



**PARENT ORIENTATION HANDBOOK
2024**

Dear Parent/s or Guardian/s,

On behalf of the Revival City College Principal, Board, Staff and the Revival City Church we would like to welcome you to Revival City College, as a member of our parent body!

Our College is a venture embarked upon by our church, Revival City Church, in obedience to the Great Commission given to us by our Lord to go out and to make disciples of all people and in faith that He will be true to the promises He had given us about a school on the church premises. As a member of our parent body, you too have stepped out in faith with us, trusting the Lord to bring to completion the work He has started and the promises He has given us! Thank you for your faith in us and for trusting your child/ren into our care!

The aim of this handbook is to orientate you with our school policies and procedures at our College in order to make you feel comfortable and at home. We believe each person involved in our College has been placed here by the Lord and has a crucial part to play in sowing into our children's lives. We believe too that the Lord has a plan to sow into your life personally through your involvement in our College as well, and we look forward to working closely with you!

Please feel free to approach the Principal, School Management, Lead teachers, Phase Coordinators or any of the College Directors, should this booklet not have the answers to any of your questions. The role you will play in parenting and working with our staff as they prepare your child/ren for life is a very important one.

"No man is an Island" – this quote can be no truer than in an Educational context and especially here at Revival City College. What we try to impart in the lives of our learners will need the co-operation and working together of educators, parents and learners. It is with this in mind that this document has been drawn up, so as to give you, the parent, a clear idea as to the policies and procedures here at our College.

Revival City College aims at delivering quality education from a Christian perspective. We see the opportunity of working with young lives as a calling from God and as an incredible way in which we as Christians can impact our community and society as a whole for Jesus. As a Bible based College we ascribe to The Holy Bible as our guide and to our Statement of Faith which summarises the key factors of our Christian faith.

The management staff you will be working closely with other than your child's class teacher, and who are appointed to manage the College and to guide and support you are:

The Executive Staff

Principal – Ms Natalie Louw

Deputy Principal – Ms Misty Hutchins

Operational Director – Mrs Karen van den Oever

Spiritual Director - Pastor Hannes van Zyl

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

- **WE BELIEVE** in God Eternal, Triune, Almighty Creator, Maintainer and Ruler of all Creation
- **WE BELIEVE** in God the Father, the Author of Creation and Salvation
- **WE BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ the only Son of God the Father, He is the true God who, for the sake of humanity and its salvation, descended from heaven and became flesh. He lived on earth and was crucified, died and was buried, He rose from the dead and ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand side of the God our Father.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the Holy Spirit, true God proceeding from the Father and the Son, who convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgement in all truth.
- **WE BELIEVE** that the Bible is the Word of the God, written by men as the Holy Spirit inspired them. We believe that it authoritatively proclaims the will of God and teaches us all that is necessary for Salvation.
- **WE BELIEVE** that human beings are created in the image of God, due to their sinful rebellion, this image is marred. We further believe that all have sinned before God and it is the will of God that all people should receive salvation through faith in Christ.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues as promised to all believers.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the manifestation of the gifts and fruit of the Spirit in the life of a Christian.
- **WE BELIEVE** that a Christian should be a disciple of Jesus Christ and that he lives a consecrated and holy life.
- **WE BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church which is constituted by the Holy Spirit and consists of born again believers. The Church is responsible for the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel and God's will to all people. As a charismatic community they fellowship with and edify one another.
- **WE BELIEVE** that the believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper is institutions of Christ to be observed by the Church.
- **WE BELIEVE** that at the time appointed by God, Christ will come to take away His Church.
- **WE BELIEVE** in judgement day when Christ will judge the living and the dead.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the resurrection of the body and eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the new heaven and the new earth where God will reign in glory.



NATIONAL ANTHEM OF SOUTH AFRICA

Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo
Yizwa imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso
Setjhaba sa - South Afrika
South Afrika

Uit die blou van onse hemel
Uit die diepte van ons see
Oor ons ewige gebergtes
Waar die kranse antwoord gee

Sounds the call to come together
And united we shall stand
Let us live and strive for freedom
In South Africa our land.



REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE ANTHEM

We are the learners of Revival City
We are fearfully and wonderfully made
We are the apple of God's eye
The apple of God's eye
We are fearfully and wonderfully made
And we're blessed by the LORD on high

For us there's a purpose and plan Divine
For with God on our side we know we can
All things are possible if we only believe
God's fullness and purpose we'll achieve
And we're blessed by the LORD on high

We are standing on God's word,
We are washed in the Blood of Christ
We are led by the Spirit of God
And we know we are loved
For we're fearfully and wonderfully made
And we're blessed by the LORD on high

Hand in hand we will lead the way
In our College, in our homes, in our land
In the power of The Lord
His power day by day
We know that no matter what we'll stand
For we're blessed by the LORD on high!

VISION STATEMENT FOR REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE

We serve God and people in an atmosphere of revival in order to make more and better disciples. (Acts 1:8, 2:4 and 38-41, Matthew 4:10, 28: 19 -20). The school, its children, parents and educators will be seen as our mission field. We will pursue the presence of God and share it.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE

At Revival City College our mission is to be obedient to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ and to be aware of His special love for children. We aim therefore to create an atmosphere within our school which allows each child to become fully aware of their purpose before the Lord, thereby striving to fulfil their potential in all areas with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Whilst delivering quality education, we will aim at training up each child in the ways of the Lord as instructed by Proverbs 22:6, thereby laying a sound foundation for their future both spiritually and academically.

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Section 29(3), allows anyone to establish an independent school;

Everyone has the right to establish and maintain, at their own expense, independent educational institutions that:

- a) do not discriminate on the basis of race;*
- b) are registered with the state;*
- c) maintain standards that are not inferior to standards at comparable public educational institutions.*

Section 46,(3)(a) of the South African Schools Act, 1996 as amended; provides that: *the standards to be maintained by such school will not be inferior to the standards in comparable public schools.*

Independent schools have to operate within the confines of the Constitution and all relevant National and Provincial legislation. However, critical to their independence is the freedom of a school to use its professional judgement to make decisions. These key characteristics ensure that schools have the freedom they require to be able to determine and deliver programmes of academic excellence to learners.

As an independent school we are allowed to have a distinctive mission and to enrol mission-appropriate learners, and while this could be termed as *discrimination*, it is seen as fair discrimination because we are upfront about it from the outset and have made it clear publicly.

Based on this we at Revival City College only enrol learners who score within a certain range in our baseline assessment. We have also determined that the promotion mark for all subjects, except Afrikaans is 50%. In Afrikaans, the promotion mark is 40%.

As a Christian, Bible Based College we have determined that we will expect all learners to honour the school's beliefs on sexual orientation and gender identity. Our beliefs are that God has created us men and women and as such we base our policy on gender, based on these Biblical Principles. Whilst a learner's personal choice may differ from that reflected in these beliefs, no action by the learner may be in contravention of this stance. A learner may not promote his/her gender on sexual identity within the school community.

Bathrooms and toilets for learners, change rooms and showers that are designated for one biological/chromosomal sex shall only be used by members of that biological/chromosomal sex. All learners, regardless of their sexual orientation will be shown the love of God and will be treated with dignity and respect. Our ablution blocks; sleeping accommodations if on tours or outings; and/or any other specifically designated facility will be guided by the said gender identification i.e. Male, Female; Boys/Girls; etc.

On enrolling your child at our College, you would have signed the following document:

REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE PARENT/S OR GUARDIAN/S CODE OF COOPERATION

THE PARENT/S OR GUARDIAN/S OF CHILDREN ENROLLED AT REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE WILL AT ALL TIMES:

