



Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)

A Methodist Institution
(Founded 1886)



5 February 2026

Dear Parents / Guardians

2026 TERM 1 CIRCULAR FOR Y5 PARENTS

Greetings from ACS (Independent)!

Together with my colleagues, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all our students, including those who just joined the ACS (Independent) family in 2026.

It is a deep privilege for me to serve as Principal of this school with such a rich heritage, strong Christian values, and a deep commitment to holistic education. For close to 140 years, ACS schools have sought to nurture young people of character, conviction, and compassion who are prepared not only for success, but for significance.

As I begin this journey in 2026 alongside your children, we commit as a school to continue in nurturing our students to grow as **Catalysts for Change, For God and Humanity**, ready to serve and lead in an increasingly complex world. I look forward to partnering closely with you as we journey together, confident that God will be our anchor and help.

Please find below key information and arrangements for Term 1 for your partnership and prayer.

THEME VERSE & AC140

1. As we celebrate 140 years of God's goodness to the Anglo-Chinese Schools, we share a common theme verse for 2026. The verse is taken from Matthew 5:16 and serves as a timeless reminder for ACSians to remain Anchored in our identity, Connected in service and Steadfast in purpose.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

ACS(I), together with students and staff from the ACS school family, will be celebrating our **140th ACS Founder's Day** with an all-ACS Combined Celebrations and Thanksgiving Service at the National Stadium on 26 February 2026. Details of the programme will be sent closer to the date.

COMMUNICATIONS

2. Our Deputy Principals and the broad levels / programmes they oversee are tabulated below.

Deputy Principal	Designation	Levels / Programmes
Mr Patrick Soo patrick@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Years 1 & 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 1 & 2 Performing Arts CCAs Financial Assistance Schemes for all levels
Ms Alice Tan alicetan@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Years 3 & 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 3 & 4 GCE O-Level and Integrated Programme Support for Students with Special Education Needs
Mrs Judy Ho judyho@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Years 5 & 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years 5 & 6 IB Diploma Programme Affective Education Student Support (Psychological and Emotional Care)



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Dr Andrew Yong andrewyg@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Student Development)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Engagement and Empowerment • Values-in-Action Programmes • Career Opportunities and Guidance • CCAs • School Safety
Mr Terence Chiew tecktzer@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Innovation & Technology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Talent Development Programmes, including School-Based Gifted Education (SBGE) programme • Innovation Programmes • IT Infrastructure and Educational Technology • Partnerships
Mr Bernard Chan bernardchankh@acsindep.edu.sg	Deputy Principal (Administration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Development • ACS(I) Boarding School • Estate and Operational Support

3. For school matters, you may approach your child / ward's Year Director, Pastoral Care Tutors (PCTs), Subject Teachers and CCA Teachers. The contact details of the Year Directors are as tabulated below.

Year	Year Director	Email Address
Year 5	Mr Phee Beng Chang	pheebengchang@acsindep.edu.sg

4. All school circulars, consent forms and announcements will be sent via the **Parents Gateway** (PG) mobile app. The PG app also allows parents to:

- stay informed of school activities
- submit travel declarations for your child / ward.

Parents are reminded to download the PG app (available on iOS and Android platforms) to receive important notifications. Please refer to <https://www.acsindep.moe.edu.sg/for-parents/parents-gateway/> for the user guide and how to activate your PG accounts if you have yet to do so.

2026 SCHOOL TERMS, HOLIDAYS AND HOURS

5. The school terms and holidays for Year 5 students are as follows:

SEMESTER 1	
Term I	4 February (Wed) to 13 March (Fri)
Term II	23 March (Monday) to 29 May (Fri)
SEMESTER 2	
Term III	29 June (Mon) to 4 September (Fri)
Term IV	14 September (Mon) to 20 November (Fri) (*27 November, Fri)

6. Parents are advised to check their children's academic commitments in Term 4 before making year-end holiday plans. *Specifically, Year 5 students offering Chemistry and Biology Extended Essays are required to be in school till 27 November 2026 to complete their data collection.

7. The school hours for 2026 are as tabulated below. The reporting time for all levels is **7.45 am**. To allow our students additional rest time, school will start at **8.45 am every Wednesday**

Levels	Day	Dismissal Time
Year 5	Monday	7.45 am – 4.00 pm
	Tuesday & Thursday	7.45 am – ranges from 2.40 pm till 4.00 pm



	Wednesday	8.45 am – ranges from 3.00 pm till 4.00 pm
	Friday	7.45 am – 1.00 pm (Consultation Slots, 1.00 – 2.00 pm)

8. All students are reminded to arrive at school earlier to ensure there is sufficient time to report to Chapel or Assembly venues.

