

2021-22 Handbook



EAGLE'S NEST

American Christian Academy

Welcome Letter

Dear ACA Families,

We count ourselves blessed to be homeschooling in community with you. This extension campus of American Christian Academy in Sonoma County is in its third year, and the Lord is graciously sustaining us with a growing number of dedicated families. We maintain an attitude of gratitude for what God has done.

Please keep this community in prayer as we seek to please our Heavenly Father with how we cooperatively run this program. Prayerfully consider the section “Who We Are in Community.” We are thrilled that God has placed you “in this boat” to journey with us as we home educate the precious children the Lord has blessed us with.

We know that our Lord is before ALL things and in HIM, all things hold together. (Colossians 1:17) We are prayerful for a nearly normal school year together where we can truly enjoy the gift of community!

Respectfully,
The Leadership Team



March 2021

About ACA Sonoma County's Eagles' Nest	3
Our Mission	3
Statement of Belief	3
Who We Are in Community Fellowship	4
Staff	4
Leadership Council	4
Eagle's Nest- Community Day Classes	5
Community Day Cooperative Program	5
Community Day Background Check Requirement	5
Community Day Student Dress & Conduct Code	6
On Campus, We Are:	8
Resources	9
Website – acasc.net	9
Student Records	9
Forms	9
School Calendar	9
Weekly News E-mails	9
Parent Support Meetings	9
Social and Educational Opportunities	10
Eagles' Nest Member Requirements & Fees	10
Enrollment	10
Eagles' Nest Fees	10
Recordkeeping	11
High School Learning Journals	11
Withdrawal	12
Parent - Student Contract	13

About ACA Sonoma County's Eagles' Nest

Our Mission

ACA EXISTS TO SUPPORT PARENTS WHO PURPOSE TO LEAD THEIR CHILDREN IN THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF CHRISTIAN LIFE AND LIVING, SELF-EDUCATION, AND INDIVIDUAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.



ACA- Sonoma County desires to serve Christian families in maintaining Christ-centered, biblically focused, private, home education based on Deuteronomy 6:5-9, encouraging whole-hearted development of our children so they are equipped to effectively engage the culture for Christ.

This PSP operates under the provision of the California Education Code Section 58222, falling under the Private School Affidavit of American Christian Academy, which is filed annually each October.

Statement of Belief

As a Christian Private School Satellite Program (PSP), the American Christian Academy Extension Campus (ACAEC) educational program and professional decisions and actions of the administrators and representatives of ACAEC are governed by the following ***fundamental doctrines***: We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, without error, and that it is the final authority for man's faith and practice. We believe in the Holy Trinity, and that Christ Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity, died on the cross, was raised to life on the third day, fulfilling all the counsel of God to save sinners from their sins.

We Believe:

1. In One Triune God:
(I John 5:7; Matthew 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14)
2. In the authority and infallibility of Scripture;
(I Thess. 2:13; Proverbs 30:5; II Timothy 3:15-16)
3. In a literal six-day creation;
(Exodus 20:8-11; John 5:46-47)
4. In the sovereignty and providence of God in history;
(Psalms 67:4; Acts 17:24-25; Phil. 1:12;
Romans 8:28)
5. In man's creation by God and fall in Adam;
(Genesis 1:26-28; Eph. 4:24; Romans 5:12)
6. In mortal man's sinful nature and need of the Savior;
(Romans 5:12; I Cor. 15:21-22; Ephesians 2:5)
7. In the true deity and humanity of Jesus Christ;
(John 1:14; Matthew 1:22-23; Luke 24:37-43;
Mark 16:19)
8. In His atoning death, bodily resurrection, current reign, and future return;
(2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:19-22; I Cor. 15:25; Acts 1:11;
II Thess. 1:6-10)

March 2021

9. In justification by faith alone;
(Romans 3:28; 4:5; Eph. 2:8-9)
10. That faith necessarily produces good works;
(James 2:16; 17-18; Gal. 4:6)
11. That God's moral law binds all men and nations;
(Matthew 5:17-20; Romans 13:8-10; Psalms 119:27; Romans 7:22)
12. That the Christian's conscience may not be bound by human traditions and laws;
(Acts 24:16; 5:29; 23:1; Hebrews 13:18)
13. That the church is the company of the redeemed;
(John 10:16; Revelation 7:9-10; Acts 20:28)
14. That the church's ministry and worship is basic to revival;
(Eph. 4:11-13; Matthew 16:18-19; Matthew 18:17)
15. In the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
(Acts 24:25; John 5:28-29; Matthew 25:46)
16. That God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality; including homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, transgender, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance:
(Gen. 2:24; Gen.19:5,13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1; 6:9; I Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 3:4)
17. That the only Scriptural marriage is the joining of one man and one Woman: (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; I Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23)

