



Parent-Student Handbook

2025-2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	GENERAL INFORMATION.....	3
	School Board, Administration, Faculty & Accreditation.....	3
	General Overview	4
	Mission, Vision, and Core Values	5
	Statement of Faith	6
	Philosophy of Education.....	7
	Expected Student Outcomes	9
II.	ACADEMIC PROGRAM	10
	Curriculum	10
	Field Trips	10
	Grade Reporting.....	10
	Parent Teacher Conferences	10
	Grading Guidelines	11
	Homework Philosophy	11
	Exams	13
	Competitions	13
	Honors/Awards	13
	Extracurricular Activities	14
III.	CONDUCT GUIDELINES	15
	Discipline Policy	15
	Expected Conduct.....	15
	Discipline Policy	16
	Parent Notification.....	17
	Suspension as Corrective Discipline	17
IV.	PARENT INFORMATION.....	18
	Admission Process and Requirements for the Student	18
	Admission Requirements for the Parents	19
	Non-Discrimination Policy.....	19
	Guidelines for Student Arrival, Dismissal, and Parking.....	19
	Tardies	20
	Leaving School Early	20
	Attendance Requirements.....	21
	Dress Code	21
	Lunches & Snacks.....	22
	Birthday Parties, Holidays, and Special Celebrations	22
	Parent Teacher Association	23
	After School Program	23
	Photo Release.....	23
	Weather Policy	23
	Cell Phone Policy	24
V.	OTHER INFORMATION	24
	School Memberships.....	24
	School Accreditation	24
	Frequently Asked Questions.....	25
VI.	Appendices	27
	Appendix I: The Learning Stages of A Child	27
	Appendix II: Latin - 5 Reasons to Study Latin	28
	Appendix: III: Field Trip Guidelines.....	29
	Appendix IV: Chaperone Guidelines.....	30
	Appendix V: Uniform Policy and Guidelines	31
	Appendix VI: Addendum to the Middle School Discipline Policy.....	34
	Appendix VII: Healthy Campus/Sick Policy	35

Disclaimers: 1) This Handbook is not contractually binding on Saint Simons Christian School in any way.
 2) This Handbook is subject to change without notice by the school's governing body.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

School Board

Jim Parker, *Chair*
Kim Fuller, *Vice Chair*
Jordan Cook, *Secretary*
Jeff Martin, *Treasurer*

Justin Davidson
Jimmy Gunderman
Brantley McMinn
Renee Harris (ex-officio)

Administration and Staff

Mark Kok
Headmaster
mkok@sschristianschool.com

Laura Westberry
Administrative Assistant
lwestberry@sschristianschool.com

Ginger Strehle
Administrative Assistant
gstrehle@sschristianschool.com

Accreditation

Saint Simons Christian School is accredited by two organizations:

- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) (also known as Cognia, formerly AdvancEd)

Faculty

Amanda Tully – K4
atully@sschristianschool.com

Heather Wills – K5
hwills@sschristianschool.com

Brenda Clifton – 1st Grade
bclifton@sschristianschool.com

Allyson Garrison – 2nd Grade
agarrison@sschristianschool.com

Deborah Hawthorne – 3rd Grade
dhawthorne@sschristianschool.com

Austin Ross – 4th Grade
aross@sschristianschool.com

Rochelle Dukes – 5th Grade
rdukes@sschristianschool.com

Liz Olson – MS ELA/SST
lolson@sschristianschool.com

Kristee Glace –MS Science
kglace@sschristianschool.com

Stephanie Ramage – MS Math
sramage@sschristianschool.com

Denise Brooks – MS Math
dbrooks@sschristianschool.com

Nick Zichettella – MS Social Studies
nzichettella@sschristianschool.com

Mallory Carellas – MS Spanish
mcarellas@sschristianschool.com

Dan Moore – Athletic Director
dmoore@sschristianschool.com

Kevin Kavanaugh – PE
kkavanaugh@sschristianschool.com

Justin Simmons – PE Aide
jsimmons@sschristianschool.com

Mindy Stewart – Art
mindystewart@sschristianschool.com

Aimee DeHaven – Development/Music/MS Aide
adehaven@sschristianschool.com

Chelsea Turner – Computer
cturner@sschristianschool.com

Caryn Curry – K4 Aide
ccurry@sschristianschool.com

Olivia Hendley –K5 Aide
ohendley@sschristianschool.com

Leigh Noonan – 1st Grade Aide
lnoonan@sschristianschool.com

Lisa Lyle – Elementary Aide
llyle@sschristianschool.com

Mary Ellen Etheridge – Elementary Aide
meetheridge@sschristianschool.com

Pat Jenkins – Resource/SST
pjenkins@sschristianschool.com

Diana Josey–Director of Curriculum/Instruction
djosey@sschristianschool.com

Brandy Pollette – Instructional Coach
bpollette@sschristianschool.com

Misty Ricks – Nurse
mricks@sschristianschool.com

General Overview

History: Saint Simons Christian School is an independent Christian school that was established in 1994. This school year marks our 32nd year of serving families of the Glynn County. Originally the school was founded by Golden Isles Presbyterian Church and was called The Whitefield School, after the 18th century Christian, George Whitefield, whose passion for children led him to open the Bethesda Home for Boys in Savannah, GA in 1740.

