will result in dismissal from the Academy. Failure to pass any course at the end of the academic year will result in a review by the Academy Review Committee to determine probation or dismissal.

I understand the terms of my plan of action are important and designed to help me succeed!

The plan of action review date will be: _____

Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Content Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

SAMPLE FORM C

Academic Dishonesty Infraction Form QVMS

Gifted and Talented Academy

GT Academy Honor Code

As a GT Academy student, you join a community of learners who are committed to academic excellence. The faculty of the GT Academy at Quail Valley Middle School expects students to pursue their studies with integrity and honesty; thus, incidents of academy dishonesty are taken very seriously.

Following Each Infraction:

- Student-teacher conference to complete the Academic Dishonesty Infraction Form
- The student will re-do the assignment (grade up to 50)
- *Every infraction after the first will follow the same process. However, each subsequent offense will result in a disciplinary referral and the student will now be subject to the procedures in place for behavioral violations (see Section II).*

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher _____ Class _____

Date of Infraction _____

Title of Assignment(s) _____

Description of Consequence:

Student must re-do the assignment and turn it into the teacher. The teacher will then assign a grade to the redone assignment (daily or major). The grade (up to 50) will be entered into the gradebook with comment (Academic Dishonesty Infraction).

Parents, please sign and return this form to the issuing teacher. This form will be kept on hand if infractions accumulate within the school year. Hopefully, they will not. Feel free to keep a copy for your records. A signed copy must be submitted to the GTA Coordinator.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

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GT Academy Expectations, Probation, and Dismissal Procedures

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PAGE

(Return only this page; keep the others for your records.)

Student Last Name _____ Student First Name _____

Student Grade _____

Spanish Teacher Name _____ Spanish Period _____

Our signatures acknowledge our understanding of the Academy-specific requirements outlined in the 2024-2025 GT Academy Student Expectations, including Probation and Dismissal Procedures.

Student's Printed Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date _____

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM TO
YOUR SPANISH TEACHER BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024.**