Who We Are in Community Fellowship

Eager to Serve

Quick to Encourage & Build Up

Prayerful for Each Other

Filled with Gratitude

Committed to communication

Supportive of Christ-centered Education

Whole-hearted Compliance with all Eagles' Nest Policies in Handbook

Staff

Kate Chera ACA-Sonoma County Coordinator & Eagle's Nest Director
kchera@acasc.net

Leadership Council

Paul & Ann Bartholow

John & Amy Semans

Carl & Michele Methum

Beth See

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March 2021

Eagle's Nest- Community Day Classes

Community Day Cooperative Program

The optional Community Day Classes exist to provide opportunities for students to participate in classes once a week in a classroom-like setting in both academic and elective courses. One adult from the family must participate on campus for their student(s) to be eligible for enrollment. Classes are on campus and taught primarily by PSP parents, many of whom have previous classroom teaching experience and desire to share their love for their subjects. Community Day has two cycles per year of approximately 15 weeks each, in a Fall and Spring semester format. Parental involvement is necessary to provide oversight and accountability for their students to be successful.

Because Eagle's Nest is a co-op program it only works when every family is investing and doing their part. Each family is expected to provide a minimum of one hour of volunteer time per week. We are incredibly grateful for our teachers and others who go above and beyond this to make our program successful. Those who are unable to volunteer on campus may be able to apply for one of our "off campus" volunteer positions, otherwise there will be a **\$650 surcharge placed on the account**. This fee will be due and payable on Sept. 1, 2021 before student may attend classes. This is essentially a replacement fee to cover the cost of paying outside help to meet supervision needs.

Community Day Background Check Requirement

Per our insurance, all teachers/aides at community day will complete a background check before the school year begins. Costs are covered by Eagle's Nest.

Community Day Student Dress & Conduct Code

Being safe and honorable while on campus are our goals with our Dress & Conduct Code. Here's how we do it:

- Wear shoes that are safe to run in. No flip flops.
- Wear clean and neat clothing, appropriate for classroom activities like art and science experiments.
- Cover your armpits. No one needs to see those.
- Make sure your undergarments are actually “under” another layer of clothing so we don't have to view them.
- Bellies are beautiful... under clothing!
- Shorts and skirt length should be closer to the knees rather than closer to the derrier (a good rule of thumb would be 4-6 inches beyond the fingertips when hands are relaxed at side).
- No weapons at school, this includes play weapons and pocket knives. Please have fun with those at home.

The administrator will talk with students and parents in the event that clothing/appearance is not deemed appropriate for school, and will make arrangements.

Healthy Community Guidelines

**Note these guidelines are subject to change with changing conditions*

ACA-Eagle's Nest Community Day COVID protocols

Daily Protocols- for heightened COVID safety

1. In the morning before coming to Community Day- assess your child for any signs of illness: Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, chills, shaking chills, cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, body or muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, or loss of appetite.
2. Touchless temperature check on arrival- logged in book
3. Parents dropping off/picking up will not enter building
4. “Masks on the move”- masks will be worn whenever a student is entering, leaving or moving around the building
5. Masks may be removed while students are seated 6 feet apart

March 2021

6. Assigned seating will be employed to reduce surface contact exposure and facilitate contact tracing should it become necessary
7. We are following a cohort model, which means children will remain in groups of 14 or less throughout the day with 2 adult supervisors. These groups will not interact with each other.
8. Lunch break: elementary students will be dismissed at noon; secondary students staying for lunch will bring their own portable chair to be used outdoors during lunch break
9. Handwashing/sanitizing will be required before and after class/breaks
10. Sanitizing of frequently touched surfaces with non-toxic disinfectant Solugard (thyme oil & citric acid) approved by the EPA for use against Covid.