1. Be conscious of the fact that they are called by God to be good parents of the children in their care.
2. Be an example of Christ to the children in their actions and in their words at all times.
3. Uphold the values of The Holy Bible; The Statement of Faith as well as the College Vision and Mission Statements.
4. Accept that the staff have as their primary professional responsibility, the guidance of the learners in their care in the pursuit of knowledge and skills, and the development of their full potential within a Christian framework, so that they become socially responsible and self-supporting citizens, rooted in the Word of God. As parents, you should therefore acknowledge that it is therefore your responsibility to work with them to accomplish this.
5. Be loyal to the College, its staff and managers, by serving them to the best of their abilities, complying with all their instructions and requests, and by conducting all interaction with the College through the proper channels.
6. Do their best to maintain friendly co-operation with the Principal, Teachers and Directors of the College. To do everything possible to uphold their child's confidence, and keep the College adequately informed about any issues which may be pertinent for the College to be aware of in order to ensure the progress of their children whilst they are learners at the College.
7. Accept their responsibilities as a parent who should give a lead to the community in respect of attitudes to study and the advancement of education, and also in respect of the acceptance of personal involvement and civic and Christian affairs.
8. Strive at all times to foster tolerance and mutual appreciation between all groups of human beings, irrespective of social status, profession, language, religion, race or nation
9. Contribute their share to the dignity and public image of the teaching profession both by his/her personal conduct and by fair dealing with all members of the profession.

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE EXPECTED OF THE PARENTS AND OR GUARDIANS OF LEARNERS AT REVIVAL CITY COLLEGE:

- Punctuality – Ensure their child/ren are brought to the College on time and that they are collected from the College on time. Should they be late or absent for any reason and there is prior knowledge as to this, inform the class teacher timeously. Ensure on the return to the College after an absence, that a letter of excuse is sent in to inform the teacher about the reason for their absence. A doctor's note is required if your child has been absent for 3 or more consecutive days.
- Smoking – the College and Church premises are non- smoking zones, smoking is not permitted on the premises at all.
- Dress Code – Ensure all your child/ren's clothing items are clearly marked with their name and grade. Ensure that the correct uniform is worn at all times whether on the school premises or not.
- Language - All individuals involved with the College will ensure that they address the parents, the learners and staff in an appropriate manner at all times. No derogatory, racial, defamatory or impolite comments or terms are to be made use of at any time. In general the language used is to be exemplary to the children in our care.
- Behaviour - All adults involved with our children need to be aware of the fact that as role-models to our children, we need to be conscious of our behaviour both inside and outside of the College environment at all times. In all instances the children are to be treated with love, care and dignity.
- Cooperation – All parents are expected to support the teacher as well as the Principal and the Directors of the College. Through working together in a constructive manner we will accomplish creating an environment which is conducive to education for our children. Should a problem be identified with a child, the parent will be expected to work closely with the College in placing measures into place which will support and assist the child. Parents are requested to be open to the guidance and suggestions of

the Educators, Principal, Directors or any of the professionals who may be involved in the assessment of the child, in order to provide the best support for the child.

- Parents who will be called in to address behavioural issues will be expected to put into place the measures and recommendations made by the teaching professionals. Parents are expected to cooperate with the College by ensuring that homework allocated for each day is completed and that homework deadlines are met.

If there is parental non-compliance in any area, it may be deemed necessary to give support and guidance to the parent. In the event of there being no improvement, since Revival City College is a Private School and as such, the right of admission may be reserved, action may be taken which could lead to the child being deregistered from the College, this will be the last resort, but cooperation between the College and parent is crucial for quality education to be delivered. Should a parent continually not be willing to comply, it will be deemed in the child's best interest that the child be moved to an environment where the parent feels more willing to cooperate.

Although we follow the CAPS curriculum we reserve the right to adapt the curriculum and the promotional requirements. If a child has been retained in a phase and is still unable to meet the requirements for promotion set by the College, an assessment by an Educational Psychologist requested by the College will need to be done within a prescribed time frame given by the College. Should it be deemed necessary, recommendations will be made by the College to place the child in a suitable environment. No child will be progressed to the next grade. Please refer to the RCC Assessment Policy for more information with regards to promotion requirements and the request of seeing an Educational Psychologist.

