



2024-2025 Bus Program Agreement

We are delighted that your child is part of the Ascent Classical Academy of Fort Mill community, and we appreciate your trust in us to provide a safe and enriching educational experience. This Bus Agreement (“Agreement”) outlines the terms and conditions under which bus transportation services are provided by Ascent Classical Academies South Carolina and Ascent Classical Academy of Fort Mill (collectively the “School”) for the 2024-2025 school year. By signing this Agreement, you acknowledge and agree to the following provisions:

1. General Information

- Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right. If a student fails to adhere to the expected behaviors outlined in this Agreement, this privilege may be revoked.
- The safe and efficient transportation of students is a crucial element of the education process. This requires the collective efforts of drivers, students, parents, schools, and the transportation department.
- The bus is considered an extension of the classroom and must be treated as such by all students.
- Disclosure: The bus transportation services under this Agreement are provided by a third-party service provider contracted by the School (“Bus Operator”).

2. Student Expected Behavior

Students are required to adhere to the following behaviors while on the bus:

- Follow directions from the bus driver at all times.
- Remain seated with your back against the seat back at all times.
- Keep aisles clear of all items.
- No eating or drinking on the bus, except for water.
- Personal items, including toys, books, and electronic devices, must remain in the student’s bag.
- Do not tamper with emergency doors or bus equipment.
- Use of technology on the bus is prohibited.
- Refrain from throwing objects, spitting, kicking, hitting, using foul language, teasing, threatening others, or making inappropriate gestures.
- Students are responsible for their own belongings and trash.
- Always speak and act kindly towards others.

3. Consequences for Behavioral Infractions

Failure to follow the expected behaviors may result in the following consequences:

- Initial Infraction: Parents/guardians will be notified by a school representative via phone call and email. Disciplinary measures may include detention or other consequences as outlined in the Family Handbook.
- Subsequent Infractions: Parents/guardians will be notified by a school administrator via phone call and email. Students may be suspended from the bus for a duration determined by the severity of the infraction.
- Repeated or Severe Infractions: Students may be immediately suspended from the bus for severe infractions or repeated offenses, with the length of suspension to be determined by the school administrator.

Note: If bus privileges are suspended, parents/guardians are responsible for arranging alternative transportation to and from school for the duration of the suspension. Continued infractions may result in permanent removal from the bus for the remainder of the school year.

4. Limitation of Liability

- The School, its administrators, employees, and agents shall not be liable for any injuries, damages, or losses incurred by students or parents/guardians as a result of bus transportation services.
- Parents/guardians agree to hold the School harmless from any claims arising out of or related to the use of bus services.
- Third-Party Operator Limitation of Liability: The Bus Operator, its employees, agents, and subcontractors shall not be liable for any injuries, damages, or losses incurred by students or parents/guardians during the provision of bus services, except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct. Parents/guardians agree to hold the Bus Operator harmless from any claims arising out of or related to the transportation services provided under this Agreement.

5. Fees and Payment Terms

- The annual fee for bus transportation services is \$1,304. This fee is payable in four quarterly installments, due on August 30, October 13, January 5, and March 16.
- Failure to make timely payments may result in the suspension of bus services until the account is brought current.
- If a student is removed from the bus due to behavioral infractions, no refund or credit will be given for the period of suspension, and the parent/guardian remains responsible for the full payment of the quarterly fee.

6. Termination

- This Agreement may be terminated by the School at any time due to repeated behavioral infractions by the student, non-payment of fees, or any other breach of this Agreement. Upon termination, parents/guardians are responsible for arranging alternative transportation for the student.

7. Governing Law

- This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina. Any disputes arising under or related to this Agreement shall be resolved in the appropriate courts of South Carolina.

8. Additional Provisions

- Amendments: The School reserves the right to amend this Agreement at any time, with notice provided to parents/guardians.
- Severability: If any provision of this Agreement is found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

9. Signatures

_____	_____
STUDENT NAME	DATE
_____	_____
PARENT/GUARDIAN PRINTED NAME	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