Extra Precautions

Air exchange ventilators to be used while students in classrooms; HEPA air purifiers to be in use when ventilation systems cannot be used due to inclement weather or smoke.

Maximum filtration HEPA filters installed on furnaces.

Plan for a possible or known exposure

1. Families are asked to notify the coordinator (Kate Chera) if a family member tests positive for COVID or has had close contact with a known case.** A contact is defined as a person who is <6 feet from a case for >15 minutes.
2. If a child becomes sick or exhibits symptoms while at Community Day, child will be removed from cohort and parent notified to pick up child immediately. Area will be sanitized.
 - a. Testing will be recommended. Upon proof of negative test, child will be readmitted 3 days after symptoms resolve.
 - b. If not tested child may be readmitted after 14 days **or** 3 days after all symptoms have resolved, whichever is longer.
 - c. If test is positive, child will be readmitted upon proof of negative COVID test once illness resolved.
 - d. These protocols also apply to any adult volunteers on campus.
3. All Eagle's Nest families will be notified of known exposures (a child or adult who has tested positive) as soon as we are made aware.

March 2021

4. In the event we have a confirmed COVID-19 case infection Community Day will be suspended for that cohort for 14 days from the date of exposure. The other cohort may continue to meet.

Eagle's Nest Safety & Security protocols 2021-22

*All volunteers who have contact with students will complete a background check.

*We have a closed campus. All exterior doors will remain locked during the day.

*Morning perimeter check of the campus will be conducted to ensure security of the facility.

*Students under 16 years of age will be released to parent only, unless parent makes arrangements with the coordinator for a special circumstance.

*In the event of a fire the teacher's aide will take the attendance sheet and lead students to the nearest exit and out to parking lot away from the building. The teacher will stay until all students have exited, turn off lights, close the door and follow class to parking lot.

*Fire drills will be conducted once a semester.

On Campus, We Are:

- **Eager to Serve** (that means quickly helping set up or tear down for class, taking the garbage out, or helping a teacher/friend whenever you can!)
- **Quick to Encourage & Build Up** (that means using your mouth to say kind things to others during breaks, lunch, class, on the court, in chapel, etc.)
- **Prayerful for Each Other** (that means, praying for each other in class, outside at recess, at home when the Lord brings someone to mind, etc.)
- **Filled with Gratitude** (that means you say thank you for everything and leave things better than you found around campus because you're so appreciative!)
- **Committed to Communication** (that means you participate in class, are quiet when you're listening in chapel or to a friend, you email your teacher to ask questions, you respond to others' communications, you ask questions about others)
- **Supportive of Christ-centered Education** (that means you honor the teachers and staff of VCA and the staff at SRBC with cheerful compliance and helpfulness)
- **Whole-hearted in Compliance with all Eagles' Nest Policies in Handbook** (that means you follow through and even when you mess up, you try again and ask for forgiveness, demonstrating grace and the humility to learn from it!)

March 2021

Resources

Website – acasc.net

Student Records

Official student cumulative files maintained by ACA Main Office staff in Anderson, CA. Many questions about your registration file can be answered locally by contacting Kate at kchera@sbcglobal.net since a copy of enrollment materials is also available locally in the Eagles' Nest office. But for any student records business, please contact

Bonnie at acaec@sbcglobal.net

For High School questions contact:

JoAnn at aca_hs_director@yahoo.com.

Forms

Attendance, journal entries, and report cards are available at www.acaec.net with the password: Isaiah5812

Official High School Report Cards, Transcripts, and Diploma are obtained through the Anderson office. Please email JoAnn at: aca_hs_director@yahoo.com.

School Calendar

See the 2021–22 Academic Calendar on our website. Finalized calendar will be available by August 1st.

Weekly News E-mails

You will receive a weekly ENews email each Wednesday morning with updates and important developments for ACA Sonoma County.

Parent Support Meetings

We purpose to gather together a few times a year for educational and spiritual encouragement and support. Attendance at two of the three meetings is mandatory for one or both parents. If a PSP member misses 2 meetings or 3 due dates their PSP membership may be forfeited.

March 2021

Social and Educational Opportunities

We love being together as families, so we offer many social opportunities to share in the fun of community.

Service Projects

Family Barn Dance

Seasonal Parties

Community Day

Secondary Formals

Field Trips

Fabulous Fridays

Talent Showcase

Graduation

Eagles' Nest Member Requirements & Fees

Enrollment

Enrollment is open to all American Christian Academy, Sonoma County members.