In the spring of 2007 the school became an independent school led by an independent school board. In the spring of 2008 the school board hired Karl Graustein to serve as Headmaster of the school. In the summer of 2009 the school changed its name to Saint Simons Christian School and moved to a more central location on St. Simons Island. In May 2011 we were able to purchase the school property and establish a permanent location for the school.

Purpose: To provide a Christ-centered education for students in K4 through eighth grade in Glynn County.

Curriculum:

- Jesus Christ is preeminent in all we do, and we teach all subjects from a biblical perspective.
- Teachers are experienced and gifted educators and serve as Christian role models for our students.
- We seek to offer a rigorous and well-balanced liberal arts education, covering reading, writing, literature, math, science, history, foreign language, art, music, computer, and physical education. We seek to help students reach their potential through engaging and age-appropriate instruction and learning activities.

Website: www.sschristianschool.com

Recent Achievements and Activities:

- Spelling Bee – 1st-8th grades participate in classroom and school-wide competition in using the Scipps Word Lists and Procedures. Competing in regional and national spelling bees is desired for the future.
- Daughters of American Revolution “DAR” Essay Contest – 5th-8th grade students participate in the Ft. Frederica Chapter of the DAR Essay Contest. Often SSCS students place or win this contest.
- Iowa Tests of Basic Skills – Annually our students score very well on the ITBS test.
- Middle School Clubs – Middle school students can participate in the following clubs: Student Council, Art Club, STEM Club, and Yearbook Club.
- Spring Musical Production – Students in grades 5-8 can participate in our annual musical performance in the spring. Past performances include *Frozen, Jr. (2025)*, *The Music Man, Jr. (2024)*, *Annie, Jr., (2023)* *Dear Edwina, Jr. (2022)*, *Fiddler on the Roof (2021)*, *Mary Poppins (2019)* *Guys & Dolls (2018)*, *Aladdin (2017)*.

- **Athletics Program** – We offer the three sports seasons: fall – girls volleyball and co-ed cross country; winter - boys and girls basketball; spring – boys baseball, and co-ed golf.

Statistics: The student body of 174 students represents at least 16 area churches.

School Board Responsibilities:

- Establish clear policies that help maintain the purity and continuity of our school's foundational values.
- Ensure financial stability.
- Hire a Headmaster who oversees all aspects of the day-to-day administration of the school.

Mission:

We seek to provide an excellent, Christ-centered education to the families of Glynn County.

Vision:

Every graduate is academically and spiritually equipped to make a difference for Christ.

Core Values:

- **Love & Grace** – We desire that the faculty, parents, and board form a partnership through Christ to educate and guide our children with love and grace.
- **Biblical Worldview** – We help our students see a connection to Christ and His Word in every academic pursuit and develop a biblical worldview that helps them grow in wisdom and knowledge.
- **Academic Excellence** – We seek to provide a rich academic environment where students can reach their highest potential.
- **Parent Involvement** – We encourage parents to be highly involved in every area of the school, to share their gifts in areas of service and leadership.
- **Church Relations** – We foster close relationships with churches throughout our community and are proud to represent many families from a broad base of local churches throughout Glynn County.
- **The Whole Child** – We aim to work with parents to guide and develop children mentally, physically, and spiritually, and consider this an important foundation to an excellent education.
- **Unity** – We endeavor to reflect the racial, ethnic, and economic diversity within the

body of Christ.

Motto: Guiding Hearts, Growing Minds

Statement of Faith:

We believe in one God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God has created us in His own image and for His own glory, and has called us into relationship with Himself. At the same time, He has called us to manifest and to reflect holiness through obedience to His commandments. Because we have failed in this responsibility, we have become estranged from our Creator. Thankfully, because of His profound love for His creation, God has initiated and accomplished a plan of redemption in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

We confess Jesus to be the Christ of Old Testament prophecy, being at the same time fully God and fully man. Jesus, through his life, death, and resurrection, has provided the sole basis of our justification, which is by God's grace, and we receive by faith alone.

God has given us His Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts as believers. The same Holy Spirit brings people together to form a corporate community of believers. We believe that Christ has established a visible Church which is called to live in the power of the Holy Spirit under the regulation of the authority of Holy Scripture, exercising discipline, administering the sacraments, and preaching the Gospel of Christ.

We believe that the Bible is inspired by God, infallible, and entirely trustworthy in all that it teaches.

We embrace and adopt the essential truths of historic Christianity, including those articulated in the two most ancient creeds of the Church: the Apostles and Nicene Creeds.

We believe our faith should be visible in models of personal and social behavior. We seek to be faithful Disciples of Christ. We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex and gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Co. 6:18, 7:2-5, Heb 13:4) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that the Scripture dictates the basic standard of sexual behavior as faithfulness in marriage and abstinence in singleness and that any form of sexual

immorality (including but not limited to: adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10).

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Saint Simons Christian School and to provide a Biblical role model to Saint Simons Christian School students and families and the community in which we serve, it is imperative that all persons employed by Saint Simons Christian School in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers at or for Saint Simons Christian School, agree with, and agree to abide by, this Statement of Faith, including the aspects regarding marriage, gender, and sexuality. (Matt 5:16, Phil 2:14-16, 1 Thess 5:22).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21, Rom 10:9-10, 1 Cor 6:9-11).

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31, Luke 6:31) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes towards any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of Saint Simons Christian School.

This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all we believe. For purposes of Saint Simons Christian School's faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Board of Directors is the school's final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.

