

Cornerstone Christian Academy
Parental Choice and Opt-In Consent Policy

BACKGROUND

According to the Bible, parents are responsible for the training of their children. Cornerstone Christian Academy serves as partners in providing quality education consistent with biblical truth. Harmony between home and school provides the best environment for godly training to take place.

This policy outlines the procedures for notifying parents and seeking their consent regarding courses, programs, or instructional materials that explicitly address gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality. We aim to honor the biblical design for family authority and ensure transparency in our educational practices, as we are called to do things with integrity and love.

PROCEDURES

1. As early as possible in the school year and not any later than 30 days before the onset of instruction in any of the related themes, the school shall, under the direction of the principal, notify parents and provide them the opportunity to opt their child/children in, where courses, programs of study, instructional materials, instruction, or exercises include subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality.
 - 1.1. As part of the notification process, teachers responsible for the subject matter instruction shall:
 - 1.1.1. describe the intended learning outcomes, the biblical perspective from which it will be taught, the resources/materials to be used, and a permission form for parents to opt their child in.
 - 1.1.2. permit the viewing of pertinent resources and identify the date at which instruction in the topic is set to begin.
2. The principal and teachers shall understand and communicate to parents that the opt-in requirement for parents relates to direct curriculum references and learning outcomes as identified by Alberta Education, in the following areas:
 - Physical Education and Wellness (Grades 3, 4, 5, 6)
 - Physical Education and Wellness (Grades 7-9)
 - Health and Life Skills (Grades 7, 8, 9)
 - Career and Life Management (High School)
 - Career and Technology Studies (High School) – Reproduction and Readiness for Parenting
 - Career and Technology Studies (High School) – Developing Maturity and Independence
- 2.1. For indirect or incidental references to the topics in 1 above (Example-. anatomy and physiology of human reproduction in Biology 30), parental consent is not required.

- 2.2. Students learn about “consent” at several grade levels, but only one learning outcome (Grade 6 Physical Education and Wellness- Any sexual activity always requires consent) will require parents to opt-in.
3. A parent’s decision to opt in their child for full participation or partial participation must be communicated to the teacher responsible for the subject area instruction by no later than two weeks before the intended instruction is set to commence. A student may not participate unless the parent has opted them in.
4. Where a parent has not provided opt-in consent for their child/children, the student will be provided with an alternative assignment that aligns with the school’s biblical values and educational goals.
5. A hard copy of this policy will be available in the school office for parents to review upon request.

References

- *Education Act*, Sections 18, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33.2, 35.1, 53, 58.1, 58.11, 58.12 and 58.2
- *Child and Family Enhancement Act*
- *Alberta Human Rights Act*
- *Personal Information Protection Act*