HOME-BASED LEARNING (HBL) DAYS

9. Home-Based Learning (HBL) days have been implemented since 2022 as part of the school's efforts to develop our students' ability to learn in a connected and self-directed digital environment. The HBL Day for Year 5 students in Term 1 will be **Friday, 6 March**.

[2026 UPDATE] ISSUING OF SOFTCOPY TERM REPORTS / RESULT SLIPS

10. **Cessation on the Collection of Report Books:** The school has not been collecting students' report books since 2021. Hardcopies of the result slips will be prepared for your child / ward to bring home for your signature. Thereafter, please file them into the report book accordingly.

11. **Issuing of Softcopy Term Reports / Result Slips:** Softcopies will no longer be uploaded to Parents' Portal and will only be sent to the primary parent contact email address on school record. This will take place approximately two weeks after the issuing of hardcopies to students. To ensure smooth access to the reports:

- Please ensure your child can access their school-issued email account
- Verify that your primary parent contact email address is accurate and up to date. If there have been any changes, please update your contact details via the Student Details Form (SDF) portal.

12. Should your child's / ward's report book / result slips be misplaced, we will not be able to make a full replacement. However, the school can provide certified true copies of the result slips for your child / ward. An administrative fee will be charged for this.

[2026 UPDATE] IB INCLUSIVE ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS (IAAS)

13. **IB Inclusive Access Arrangements (IAAs)** are special provisions available to IB candidates who require learning support due to long-term medical or mental health challenges, learning disabilities, specific learning difficulties, physical or sensory challenges, etc.

14. **Year 5 students** applying for IAAs for the 2027 November IBDP examinations are to submit a request to their Pastoral Care Tutors (PCTs) together with supporting medical or psychological documentation. The documentation must be dated within three years of the exam session, except for students with permanent and/or physical challenges. The closing date for IAA applications is **1 April 2026**.

[FOR ACTION] SUBMISSION OF STUDENT DETAILS (SDF) FOR MOE

15. The Ministry of Education (MOE) would like to request for an update of your information and your child's / ward's information via the Student Details Form (SDF), for the purpose of providing educational services to your child / ward in MOE schools.

16. Please update the information via the SDF portal (<https://pg.moe.edu.sg/forms/sdf>), which can also be accessed by scanning the QR code below. After logging in to the SDF portal using your Singpass account, parents / legal guardians may submit your information and information of your child / ward. Authorised caregivers can only submit your own information.



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17. We seek your help to complete this submission by **28 February 2026**.

HEALTH MATTERS

18. **Health Declaration:** Throughout the year, any change(s) in your child / ward's medical fitness should be communicated in writing to the school through his / her Pastoral Care Tutor (PCT) as soon as possible. You would also need to update your child / ward's medical condition via the Student Details Form (SDF).

Instructions for updating via the SDF:

1. Visit the SDF portal (<https://pg.moe.edu.sg/forms/sdf>) and log in using your Singpass account
2. From the portal's review page, click 'Edit' to update details
3. Click 'Submit' to save changes
4. Close and log out.

Should you need to update any information that is not reflected in the SDF portal, please contact our school's IT support at helpdesk@acsindep.edu.sg. For overseas students, the appointed local guardian or caregiver for them will use the appropriate channel to update their medical records.

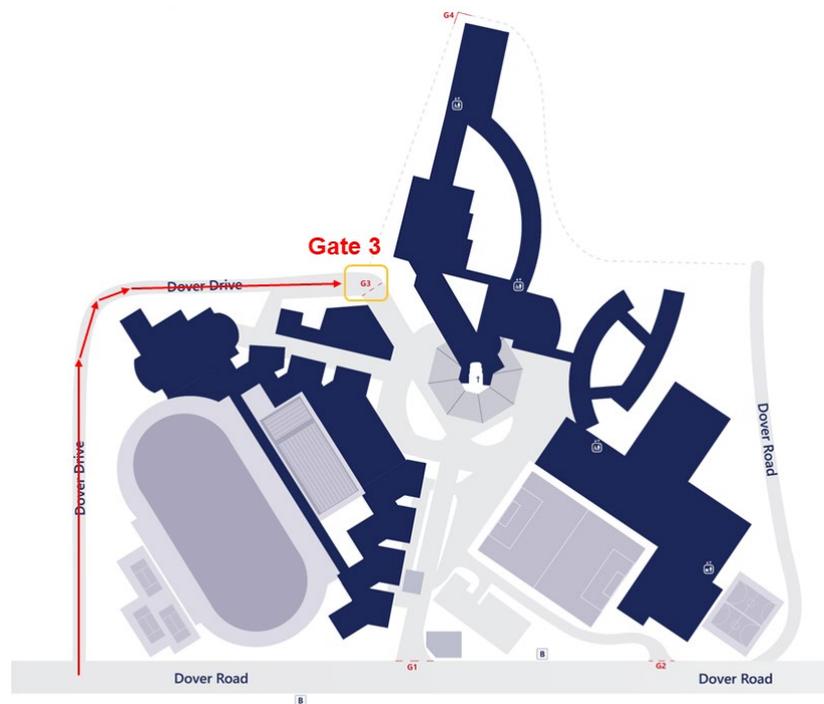
19. If your child / ward is unwell, please ensure that he / she stays at home and seeks medical attention where necessary. If your child / ward is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, please encourage him / her to wear a mask and/or minimise social interactions with big groups.