Philosophy of Education:

The classroom is a dynamic and wonderful place. Teachers inspire students to learn new truths and skills. Students gain knowledge and acquire new skills, step by step, day by day, year after year. At Saint Simons Christian School this is all done in an environment where Christ is central and the triune God is proclaimed.

We believe that everyone needs a personal Savior because we have all been affected by the fall of man. The first step towards living a life that honors and pleases the Lord is to believe in Christ as personal Savior. We teach salvation by faith alone, and we regularly make the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ a part of the school day. We highlight life in Christ after conversion, and we seek to inspire students to live all of life in a way that is faithful to the calling they have received in Christ.

We believe parents are primarily responsible for the raising up and training of their children. We eagerly partner with parents by providing a loving, caring, and

supportive educational environment. We encourage parents to be highly involved in the school, and we seek to remain in close communication with all families.

We believe that each child has unique gifts and the potential to learn. Following the leading and guiding of the teacher, students learn new concepts, truths, and skills. Through attention, observation, and practice, students gain knowledge on which they can build and apply to life.

We believe Christian teachers lead their students into learning. Teachers use many words, but they speak loudest as they model a love for the Lord, a love for learning, and a servant's heart. Effective teachers have thorough educational training and a clear gift of teaching. They seek to draw every child into the learning process. They see the potential and strengths of each child, and they demonstrate grace and patience, as they establish appropriate limits for the children.

We believe learning is an incremental process where new material is introduced, reinforced, and reviewed to help students achieve mastery. Teachers start by connecting new concepts to previously learned material, and then, through clear, systematic steps, begin to introduce the new lesson. Through practice and review students can attain higher levels of understanding. After concepts have been thoroughly taught, teachers assess student knowledge and understanding.

We offer a liberal arts education, all taught from a distinctively Christian perspective. We teach Bible as a core subject, and we seek to help students learn to love God as they know the stories and truths contained in God's Word. As we teach foundational skills in math, language arts, Latin, and Spanish and lessons on key events and concepts in science and social studies, we integrate biblical truths in every part of the curriculum. We want students to develop a Christian worldview, seeing all of life from a Christian perspective.

We know that students also learn a great deal outside the classroom and apart from textbooks. In art, music, and computer, students learn creativity as well as practical skills. Through singing, dancing, and performing in drama, students become comfortable in front of others and understand the importance of working together as everyone faithfully does their part. Through clubs and electives, students have the chance to utilize their gifts of leadership and service. In physical education, students develop gross motor and group games skills. In athletics, students develop the physical talents God has given them and learn to honor the Lord in the midst of competition.

We realize that during the school day and year there will be a need for training and discipline. We seek to provide love and limits. Teachers love students by providing frequent encouragement and taking a personal interest in each student. We establish limits because we love them, and we want them to experience the blessings of living within appropriate boundaries. When students need correction, we seek to do this in grace, patience, and love. And we hope that through the discipline process they will

feel our care and become more aware of the forgiving grace of God.

We seek to help each student develop a vibrant faith and a strong walk with the Lord so they are ready to live for Christ when they finish their years here at school.

Ultimately, we desire that each student be academically and spiritually equipped for the future calling God has on his or her life.

Expected Student Outcomes:

It is a joy to partner with parents to shape the minds and hearts of our students. We realize that it is impossible for each of our graduates to fully attain all of the outcomes listed below. We view these outcomes as targets at which we aim. Each student is a work in progress, and we count it a privilege to be part of that work.

If we attain our school's vision, each of our graduates will...

1. Have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
2. Thoroughly know the Bible and desire to live according to the truths God has given in the Bible
3. Be faithfully involved in a local Christian church
4. Possess a biblical worldview and view all of life from a distinctively Christian perspective
5. Have a heart to accomplish the Great Commission – go and make disciples of Christ
6. Love learning
7. Have a thorough education in all subjects: Bible, language arts, history, science, foreign language, math, art, computer, and physical education
8. Appreciate the fine arts: music, drama, art
9. Be fully equipped for the next level of learning
10. Communicate clearly – both oral and written communication
11. Think critically and solve complex problems
12. Possess essential computer skills
13. Faithfully steward the gifts God has given them, in areas such as leadership, athletics, art, music, drama

II. ACADEMIC PROGRAM

A. CURRICULUM

We offer a rigorous academic curriculum focusing on mastery of skills and the development of critical thinking in each student. In addition to core academic subjects, we offer Latin, Spanish, Physical Education, Computer, Music, and Art instruction. All subjects are taught from a biblical worldview, and teachers seek to model the truth found in God's Word as it applies to all areas of learning.

B. FIELD TRIPS

Field trips allow students to experience history, understand culture, and build lasting memories. We encourage our teachers to utilize resources available for field trips, including overnight trips when appropriate. All grades take day trips that complement the classroom curriculum.

All middle school students take a three day and two night outdoor educational trip to the Rock Eagle 4-H Center once while they are in middle school. Each spring students in grades 5th through 8th participate in a 2 to 5 day class spring trip to such cities as St. Augustine, Charleston, Atlanta, and Washington D.C.

Please see Appendix IV for Field Trip Guidelines.

C. GRADE REPORTING

We operate on a quarterly grading system. Mid-quarter reports will be sent home with K4-3rd grade students (1st Quarter Only). Parents of 4th-8th grade students may view student progress on demand through TeacherEase (www.teacherease.com). Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. They are given directly to parents during conferences following the 1st quarter of the school year and are sent home with students for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters.

D. PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled through the office following the first and third quarters of school. These 15 minute conferences are held during regular school hours. Middle school students are expected to attend with parents. Teachers begin with prayer, encourage parents regarding the student's progress, discuss any possible concerns, and give report cards.

Teachers are available and accessible to parents throughout the school year. Appointments can be made through the school office or by e-mailing the teacher.

E. GRADING GUIDELINES

For K4 students:

- A All of the time
- M Most of the time
- S Some of the time
- N Needs more time

For students in grades K5:

- E Consistently exceeding current level expectations
- S Consistently meeting current level expectations
- I Improvement has been shown. Continued time and effort needed.
- N Needs significant continued time and effort for improvement.

Numerical grades will be recorded and maintained for all students in Grades 1-8.
Percents and Grade Equivalents for Grades 1-8:

- 90% - 100% = A - Excellent
- 80% - 89% = B - Above Average
- 75% - 79% = C - Average
- 70% - 74% = D - Below Average
- Below 70% = F - Failing

F. HOMEWORK PHILOSOPHY

Teachers will assign homework to grades 1-8 on a consistent basis. Homework Assignment Notebooks, which will be provided by the school, will be used by students in 4th grade and above. For grades 2-5, parents are to initial the listed assignments and record the amount of time it took to complete the homework assignment. The student will return the assignment book to school the next day. Teachers will check to see the assignment book has been signed.

Below are the primary reasons for assigning homework:

1. Students often need extra practice in specific new concepts, skills, or facts. The teacher may assign homework to allow for the necessary practice.
2. Repeated short periods of practice or study of new information is often a better way to learn than one long period of study.
3. Parental involvement is critical to a child's education, and homework can be used as an opportunity for parents to actively assist their child's studies. This will keep the parents informed as to the current topics of study in the class.

4. Homework may also be assigned to students who, having been given adequate time to complete an assignment in class, did not use the time wisely. The homework in this situation serves a punitive as well as practical purpose.
5. The necessity for doing homework will vary from grade to grade and from student to student. The guide below should be regarded as average times in which homework should be completed. The teacher will need to check frequently regarding the amount of time spent on homework to gauge the amount of work given and adjustments will be made accordingly.

Approximate amount of homework:
(Teachers must coordinate their homework.)

GRADE	AVERAGE TIME PER WEEK NIGHT
K4 & K5	0-10 Minutes
1 st & 2 nd	20 - 30 Minutes
3 rd	30 - 40 Minutes
4 th & 5 th	40 - 50 Minutes
6 th - 8 th	50 - 60 Minutes

6. Homework in grades K4-5 is not to be assigned over the weekend or over holidays and vacation periods without the Headmaster's approval. Occasionally middle school students will have homework over the weekend.
7. Since homework takes time at home, it is not to be assigned due to the teacher's poor planning or in place of an assignment which could have been completed in school. Homework will be used only for the best of purposes.
8. In most situations, homework will be a review of class work. Homework will not be given on "new material" that has not been introduced to the class. For reports and larger projects, teachers will clearly give expectations well in advance of the due date.

F. EXAMS

For all middle school students, semester exams will be administered in the following subject areas:

- 6th grade – Math, English, Science

- 7th grade – Math, English, Science, History
- 8th grade – Math, English, Science, History, and Bible

G. COMPETITIONS

Competitions, such as the DAR History Essay, the Spelling Bee, etc., are encouraged. Competitions should be of a high quality in nature. Teachers are to assist the administration by making suggestions as to which competitions students may avail themselves. Student participation in these competitions will be voluntary.

H. HONORS/AWARDS

Below is a list of the purpose of honors and awards as well as the specific awards we give to students.

1. We want to recognize publicly those students accomplishing the necessary goals to receive the applicable honor/award.
2. We want to motivate students toward excellence, commending excellent work.
3. We wish to direct public attention to the high quality of work being done by students, to the glory of God.
4. We give the Luke 2:52 Award to a student who has shown personal and spiritual growth during the school year. The student must have grown in favor with his teacher(s) and fellow classmates by demonstrating the Fruit of the Spirit. The heart attitude as well as academic effort of the student is noted by those who teach him. A consensus from all of the student's teachers must be agreed upon in order for a student to be awarded. (Note: Each teacher will recognize one award winner each semester, for a total of two awards per grade.)
5. Honor Roll Names & Recognition
 - a. Names
 - i. Highest Honor Roll – All A's
 - ii. Honor Roll – All A's and no more than two B's
 - b. Recognition
 - i. Quarterly in the school newsletter
6. At the Year-End Awards Ceremony we will also recognize academic excellence and outstanding character displayed throughout the year. **(Note: Middle school awards are earned. Not everyone in the middle school award ceremony is guaranteed to receive an award.)**

I. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We strongly believe that much learning occurs during participation in extracurricular activities. We offer several opportunities for elementary and middle school students. Girls volleyball and cross-country are offered in the Fall (grades 5-8), boys and girls basketball is offered in the Winter (grades 5-8), and boys baseball, and co-ed golf are offered in the Spring. In addition, we have a Spring musical (grades 5-8).

Below is the Athletic Eligibility Policy. This includes attendance, academic, and behavior standards for student participation in our athletic programs. If a student is ineligible at the point of tryouts, he/she may not be able to participate on the athletic team.

1. Attendance Standard

- a. An absent student is not allowed to participate in a practice or game on the day of absence.
- b. A student can be tardy or leave early for an appointment and participate in a practice or game, but he/she must meet the attendance standard (arriving by 11:45am or not leaving before 11:45am).
- c. A student who leaves early due to sickness cannot participate in a practice or game on the same day.