Please ensure you assist us to maintain strict discipline and order, as it is only within a structured safe environment that quality education is delivered. Some of the factors contributing to good discipline and order are:

- Wearing the College uniform correctly whether on the premises or not.
- Arriving on time for the start of the College day or other activities and meetings.
- Addressing and referring to the staff of the College in an appropriate manner at all times, even should you feel frustrated by him/her, as this sets the tone for your child/ren's interaction with that individual.
- Ensure your child complies with completing tasks set for him/her.
- Not encouraging absenteeism.
- Ensuring your child has the correct stationery and other materials needed to be positively involved in the educational activities.
- Attending meetings, functions and fundraisers in support of your child, the College and the staff committed to delivering quality Christian education.

Please refer to the Code of Conduct for learners for more information on our disciplinary measures.

Every Monday morning for Primary School; and every Tuesday morning for High School, the College will start with a Christian Assembly where the week to follow will be dedicated to the Lord and where Christian values and norms may be shared with the children. In these Assemblies, learners who have excelled in the previous week or who have visited one of the managers for a reward for good work will be announced and praised.

Reports will be handed to parents at a parent meeting in the last week of 1st and 2nd term. Reports will be sent home with the learners the day before the College closes in the 3rd and 4th term. We encourage you to set aside time to attend these meetings to collect your child's report and to meet with his or her teacher to discuss their progress. All dates and details will be forwarded to you well in advance.

A weekly newsletter will be posted every Monday with important information for the week and/or term, on the D6 College Communicator. Each child is allocated a Gmail account where important communication will be sent. On enrolment all details of the communicator will be given to you and you may register online on your computer and/or on your mobile. This will enable you to keep up to date with all the important news the College needs to disseminate.

College uniform and General Appearance:

Boys:

Summer:

Grade R – Grey shorts; yellow short sleeved open neck shirt with badge on the pocket; grey long College socks with yellow stripes; black takkies (no white/coloured soles or markings on the takkie); grey College short/long sleeved jersey with yellow trim; grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Grades 1 – 10 - Yellow short sleeved shirt with the College badge on the pocket; grey shorts/long pants, grey long socks with yellow stripes; black lace-up school shoes; grey College short/long sleeved jersey with yellow trim; grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker.

Grades 4 - 10 - College blazer with badge on pocket. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Winter:

Grade R- Yellow long sleeved shirt with College tie – grey with yellow stripes; grey long pants; grey jersey with yellow trim; grey long College socks with yellow stripes; black takkies (no white/coloured soles or markings on the takkies); grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Grades 1 – 10 - Long grey pants (not stove pipes, length of pants may not be too short, grey pants to be worn above the hips, may not be frayed at the hem); (black belt may be worn if need be); yellow long sleeved shirt; College tie – grey with yellow stripes; long grey College socks with yellow stripes; black leather school lace-up school shoes; grey College jersey with yellow trim; grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker.

Grades 4 - 10 - College blazer with badge on pocket. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Girls:

Summer:

Grade R – Grey skirt; yellow short sleeved open necked shirt with College badge on the pocket; grey long socks with yellow stripes; black takkies (no white/coloured soles or markings on the takkie), black cycling shorts may be worn under a girl's skirt, but they may not be longer than the skirt, grey College short/long sleeved jersey with yellow trim; grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Grades 1 - 10 - Yellow short sleeved shirt with College badge on the pocket; grey skirt (length of skirt may not be shorter than four fingers above the knee, black cycling shorts may be worn under a girl's skirt but may not be longer than the skirt); grey long pants (not stove pipes, length of pants may not be too short, grey pants to be worn above the hips, may not be frayed at the hem); black leather school shoes; long grey College socks with yellow trim; grey College short/long sleeved jersey with yellow trim; College blazer/grey tracksuit top/College grey hooded jacket with badge on pocket or plain black windbreaker.