20. We appreciate your support and compliance with all health matters. Let us continue to practise good personal hygiene and exercise social responsibility. Together, we can keep the school a safe and healthy environment for our students.

NEW DROP-OFF OPTION AT ACS(I) GATE 3

21. We are pleased to share with you that the Dover Drive roundabout outside ACS(I) Gate 3 has been completed.





22. The Gate 3 roundabout provides an excellent alternative drop-off point for all students. This location is particularly convenient for parents dropping off students heading to the Junior Block or Old Block, as it offers a faster and closer route to their classrooms compared to the main gate entrance.

23. As Dover Drive is not used by other schools, the road is effectively exclusive for ACS(I) traffic. Parents will not need to contend with vehicles ferrying students to neighbouring schools along Dover Road, resulting in a smoother and less congested drop-off experience. We would like to strongly encourage all parents to consider this drop-off point as a viable option.

24. Additional enhancements to this route are forthcoming, including the construction of a sheltered walkway along the path leading from the Gate 3 entrance to the school blocks.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

25. To ensure the continued safety of our school community, enhanced security measures were rolled out in phases since 2024. Please refer to <https://www.acsindep.moe.edu.sg/traffic-matters/> for **updated details on parking, security, and access information**.

26. Please also refer to <https://www.acsindep.moe.edu.sg/for-parents/traffic-advisory/> for the **advisory on traffic and safety matters**.

27. **Pick-up / Drop-off Points:** Parent drivers are encouraged to use the appropriate pick-up / drop-off points within the school or alternatives listed under [point 9 of the Traffic Matters webpage](#).

- To ensure a smooth traffic experience, parents are encouraged to drop off their child / ward at the roundabout's designated area, located near the end of the roundabout.
- As there are limited parking lots within the school, please be advised to make timely arrivals for pick up, especially during school dismissal, to minimise wait time and inconveniences.
- Pick-up / drop-off activity at the bus stops must be immediate. Any vehicles found waiting at the bus stops are subject to enforcement measures by LTA officers.



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CAMPUS UPGRADING WORKS & SAFETY MATTERS

28. The school is continually looking to upgrade our facilities, to provide the best environment for all ACSians. During the year-end school holidays, the following school infrastructure projects have been completed:

- Renovation of the Student Activity Centre (SAC)
- Roof improvement works at the Art Centre.

29. The following school infrastructure projects will be ongoing and are expected to be completed between February and April 2026:

- Roof replacement at the IB Foyer next to the artificial turf (February)
- Construction of two new Science laboratories and preparatory room at the foyer of Block C (April)
- Construction of new sheltered linkway and pick-up / drop-off point (April).

30. Please advise your child to refrain from approaching all cordoned areas. We appreciate your cooperation during the upgrading / construction works and compliance regarding all safety matters.

SCHOOL FEES & INSURANCE

31. The **GIRO collection of fees** is done quarterly, with the first collection date on 20 March 2026. Parents / Guardians are advised to ensure that sufficient funds are available in their accounts on the due dates. When deduction by GIRO is unsuccessful, an administrative charge of \$20 will be levied, and a waiver of this charge is not allowed. For information on school fees and financial assistance, please refer to the school website (<https://www.acsindp.moe.edu.sg/about-ac-independent/fee/>). For school fees and GIRO deduction related enquiries, you may approach Finance Department Officer, Mdm Samantha Khoo (samanthakhoo@acsindp.edu.sg).

32. Admission to our school is merit-based and no Singaporean admitted to ACS(I) will be deprived of educational opportunities on account of his / her financial situation. Our school has various financial assistance programmes, including the **MOE Independent Schools Bursary (ISB)** which provides up to 100% school fees subsidy for Singapore citizens. Students who wish to apply for the MOE ISB may submit their applications online at <https://go.gov.sg/moe-efasis>. You may also find more information at <https://www.acsindp.moe.edu.sg/about-ac-independent/fee/financial-assistance/>. Students / Parents who require financial assistance with school fees may approach our Deputy Principal, Mr Patrick Soo (patrick@acsindp.edu.sg) or School Secretary, Ms Eunice Seah (Tel: 6870 0314).