2. Academic Standard

- a. Students become ineligible if they have two grades below 75% on a quarter report card.
- b. Semester exam grades will not be considered.
- c. Reinstatement
 - i. If a student meets the academic standard at the mid-quarter report or at the next quarter report, the student can return to the team.
 - ii. When reinstated to the team, the player can only practice for the first 7 calendar days, and the player must sit out at least 1 game.

3. Behavior Standard

- a. Students must be in good standing with the Middle School Behavior Plan in order to participate in SSCS Athletics.

III. Conduct Guidelines

A. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

1. The responsibility for training a child in godly behavior belongs to the parents. To provide and maintain an orderly, disciplined, and wholesome environment for learning, the following code of conduct is established. The school standards seek to reinforce, maintain, and supplement godly training initiated in the home.
2. A student and faculty and staff are expected to behave in a manner that exhibits the following characteristics:
 - a. Respectful obedience to authority (parents, teachers, staff, administration, etc.) and adherence to school regulations, whether a person in authority is present or not
 - b. Responsibility in doing assigned or expected tasks, such as class work, homework, and cleanup tasks at school.
 - c. Cooperation with others in playing and working at school
 - d. Courtesy and respect for others: (students, parents, teachers, staff, etc.)
 - e. Cleanliness in person and property
 - f. Truthfulness in word and life
 - g. Respect for property of the school and other individuals
 - h. Promptness in attendance and assignments
 - i. Morally upright conduct in all areas of school life, including language, social relationships, and recreation
 - j. Abstention from the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and weapons
 - k. Service to one another and community
 - l. Dress and appearance should be appropriate per uniform and dress code guidelines and in conformance with biological sex/gender
 - m. Appropriate behavior regarding and use of restrooms, locker rooms, changing facilities, or overnight accommodations in conformance with biological sex/gender
 - n. Abstention from all sexual conduct contrary to Biblical standards
 - o. Behavior according to the Statement of Faith
3. Because middle school students have multiple teachers, a tracking system has been created to provide consistency among all teachers. If a student fails to meet a behavior expectation in the classroom, the teacher will mark the student's assignment book using the notations listed below.

Teacher notations for the assignment book:

 - B – disrespectful behavior
 - L – late to class or returning to locker for needed supplies
 - U – uniform violation

- SL – silent lunch

If a student receives three U's and/or L's within 10 school days, the student will be issued a silent lunch either for that day or the following day. This will also be noted in the assignment book. **Refer to Appendix VI for B's written in the agendas.**

Assignment books should be regularly checked by a parent. If the student does not have his/her assignment book, the student will be issued a silent lunch for that day. If the behavior continues without improvement, the teachers will refer to disciplinary actions described in Discipline Policy section.

B. DISCIPLINE POLICY

The majority of discipline issues that may surface at school will be dealt with at the classroom level. Teachers may use a variety of progressive discipline within the classroom (i.e. loss of privilege, seating change, sit out break, silent lunch, etc...). They may also send the student to the Headmaster.

We are not content with merely stopping the inappropriate behavior; therefore, teachers look for the earliest opportunity to explore with the student the overflow of the heart issues that have produced the wrong behavior. We seek to bring together “shepherding the child’s heart” with the biblical “sowing and reaping” principle. As in all other areas of education at SSCS, love and forgiveness are an integral part of the discipline process of a student.

If for any reason a student receives discipline from the Headmaster, the following sequence will generally be observed.

1. The first two times within either semester of the school year that a student’s behavior requires that the student be sent to the Headmaster for discipline, the student's parents will be contacted and given details of the visit; the contact will be via email and/or by telephone. The parents’ assistance and support in averting further problems may be requested.
2. The third office visit may be followed by a meeting with the student’s parents.
3. Should the student require a fourth visit, the student may be suspended for not more than three school days. All make-up work will be required to be completed within three days (see Suspension as Corrective Discipline).
4. If a fifth visit is required, the student may be expelled from school.

Saint Simons Christian School realizes that expelling a student from school is a serious matter and should always be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Forgiveness and restitution are fundamental to the total discipline policy. However, should a student and his parents not be able to eliminate behavioral problems before a fifth office visit, the student will be expelled.

Saint Simons Christian School is a Christian institution providing a Biblically based education in a distinct Christian environment, and it believes that its Biblical role is to work in conjunction with the home to mold students to be Christ-like. On those occasions in which the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home is counter to or in opposition to our

Statement of Faith or Standards of Conduct and the Biblical lifestyle that the school teaches, the school reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to discontinue enrollment of a student.

C. PARENT NOTIFICATION

In an effort to keep parents fully informed of problems regarding their child's behavior or lack of response to instructions or school directives, the teacher, a staff member, or administration will inform parents through email and/or call home.

D. SUSPENSION AS CORRECTIVE DISCIPLINE

Saint Simons Christian School may apply this Suspension Corrective Discipline Policy, in the event such reasonable discipline becomes necessary, as follows:

Suspension discipline shall not be used as a first line of punishment for misbehavior unless the pupil was informed beforehand that specific misbehavior could occasion its use. Suspension may be employed as a first line of punishment for those acts of misconduct which are so anti-social or disruptive in nature as to shock the conscience. Specific offenses include continued disobedience to an adult employee's warnings, assault on another student without provocation, striking another child with a dangerous object, and other extreme acts.

