

Ankeny Christian Academy Code of Conduct for Students

Obedience, respect, and responsibility are key virtues that students must develop. Obedience to rules and guidelines is essential to the development of maturity. (Luke 2:51, Hebrews 5:8). It results in genuine freedom in life (John 8:32). Respect is necessary for all successful and meaningful relationships (Luke 10:36-37, Romans 12:18). And the building of personal responsibility fosters a sense of achievement. Both responsibility and achievement are necessary ingredients to the development of self-worth (1 Corinthians 10:31, Ecclesiastes 9:10, Romans 14:12).

As we seek to provide a balanced and disciplined learning environment for the students of Ankeny Christian Academy, we realized that human wisdom falls short of God's standards. We do not claim to be perfect in all of our decisions, but we do try our best to discipline in a way that is biblical and pleasing to God. As partners in the discipline process, it is important that the school and the home work corporately for the student's good. Since we teach the students to obey and submit to their parents, it is imperative that parents maintain that continuity by upholding and teaching the principles taught at school. We can instill in students proper Christian educational and moral principles only through a program that includes clear disciplinary procedures, and as students and parents, your cooperation in that program is crucial. (Please be aware that the administration reserves the right to make discipline decisions on an individual basis.)

Our goal should always be to obey the Scripture that says, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Colossians 3:17, NIV). In the best interest of the entire school community certain guidelines of conduct must be maintained by all students of Ankeny Christian Academy, both on and off campus throughout the entire calendar year, so that we might all live and work happily together.

These general guidelines for student conduct are listed below:

- 1.) Practice courtesy and consideration in your association with teachers, school employees, fellow students, and visitors. Respect their person and property. (See Ephesians 4:28-32.)
- 2.) Respect the authority of teachers, administrators, and staff members, and treat them courteously, respectfully, and obediently as unto the Lord. (See Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13.)
- 3.) Abstain both on and off campus and at all times from the use or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, drugs, and pornography as well as from gambling and other undesirable practices that are generally recognized to be harmful to health and Christian character. (See 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.)
- 4.) Abstain from profanity and vulgar or abusive speech, writing, and actions. Such speaking and acting is harmful to others and is certainly not appropriate or conducive to your moral and spiritual development. (See Ephesians 4:29.)
- 5.) Refrain from public display of affection. As students, you are expected to conduct yourselves in a discreet and Christian manner.
- 6.) Leave all dangerous or presumed dangerous items such as knives, water pistols, guns, lighters, and matches at home.
- 7.) Do your own work—do not give or receive help on quizzes or tests unless the teacher has granted this privilege on a particular project. Your record should reflect your individual effort. Since honesty is a Christian virtue that should be displayed by all students, we consider cheating a serious offense. During a test, quiz, or exam, it is your responsibility to avoid every appearance of cheating. All books and papers must be out of sight. No talking is allowed. In fact, talking during a quiz or test may be dealt with in the same matter as cheating.
- 8.) Do not plagiarize; this is a serious offense. The definition of plagiarism is the "use of another writer's ideas or words without giving the writer credit for them."
- 9.) Use of personal electronic communication devices (including but not limited to CD/MP3 players, Ipods, hand held games) and laser pointers are not allowed during school hours. At the discretion of official school personnel further restrictions may be added for school events.
- 10.) Pagers and cell phones are to be turned off and kept in the students' vehicles or lockers. Students are not allowed to use cell phones during school hours. Cell phone use off campus for school events will only be allowed at the discretion of official school personnel and restrictions may be added.
- 11.) No personal computers are allowed to be used at school; exceptions may be approved for educational accommodations by the Administrator. Students need to be aware that bringing personal computers to school is their responsibility and ACA is not responsible for any damage or theft.
- 12.) Students' various electronic communications (i.e. text messages, instant messaging, personal blogs, web sites, or other communication methods) will have an appropriate Christian testimony through their conveyed words, photos, videos, and other items contained within these communications.
- 13.) The Code of Conduct for students applies on all field trips and on all school-sponsored events both on the school campus and away from it.