Grades 4 - 10 - College blazer with badge on pocket. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Winter:

Grade R - Yellow long sleeved shirt and grey College tie with yellow stripes; grey skirt/long grey pants, long grey College socks with yellow stripes/dark grey woollen stockings (no leggings may be worn); black takkies (no white/coloured soles or markings on the takkies); grey tracksuit top or plain black windbreaker. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Grades 1 – 10 - Yellow long sleeved shirt; College tie – grey with yellow trim; grey skirt/grey long pants, grey long socks with yellow trim/dark grey woollen stockings (no leggings are allowed); black leather school shoes, grey College jersey with yellow trim; College blazer/grey tracksuit top or plain black windbreaker.

Grades 4 - 10 - College blazer with badge on pocket. Learners must wear a grey cap with the College badge during break and extra murals.

Physical Education/Extra Mural uniform: (worn on extra-mural days only)

Summer

Black shorts/tracksuit pants, yellow golf shirt with a badge, long grey socks with the yellow stripes and black takkies (no white/coloured soles or markings on the takkie.)

Winter

College tracksuit/quantec College tracksuit, yellow golf shirt with a badge, long grey socks with the yellow stripes and black takkies (no white /coloured soles or markings on the takkie.) On really cold days learners may wear a black shirt under their golf shirt.

General Appearance

Boys' hair:

Boy's hair needs to be clean, neat and tidy. No Mohawks, comb overs, dreadlocks or no man buns. Hair should be clean and cut off the ears and collars. Fringe short and above the eyebrows. No hair gel. No mousse. No highlights or colour in hair.

Girls' hair:

Neat and tidy; tied up if touching the collar; hair accessories only in black, grey or yellow; no exotic hairstyles; no gel, colour or highlights. Braids are to be the colour of your natural hair.

Jewellery

Learners will not be permitted to wear any fashion jewellery in the form of earrings, hoops or ear cuffs, no piercings, no nose rings or tongue rings; no necklaces, pendants, bangles, rings, trinkets, charms, talismans, or any other jewellery or religious jewellery. They may wear a plain black or grey wristwatch - no brightly coloured wristwatches.

Medic-Alert is the only other form of "jewellery" allowed.

The following is prohibited – Boys and Girls:

The wearing of any make-up including foundation. No nail polish (gel, acrylic or silk nails) allowed

Boys must be clean-shaven.

No wearing of fashion shoes in place of the standard College footwear. The rolling up of College skirt waist bands is not permitted nor is the rolling up of shirt sleeves. Chewing gum will not be permitted in any instances.

During events that allow the wearing of casual wear, learners should wear neat, presentable clothes. Beachwear, tight-fitting clothes, shorts that are shorter than just above the knee, or clothes that are see-through and/or too revealing are not allowed. Hair, shoes and accessories should be neat at all times. Girls wearing leggings, are to wear a long top to cover their bottom.

No **substance** which is legally banned or which is mind altering, including vapes and e-cigarettes are permitted onto the College premises or are allowed to be in the possession of one of our learners.

Medication

Learners who need to take medicine during the College day need to leave such medication stating clear dosages and times with the office. No medication will be administered without a letter giving the College permission to administer the provided medication. No learner may have any medication on his/her person during the College day.

Cell Phones

We do not encourage children to bring cell phones to school, should they do so and these are lost or stolen, we cannot take responsibility for this. Should you need to convey a message to your child, please do so through the College secretary.

Appointments

Appointments with the register teacher should be made through the College secretary. Please refrain from accosting staff to discuss important issues when you drop off your child in the mornings as staff often need

to be on duty in the mornings and this would be their priority. As the Principal is also teaching, it is important that you make an appointment through the secretary to see any of the staff or the Principal. Only in a crisis situation, will measures be put into place to assist you with an appointment immediately.

Please note your child's safety is our priority. Should you need to visit the College during the school day, you will need to report to the Admin Office first to announce yourself and the reason for your visit. No individual may go directly to a class without having reported to the office and the secretary having notified the Principal as to your arrival and the reason for your visit. The onus will be on the Principal as to how to manage your visit.

We encourage you to pack a healthy lunch for your child daily as this will also contribute to effective learning. No child may be expected to concentrate if they are hungry.

The Tuckshop is run on a daily basis. Please refer to the weekly newsletter to see which foods/meals are available on specific days. Meals may be purchased using cash or a bank card on the Yoco machine at the Tuckshop.