The suspension corrective discipline shall consist of suspension of the student for the remainder of the day and the following day. The student will be responsible for completing missed class work, including tests during the absence. All work will be due on the first day the student returns. The student will receive half credit for all assignments completed during the absence. No credit will be given for work turned in after the first day back at school. Upon a decision to suspend a student for the remainder of a school day, the Headmaster will notify the student's parents and require them to make transportation arrangements to remove their child from the school immediately.

The teacher making the discipline referral shall submit a written report of the incident to the Headmaster, and such report shall become a part of the student's academic file. Upon request by the parent, the parent may receive a copy of the written report.

Repeated need for discipline may result in a required conference between the parents and the Headmaster to discuss disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion from the school.

IV. PARENT INFORMATION

A. ADMISSION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STUDENT

1. A child must have reached the age of five years by September 1 of the Fall in which he would be entering Kindergarten.
2. A child entering first grade must have reached the age of six years by September 1 of the fall in which he would enter SSCS.
3. After an initial parent meeting with the Headmaster, a child must take basic entrance tests to determine readiness for the grade in which he would be entering. Remedial work may be required before entering the school. However, if there is evidence to show that the child may not be adequately prepared for the next sequential grade level, with the parents' compliance, he may repeat the previous grade.
4. In addition to entrance testing, if the student is transferring from another school, all student records must be received by SSCS before a decision for admittance can be made.
5. The child must have successfully completed the previous school year, and his school work and behavior must compare favorably to the comparable grade at SSCS.
6. Parental notification of admittance will be made after all requirements have been met.
7. Saint Simons Christian School is not equipped to accommodate students with special needs. Students with documented needs will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
8. Students transferring into SSCS after the start of the 2nd semester follow the same admissions process and standards.
9. The child should understand that his parents have delegated their authority to the school. Therefore, he is subject to the instruction and discipline of the teachers and Headmaster in their prescribed roles at school.
10. Saint Simons Christian School is a Christian institution providing a Biblically based education in a distinct Christian environment, and it believes that its Biblical role is to work in conjunction with the home to mold students to be Christ-like. On those occasions in which the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home is counter to or in opposition to our Statement of Faith or Standards of Conduct and the Biblical lifestyle that the school teaches, the school reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of a student.

B. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PARENTS

1. Parents of students in Saint Simons Christian School must have a clear understanding of the biblical philosophy and purpose of the school and must be willing to have their child taught according to the school's Statement of Faith, Core Values, and Philosophy of Education and held to the Standards of Conduct.
2. Parents must acknowledge and cooperate with all the written policies of SSCS, including the areas of school work and conduct standards, active communication with teachers, and discipline guidelines.

C. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Saint Simons Christian School of St. Simons Island, Georgia, admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities general accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

D. STUDENT ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL AND PARKING GUIDELINES:

1. Daily Arrival

All students are encouraged to arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 a.m. Students may arrive between 8:00-8:15 a.m. but must gather in the breezeway between the buildings. No students may arrive prior to 8:00 a.m. If a student arrives after 8:30 a.m., the student must check in at the office to receive a tardy slip before going to the classroom.

Parents are asked to enter the school drive and drop off students at the breezeway entrance. All students should enter through the lunchroom and enter their respective building.

2. Daily Dismissal

Students are dismissed at 3:00 p.m. (K4 students have the option to go home at 12:15 p.m. or stay until 3:00 p.m.) Students will be brought out of the building at the main entrance as a class and will wait together with their teacher until picked up by an authorized person. Parents are asked to pick up their children promptly. All students must be picked up within 15 minutes of dismissal. Please do not allow pre-school children or other siblings to enter the building without adult supervision.

Under normal circumstances, no child will be released to anyone not listed on the form entitled "Authorization for Child Pick-up." However, if a situation arises where someone other than those listed on the authorization needs to pick up your child, please notify the school in writing.

If unable to send a note, please call the school office and leave a message naming the designated driver, the date of pick up and that he/she has your permission to pick up your child.

3. Parking

Throughout the day, please use the parking spaces in front of the building.

4. Items/Lunches left at home

If a parent brings an item(s) to school for his/her child, the item(s) should be brought to the office. Parents cannot bring the item(s) directly to the classroom. This would include backpacks, lunches, etc.

5. Visitor Check-in

All visitors to the school should check-in by signing in at the office desk. Visitors may not go directly to any classroom without permission from the office.

E. TARDIES

Attendance and tardy records for all students are kept by the classroom teacher and are reported on the student's report card each quarter (9 weeks).

1. Being on time is an act of accepting responsibility and of showing respect to classmates and teachers. Students who are tardy disrupt the entire class.
2. A tardy will be counted if a student is not in his assigned seat when the school day begins at 8:30a.m.
3. A student who is tardy to class is to report to the office to request a classroom pass before being admitted to class.
4. After three morning tardies within the last 10 school days, the student will serve a Tardy Detention by sitting out 10 minutes of the next morning recess.
5. A student will be considered absent if he arrives to school after 11:45 a.m.
6. Distinguishing between excused and unexcused tardies is at the discretion of the classroom teacher, Administrative Assistant(s) and/or Headmaster.

F. LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

If a student needs to leave school early due to illness, appointment, lunch with parent, etc., the parent is to come to the office to pick up the child. (Please do not go directly to the classroom.) Parents will be asked to note the time of pick-up on the iPad at the front desk. In the case of an appointment, the child should bring a note from a parent in advance in order to notify the

teacher. If a student checks out before 11:45 a.m. and does not return to school, the student will be considered absent for the day.

G. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. A student must attend 87% of the scheduled days for each semester. An academic penalty will result if a student is absent for more than 12 days in either semester (does not include school sponsored trips). If the 12 days are exceeded, the parents of the student will need to meet with the Headmaster. Should absences reach 10 days in a semester, a written warning will be given by the office.
2. Short-term absences – If a student needs to be absent from school for one to two days, the parents should contact the school office by note or by phone. It is the responsibility of the student to find out what work was missed during the absence and to arrange for make-up work. The student will be given the number of days absent plus two in order to complete the missed work. We do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.
3. The homeroom teacher is responsible for completing and/or circulating a Class Assignments form for all subjects and either sends it home with a sibling or other student designee.
4. Long-term absences – If a student needs to be absent for three or more consecutive days, the parents notify the school in writing explaining the circumstances. This will permit the appropriate teacher(s) time to compile the necessary schoolwork which the student would miss.
5. Extended absences – SSCS will cooperate with families taking their children from school for vacations, etc. However, when extended absences are voluntary (not emergency or illness), all assigned schoolwork will be due the day the student returns to school. Prior to this type of absence, it is recommended that the student work ahead. This eliminates the need to work on vacation or complete a significant amount of make-up work. We recommend that vacations be scheduled during school holidays.

H. DRESS CODE

We believe that a child's environment is important to effective learning and that distractions must be kept to a minimum. As part of this philosophy, we have chosen a uniform dress code for all grades, so that the focus remains on the education. A printed copy of purchasing information will be given to parents and posted on the school website. A school "used uniform closet" is also maintained in an effort to recycle uniforms at less expense. Please see Appendix IV: Uniform Policy and Guidelines for the specific uniform dress code requirements and changes to the uniform for the 2019-20 school year.

Students can earn non-uniform coupons that can be used on Fridays. If a student has a non-uniform coupon, he can wear appropriate and modest non-uniform items. The student should give the non-uniform coupon to his homeroom teacher at the start of the day.

On non-uniform days, the following guidelines apply:

- Shoes: No open toe or open heel shoes
- Boys tops: No tank tops
- Girls tops: If no sleeves, straps should be wider than three fingers. Should not be too tight, too short at waist, or halter type.
- Shorts, Skorts, and Skirts: Must be fingertip length (on all sides) when arms are against side
- Wording and symbols on clothing: Should be appropriate and not offensive. No bands of any kind are allowed.
- Dress and appearance should be appropriate per uniform and dress code guidelines and in conformance with biological sex/gender and with modesty in mind.

I. LUNCHES & SNACKS

Each student will provide his/her own lunch and drink each day.* Please be aware that there is no refrigerator available to students. Microwaves may be used by students under the supervision of the teacher. The following guidelines must be followed for continued microwave use:

1. Students in grades K4-3 must be able to open the microwave containers and be able to carry it to the tables with ease.
2. Microwave food items should take approximately one minute to microwave. We only have a limited time for lunch, and if several students are microwaving items that take more than a minute, it can take up too much of the lunch period.
3. In the event of an overflow or spill in the microwave, the student must take responsibility and clean the microwave, not leaving the mess for someone else.

*Optional “Friday Lunches” are available on Fridays (i.e. pizza, chicken sandwiches, sub sandwiches, etc.)

Students should bring a snack for the morning break. Because high starch, sugar and caffeinated foods can interfere with a child’s concentration, parents are encouraged to choose healthy foods and snacks.

If students forget their lunch, parents may drop off the lunch in the office. Lunches may not be brought directly to the student’s classroom.

J. BIRTHDAY PARTIES, HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

1. Birthday Celebrations

Students are welcome to celebrate their birthday with their classmates. Students may bring a “birthday” snack to school to share with classmates. If a student’s birthday falls during the summer months or on a vacation day, another day may be chosen to allow the child to bring a snack. Parents are to check with his child’s teacher regarding the time of day the snack is preferred. Snacks may include muffins, granola bars, juice, cupcakes, cookies, popsicles, etc.

2. Special Celebrations and Holidays

School parties and special events are educational celebrations in which the full flora (time in history, dress, customs, and foods) of the events are brought to life in context. Special celebrations include Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine’s Day, Easter, Grandparents’ Day, and end-of-year parties. Teachers may ask a parent to help plan these celebrations. These celebrations may also be school-wide events, and teachers may need assistance from our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) members.

We recognize and celebrate seasons which are compatible with biblical principles. Classroom decorations honor Christ during Christmas and Easter seasons. Halloween is not recognized, with the exception of harvest or autumn themes.

K. PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

All school families are a part of the PTA at Saint Simons Christian School. The PTA is lead by the PTA Leadership Team. The primary responsibilities of the PTA Leadership Team are to provide opportunities for families to get together, find ways to support/bless the teachers, and create fun activities for our students. Some of our family events are the Fall Family Social, Donuts with Grownups, BBQ and Bingo, and the Neon Fun Run. PTA is funded through annual family dues (\$50), used uniform sales, used book sale, and donations.

L. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We offer an after school care program Monday through Friday.

- 3:00-5:30pm - \$50/week; \$40/week for each additional child. Drop in price is \$15/day; \$12/day for each additional child.*
**Payments will be made to SSCS.*

Qualified staff will oversee the program. Students will report to the after school care room at 3:00 p.m.