33. **[Compulsory] Group Personal Accident (GPA) Insurance:** The safety and well-being of every child is of utmost importance to us. Since January 2023, all students are covered under the GPA Insurance provided by Income Insurance Limited. More details of this insurance plan, including the policy coverage and cost, will be provided in Term 1.

34. For parents who require enhanced medical expenses / benefits beyond what is provided by the GPA insurance for their child, they are advised to purchase additional insurance on their own. This may be applicable for those who are involved in sports or other CCAs with physical activities.

35. **Revised CCA co-payment fees:** As of 2026, the school will collect **\$60 for every CCA** that a student is a member of each year. In general, with this revision:

- Students will only pay for CCA co-payment fees, not for other CCA-related expenses
- Parents will make payment directly to the school; CCA teachers will not collect co-payment fees from students
- Students who are currently on the school's financial assistance schemes are exempt from this payment
- Parents will be notified of the payment amount and procedures by late-May 2026.



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SCHOOL MATTERS

36. The **2026 school attire policy** for all students during curriculum hours is tabulated below. More details can be found in the 2026 Student Handbook.

Day	Attire
Monday	Full School Uniform with School Badge & Tie
Tuesday & Thursday	Full School Uniform with School Badge
Wednesday	House Tee
Friday	Corporate Tee
Use of Jackets	
Students are only allowed to use the school jacket or school pullover.	

37. **e-Student Handbook 2026:** As part of our endeavours to go green, the Student Handbook has been digitised and converted into an e-handbook since 2022. Students and parents will receive the link to the e-Handbook via Teams and PG respectively. Parents will receive a PDF copy of the Handbook as well. Acknowledgement from parents upon receipt of our 2026 e-Student Handbook will be collected via PG.

38. The school has arranged for all newly admitted students to undergo a series of **non-invasive medical screening tests** in Term 1. The medical screening tests are an added safety measure and are compulsory for students who are involved in and represent the school in sports. The medical screening tests will be conducted on school premises during curriculum time, with minimal disruption to the day's lessons. Consent forms will be distributed to students at a later date.

39. As part of holistic wellness for our students, our school has a **zero tolerance policy on bullying**. ACS(I) is a school family where each member should feel safe, accepted and respected. Bullying of any sort and in any form will not be tolerated. Students / Parents may report incidents to a teacher, Year Director, member of the Discipline Committee or the Senior Admin. All reports will be investigated in strict confidence and follow-up action will be taken to ensure the safety and well-being of every member of the school.

UPCOMING SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

40. Our school will be organising **Chinese New Year (CNY) celebrations** on Friday, 13 February 2026. Students will be dismissed around 10.00 am that day.

- Monday, 16 February 2026 will be a HBL day for all levels. The school will not be open.
- The school will also be closed from Tuesday, 17 February 2026 to Wednesday, 18 February 2026 as we celebrate CNY. Lessons will resume as usual on Thursday, 19 February 2026.

PSG ANNOUNCEMENTS

41. The ACS(I) Parent Support Group (PSG) will be organising the following events for parents:

- **PSG Engagement: Kopi Morning** will take place in the last week of Term 1 (more details to come). This is an informal get-together for parents to meet with the PSG and the school leaders.
- During school terms, the **Parents' Prayer Group** meet in-person every Thursday, 7.45 am and the **Fathers' Prayer Group** meet on the first Saturday of every month, 8.00 am at the ACS(I) Boarding School Staff Lounge to pray for the school and its students. Further details can be found at the link below.

42. For more information on the PSG and their activities throughout the school year, please visit <https://www.acsindep.moe.edu.sg/for-parents/acsi-parent-support-group/>.



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NEW BEGINNINGS

At ACS (Independent), we remain steadfast in our core purpose: nurturing every ACSian to become a catalyst for change, grounded in Godly values and strong character. Our mission is to equip and inspire our students to lead and serve with distinction – within their families, in the nation, and across the global community. Guided by these aspirations, we are committed to preparing our young charges to shape and impact society positively, embracing a future filled with opportunities to make a meaningful difference.

This mission cannot be one that we embark on alone. My colleagues and I look forward to working with all of you in the ACS (Independent) family to jointly fulfil what God has purposed for our school and take ACS (Independent) into its next phase of growth, as we ‘stand together for the cause of ACS forever’.

To God Be The Glory!
The Best Is Yet To Be!

Mr Kevin Pang
Principal