Even though sporting facilities are limited at present, we still offer a variety of Extra-mural activities. Please encourage your child to participate in at least one activity per term, as we aim at developing the child as a whole and activities outside the classroom contribute greatly to this.

Should you be making use of our After Care facility, please note that we request that you collect your child on time, as staff on duty also need to get home to their children. Information about holiday programmes and activities will be conveyed to you timeously in order for you to budget for the additional costs. Please note that without the necessary letters of permission, no child may participate in certain outings or activities.

Dealing with Parent Complaints

The College has a formal parent complaint/grievance procedure.

Matters of concern:

1. The initial concern of a parent is to be conveyed to the class teacher by sending an email to the teacher's Gmail account.
2. Follow up will be made by that teacher after contact time and feedback will be forwarded to you or a meeting scheduled.
3. Should you wish to schedule a meeting, please do so by either emailing the teacher concerned or calling the office to request such a meeting.
4. We encourage a partnership approach with parents and other community members, college staff and Principal. We believe it takes a village to raise a child.

Formal complaints:

1. Please put the concern or complaint in writing.
2. Ensure that the complaint is raised in a timely manner preferably as soon as the issue is identified.
3. Feedback on the complaint will be given to you within a reasonable time frame, bearing in mind;
 - i. Staff cannot respond during contact time.
 - ii. Investigations may need to be made to clarify facts.
4. Should a meeting/consultation between the parent and school management be needed, the interview will be recorded in writing and followed up with a letter to the parent summarizing the key aspects of the meeting.
5. If need be, the future escalation of the complaint through the correct authoritative channels will be communicated.

Grievance Procedure

1. The parent should complete all sections of the Grievance Form, which may be requested from the Deputy Principal. This will enable the school to follow up on the grievance.

2. The School Management will then initiate an investigation of the parent's grievance, and take the appropriate steps to attempt to resolve the grievance, in the interests of the College and the learner/parent.
3. The parent/complainant should make themselves available for an enquiry into the complaint, or a meeting with a member of the management of the College or the Principal.
4. Should the grievance not be resolved to the satisfaction of the parent, a more formal process of reconciliation/mediation may be appropriate to bring the matter to a conclusion.
5. Before the commencement of further reconciliation/mediation, all educators involved with the learner concerned will complete a confidential report. The purpose of the confidential report is to gain a complete perspective of the breadth of the problem, before the parent interview takes place.
6. Whilst parents may not agree with every decision by the College, in most cases the parent and College will find enough common ground to continue a mutually respectful relationship.
7. Should the breakdown in the relationship between the College and parents (or the learner) be considered to be irreparable, or should the College and the parents be unable to agree on a positive way forward to resolve the impasse, the Principal/Operational Director may need to consider instituting cautionary measure against the parents.

In all instances the Christian values we ascribe to as a Christian College and our Statement of Faith and The Holy Bible will serve as the benchmark should there be an area of concern.

Finally, as new parents, we trust you will catch our vision and come on board with us with fundraising to complete the further stages of the building of our College. We trust the Lord that He will continue to provide as he has done to date. Join us as we step out in faith, trusting God in this exciting venture and be part of leaving an amazing legacy!

The Principal, Staff and Board of Revival City College

The Principal

The Operational Director

SOME INSPIRATION

Having a child is wondrous. It is to forever have your heart go walking around outside your body - Elizabeth Stone

You don't always know what your kids will do, but your kids should always know what you will do – Joyce Sanders

If I had my child to raise all over again, I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later. I'd finger-paint more, and point the finger less. I would do less correcting and more connecting. I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes. I'd take more hikes and fly more kites. I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play. I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars. I'd do more hugging and less tugging – Diane Loomans

Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation – C. Everett Koop

Affirming words from moms and dads are like light switches. Speak a word of affirmation at the right moment in a child's life and it's like lighting up a whole roomful of possibilities – Gary Smalley

If you want your children to improve, let them overhear the nice things you say about them to others – Haim Ginott.

Revised June 2023