

Parent Code of Conduct Guidelines

Version 3 - 2024



ACS

Written By	Chief Executive Officer, Principal
Approved By	CEO
Date	3 July 2024
Relevant to	All Assyrian Christian Schools staff and parents
Related Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints and Grievance Policy • Discrimination, Harassment and Workplace Bullying Policy • Privacy Policy • Communications Policy • Staff Code of Conduct Policy • Working With Children Checks
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW) • The Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 • Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2000 • Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998 • Commission for Children and Young People Regulation 2009 • The Children’s Guardian Act 2019 • Education Act 1990 (NSW) as amended by the Education Amendment Government Schools Registration) Act 2004 (NSW) • Civil Liability Act 2002 • Age Discrimination Act 2004 (Cth) • Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW) • Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) • Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth) • Disability Inclusion Act 2014 (NSW) • Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth) • Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth)
Next Policy Review	2027

Parent Code of Conduct

Our Assyrian Christian Schools (ACS) community contains a wide variety of individuals and groups who work together to educate students to become confident, well-educated individuals prepared to contribute as global citizens, to work and live with others and to find satisfaction in their faith.

Parents are the first role models for children. The choices parents make, and the behaviours we exhibit, have a significant influence on our children. Our schools have a clear expectation of student conduct. Shared values and an understanding of behaviours enable a community to work and live together and share the fruits of positive collaboration.

This Parental Code of Conduct has been developed so that parents and those with parental responsibilities are aware of and meet ACS' standards with regard to their interaction with ACS, its teachers, other parents and students. Adherence to this Code is important to promote positive and productive relationships within our school community.

It is important to note that this Code of Conduct rarely needs to be acted upon. ACS prefers to ensure that parents and teachers can work harmoniously within our school community. This Code of Conduct relates to parents, grandparents, carers and other visitors to ACS (including volunteer roles) and attending off site school events.

ROLE OF ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS GENERALLY

- ACS is responsible for establishing and administering the policies, procedures and rules which govern the day-to-day operations of the school. It is important that parents recognise and respect this, adhere to and have their children adhere to ACS' requirements, and support these decisions.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

- ACS expects students to comply with its rules and not engage in behaviour which is harmful to others or is contrary to the ethos and philosophy of ACS. Parents are expected to support ACS in relation to its behaviour management and not do anything which undermines its authority. It must be understood that ACS will be the final arbiter of what takes place and resulting consequences after a detailed and documented process has taken place.

INTERACTION WITH STAFF

- ACS conducts regular meetings between staff and parents at which the student's progress can be discussed. There may be other times when a parent or staff member requests a meeting to discuss particular issues that may arise during the course of a student's schooling.

- If a parent wishes to meet with a staff member, they are required to make an appointment so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged. This can be done through the school administration office and/or ACS-sanctioned communication platforms.

- Parents may make an appointment to see a member of staff about any concerns relating to their child. Parents should never attempt to contact a staff member at their home.

- It is important that parents show respect for staff and not publicly criticise them or seek to undermine their authority. If a parent has a concern about a member of staff, they can raise it with the staff member concerned or with the Principal, as per the ACS Complaints and Grievance Policy.

- ACS has a duty of care to protect all staff and for this reason parents must maintain a respectful attitude and relationship with ACS staff.

COMPLAINTS

• If a parent has a complaint about a student issue, it should initially be directed to the staff member responsible for the area of activity. If the issue has not been addressed by the initial staff member, a parent may contact the student's KLA Coordinator/Year Coordinator/Grade Leader, then the Deputy Principal, then the Principal. ACS will work with the parents through a fair and proper procedure which involves giving all parties a reasonable opportunity to respond and reach a decision that is fair and correct and in line with ACS policies and procedures.

INTERACTIONS

- Parent communications whether verbal or written, with all members of the ACS community should:
 - > show respect, courtesy and consideration
 - > not harass, bully, or be confrontational towards another person on school grounds or at any school-related events
 - > advise the school of areas of potential conflict, such as parenting and family court orders in accordance with relevant laws.
 - > not approach or touch a student who is not a member of their immediate family. If a parent has a concern or issue regarding a student, they should raise this with the school and must not take matters into their own hands.

- When using social media, parents should ensure they:
 - > be respectful to staff, contractors, volunteers, other parents, and/or students
 - > not personally attack ACS, its staff or any members of the ACS community in a negative or defamatory way
 - > not use social media as a means to voice grievances about ACS
 - > post photographs of students in school uniform
 - > never disclose any confidential information of anyone within the ACS community to third parties without the individual's express consent
 - > contact students (other than their own) using any form of social media without the express consent of the student's parents.

SPORT AND OTHER EVENTS

- Parents are welcome to attend events and should ensure a positive approach is taken when supporting our school teams. In particular, a parent must not abuse, threaten or otherwise seek to intimidate an official, or be directed against a student, or any ACS representatives.
- School teams are selected based on the staff member's view of the most appropriate selection at that point in time. Parents are welcome to request feedback on how their child may improve and discuss their concerns however it is not appropriate for parents to complain to staff about the selections.

SEPARATED PARENTS

- Where some students have parents that are separated or divorced, parents should not attempt to involve the school in any parental dispute that may arise. ACS is not able to make judgements on the merits of claims made by one parent against another and should not be asked to do so. Nor should it be asked to take any action which would or is designed to disadvantage one party. ACS will work with parents to observe any orders made by a Court in relation to a student or communications with parents.

FINANCE

- Any financial issues are to be directed to the Assyrian Christian Schools Ltd Finance Department, which can be contacted on 9753 4185.

FAILURE TO OBSERVE THIS CODE

- Please note, in the worst-case scenario, where a parent is unable to observe this Code, ACS may:
 - > limit parent access to a teacher or teachers
 - > limit parent access to the school premises or other school events
 - > terminate the enrolment of the student(s).
- ACS prefers to focus on positive parental relationships, aligning with ACS' faith and vision, and supporting our core values of integrity, sincerity and allegiance.
- We value our parent community at Assyrian Christian Schools and thank you for your continued support. Together we will make a real difference to our students' future.



ACS

ASSYRIAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School

7-9 Greenfield Road, Greenfield Park NSW, 2176

Phone (02) 8769 4000

Email admin@shaps.nsw.edu.au

www.sthurmizd.nsw.edu.au

St Narsai Assyrian Christian College

217 Horsley Road, Horsley Park NSW, 2175

Phone (02) 8818 1300

Email info@stnarsai.nsw.edu.au

www.stnarsai.nsw.edu.au