



<b>NAME:</b> 04.01.02 CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP	<b>VERSION No.:</b> 1
<b>REVISED:</b> SEPTEMBER 26, 2016	<b>REVIEW:</b> 2019-2020

REVIEW EVERY 4 YEARS

### **PREAMBLE**

Custody and guardianship of a student may change following the admission of a family and the enrollment of the child(ren). RCS is sensitive to the changing dynamics that a family might experience when parents are separated, divorcing and divorced. Regardless of where a student's parents are in this process, the Administration team will place the best interests of the child above either party while respecting any court endorsed custodial agreements or court orders that have been provided to the school. Information that may impact the safety and well-being of a student will be shared on a need-to-know basis.

1. Students who reside with both parents are deemed to be in a shared custody arrangement.
2. Where the custody of a student enrolled at RCS is in question or changes in custody occur as a result of changes in the family structure, the responsibility lies with the applicant parent to promptly and fully inform the school with all relevant information.
3. Custody is often resolved through a written agreement between the parents. Where a custody order is in place, it is the responsibility of the parent(s) to provide copies of the current arrangement to the Admissions Coordinator and to provide updates whenever that arrangement is changed or modified by the court.
  - a. If there is a non-custodial relationship between the student and a parent, the custodial parent must inform the school of any changes to the agreement and any restrictions.
4. If a student is placed under the guardianship of someone other than their parent, the guardian shall stand in place of the parent.
  - a. If a student has an appointed guardian, a copy of this appointment must be provided to the Admissions Coordinator along with any updates should that arrangement change or be modify.
  - b. If there is a non-custodial relationship between the student and a parent, the guardian must inform the school of any changes to the agreement and any restrictions.
5. A custodian is a legal appointment whereby someone other than a parent is given responsibility for the student. They do not stand in the place of a parent but are legally responsible for ensuring that the child's basic needs are provided. A signed/notarized agreement must be provided to the Admissions Coordinator.
  - a. Additional information may be required and requested from time to time.