

Lowcountry Christian Home Educators Association (LCHEA)

Code of Conduct

Section A. A requirement for Association membership is adherence to the following Code of Conduct which will be the standard for all LCHEA activities and events and other LCHEA-related matters.

1. LCHEA seeks to glorify Christ and encourage members in their home education endeavors. As Christians, we strive to “keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” in all of our communication and interaction with one another. This includes face-to-face interaction as well as written communication on our LCHEA forums (Ephesians 4:1-3).
2. LCHEA member families (parents and students) agree to act in such a way that their words and actions promote encouragement of fellow LCHEA families and provide a witness of our relationship with Christ. Language, dress, and behavior should exemplify Christ (Colossians 3:17).
3. LCHEA activities/events, upon arrival to departure, should be smoke-free, alcohol-free, and free of any other mood altering substances. Potentially offensive or harmful items should be left at home, ensuring that every activity/event remains as safe as possible for our membership and the community (Romans 12:12-13).
4. LCHEA member families (parents and students) agree to avoid disrespectful, immoral, intimidating, or rude behavior at LCHEA activities/events or in the presence of other members. We want to encourage one another with the love of God and seek to glorify Him at all times. (Romans 16:17-18)
5. LCHEA member families agree to refrain from gossip, libel, and slander (Ephesians 4:29-32). If a personal conflict situation arises with another member during a LCHEA activity or event, pursue peace and forgiveness by first speaking with the individual member privately. If the situation cannot be resolved individually, please contact the LCHEA Activity or Event Coordinator or a LCHEA board member. (Matthew 18:15-16).
6. LCHEA member families agree to be responsible for their own children’s behavior to ensure that they comply with this standard of conduct for all LCHEA activities and events (Colossians 3:20).

Section B. In addition to the above, we have outlined the following guidelines and steps to help with conflict resolution, whether it be personal, at a LCHEA event or activity, or on the LCHEA forums. Resource: *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Conflict* written by Ken Sande.

1. Overlook the Offense (Proverbs 19:11)

In his book, Mr. Sande points out that simply overlooking an offense is actually a healthy response to problems and is considered a type of forgiveness. Proverbs 19:11 confirms that quickly forgiving an offense is a wise move. You may choose to overlook a slight offense and move on in peace with your brother or sister.

2. Larger Offenses: Reconciliation (Matthew 18:15)

Some offenses are too large to be overlooked and need to be addressed. Reconciliation is a way to gently restore the relationship and follow the Biblical instruction of Matthew 18:15 by speaking to your brother or sister privately about the offense.

3. Bring in Help: Mediation (Matthew 18:16)

The next step, mediation, should be used when overlooking and reconciliation have not been fruitful. Please seek out the coordinator of the LCHEA event/activity or a LCHEA Board member to accompany you during this mediation step.