Enrollment is open to children at least 5 years old by September 1st.

Annual membership in HSLDA is mandatory.

Eagles' Nest Fees

New Enrollment Fee

New Family, non-refundable **\$150**

Re-enrollment Fee

Returning families, non-refundable (paid by March 31st) **\$100**

Returning families, non-refundable (paid after March 31st) **\$150**

Annual Tuition for Community Days

(Family adult volunteering on campus a minimum of 15 hours per semester is required.)

Elementary Student: **\$400**

Secondary Student: **\$450**

If tuition is a financial hardship please ask about Sibling Discounts

Full tuition is due August 1st, 2021. Tuition received after August 1st, 2021 will incur a \$50 late fee.

*Installment payments may be arranged by notifying the director. Quarterly payments incur a \$10 payment fee (after the first payment) and are due by the 10th of the month in ***October, January, and March, after the initial payment made on August 1st.***

Tuition is non-refundable after September 30th, 2021. For a tuition refund, the director must receive notice that a family intends not to continue with Eagle's Nest by Sept. 30th with a request for refund. Only tuition may be refunded, not registration fees or other fees, such as classroom materials, books, etc.

March 2021

Materials Fees for various classes (payable directly to teachers)

varies per class

Missing any supervision duty during Community Day may incur a \$20/missed duty fee.

Field Trips and Activities

Fees for field trips and activities vary depending upon the event. Bring cash payments for all field trips and give to the Field Trip Director.

Home School Legal Defense Membership (payable to HSLDA; use Group # 290203) **\$100**
<https://hsllda.org/>

Proof of membership will be required at parent orientation in August.

Other Expenses

Parents are responsible for the purchase of the curriculum of their choice along with the purchase of Community Day books/materials for registered classes.

Fines, Miscellaneous, & Late Fees

\$25 late fees for any applicable missed due date will be applied to your account for billing.

Recordkeeping

Attendance & Recordkeeping are clearly defined by ACA.
All grades are due at the end of the school year by June 1st.

High School Learning Journals

High School Students are to keep their own learning journals. There are a variety of methods and formats that students can use, but this is a record of concepts learned (not page numbers in a textbook or chapter numbers). Parents should help students establish the most effective format. These journals will have three check-ins for review throughout the first semester. Journals will be checked as needed if students are struggling.

Elementary Learning Journals

Parents are required to keep a learning journal for each elementary student recording their progress through their subjects. Instruction on journal keeping will be given at the first parent meeting of the year.

Due before the first Community Day

Safety & Emergency Form per family
Eagle's Nest Parent/Student Contract (print last page of this handbook)
Copy of HSLDA membership

Attendance

The Eagles' Nest school year runs June 1 through May 31. A minimum of 175 school days is suggested. Secondary students may not be absent more than 10 school days per semester.

March 2021

Suggested Grading Categories & Weights:

3rd-6th Grades

30% Participation

30% Daily Work

20% Tests/Exams

20% Special Projects

7th-12th Grades

10% Participation

50% Daily Work

20% Tests/Exams

20% Special Projects

Withdrawal

To withdraw from Community Day, a 30-day written notice must be emailed in advance directly to Kate at kchera@acasc.net. Tuition will be charged through the semester of withdrawal.



Eagles' Nest 2021-22 Parent - Student Contract

Parents:

- **I have read the Eagles' Nest Policy Manual completely and agree to meet all the requirements as outlined in the Handbook.** Failure to comply with all requirements may result in forfeiture of membership.
- I promise to pay all dues and fees for the students enrolled in the Eagles' Nest Community Day, including other activities I register for.
- I certify that all the information presented by me in this contract is to the best of my knowledge, true, complete, and accurate. It is understood that my child's attendance is a privilege, not a right.

Parents & Students:

- As a family, we will support and submit to the authority of the on-campus administration and teachers we place ourselves under.
- We have read the Community Day Information including Dress & Conduct Code and all family members (parents and students) agree to comply with it.
- We understand that students not in compliance with community standards as outlined in this handbook will have parents notified & may be asked to leave for the day

Printed Name and Signature of Father

Date

Printed Name and Signature of Mother

Date

Printed Names and Signatures of all enrolled students

March 2021