Parents will complete a registration form if their child(ren) will be attending aftercare.

No child care will be provided on holidays or on half-days and a few other specific days throughout the year. Notice will be given when we will not have aftercare.

M. PHOTO RELEASE POLICY

From time to time SSCS will use photos of students for publications, on the school website, and for

marketing purposes. We will not identify a student's picture by name. If you would like for your child's picture to not be used, you will have the opportunity to opt out with our photo release form.

N. WEATHER POLICY

We follow the Glynn County Board of Education for school closings, delays, and early dismissals due to inclement weather.

O. CELL PHONE POLICY

As technology has evolved, cell phone use has become more of a concern. SSCS permits students to have cell phones for communication before and after school hours. We desire to minimize misuse of this privilege by clarifying the following guidelines:

1. Cell phone usage or any other connective devices are not permitted between student arrival (8:15 a.m.) and dismissal (3:00 p.m.)
2. Cell phones are to be powered off and given to the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the school day. (Middle School Grades Only) 5th grade and down, phones and other connective devices must be powered off and left in the student's backpack.
3. A student's cell phone will be confiscated if it rings or vibrates during the school day or is used without permission at any point during the school day.
4. 1st Offense -
 - a. Headmaster talks with student and sends a parent a note.
 - b. Student may retrieve phone at the end of school day.
5. 2nd Offense -
 - a. Headmaster calls parent.
 - b. Parent may retrieve phone/device at end school day.
6. 3rd Offense –
 - a. Parent may retrieve phone/device at the end of one full week.
or
 - b. Parent may pick up the phone/device at the day if the student pays a \$25 fine.
7. Additional offenses –
 - a. Same procedure as the third offense, but the fines will double.
8. If parents need to contact their child during the school day, they should call the school office.
9. If a student needs to contact their parents during the school day, they should use the school's phone in the office.

V. OTHER INFORMATION

A. SCHOOL MEMBERSHIPS

Saint Simons Christian School is a member of The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

B. SCHOOL ACCREDITATION

SSCS is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) (also known as Cognia).

C. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS—this section is illustrative only and is NOT expected to set forth the specific policies of SSCS.

1. *What is the school's policy regarding the teacher/ student ratio?*

SSCS *prefers* to have a maximum of 16 students in K4 and Kindergarten, 18 student in 1st grade, 20 students in 2nd-5th grades, and a maximum of 25 students in 6th-8th grades. A full time aide is provided in K4, Kindergarten, and 1st grade and an aide is utilized between grades 2nd and 3rd.

2. *How are the students graded? Are there report cards?*

Quarterly report cards are used beginning in K4 in order to provide objective measurements of each student's progress. K4 student progress is communicated with an A (All of the time), M (Most of the time), S (Some of the time), and N (Needs more time). Kindergarten student progress is shown by issuing E (Exceeds), S (Meets), I (Improvement has been shown), and N (Needs significant continued time). 1st through 8th graders' progress is shown by percents that are equivalent to A, B, C, D or F. Mid-quarter progress reports are sent to parents to notify parents of their child's progress before report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. (See Grading Reporting and Guidelines on page 10.)

3. *What is the school's policy regarding a dress code or uniform?*

To encourage a wholesome educational environment and to minimize distractions, SSCS has adopted a uniform dress code for students in grades K4-8th. Parents are given instructions on what uniforms are required and where to purchase them. (See DRESS CODE section and Appendix V Uniform Policy and Guidelines.)

4. *What are the qualifications for teachers at SSCS?*

Proficiency in instructional methodology, classroom management, and the care and nurture of individual students is required of SSCS teachers. A bachelor's degree and a commitment to ongoing professional mentoring and development are minimum requirements for teachers at SSCS. All teachers are also required to have ACSI certification. It is a requirement to incorporate Biblical instruction into all courses taught at the school.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Saint Simons Christian School and to provide a Biblical role model to Saint Simons Christian School students and families and the community in which we serve, this positions are limited to applicants who agree with, and agree to abide by, the school's Statement of Faith and Standards of Conduct.

5. *Does the school conduct Bible classes?*

Yes, we do offer Bible as a core class in all grades. We also have chapel once a week. In addition, we endeavor to incorporate a biblical perspective into the teaching of each subject. We believe it is crucial for students to begin seeing all creation (including their studies) from a Christian world and life view.

6. *What is the discipline policy at SSCS?*

Most matters of discipline are dealt with at the classroom level. The kind and amount of discipline will be determined by the teachers, and if necessary, the Headmaster. All discipline will be based on biblical principles, e.g. acknowledgment, forgiveness, restitution, restoration, etc. (See Standards of **Conduct Guidelines**)

7. *Does the school need funds over and above the tuition receipts?*

Yes. All private schools have the need to raise additional funding. SSCS tuition receipts do not cover the total annual cost of educating a student. Therefore, we conduct annual fundraising projects as an ongoing activity of the school. Parents are encouraged to participate in these activities. Parents also are asked to prayerfully consider giving above and beyond their child's stated tuition to assist in offsetting the actual costs. In particular, we encourage all families to participate in and promote the GA Student Scholarship Tax Credit Program. For more information on this wonderful program, please see the school website (www.sschristianschool.com).

8. *When does SSCS begin and end each day?*

All grades start at 8:30 a.m. Grades K-8 end at 3:00 p.m. K4 has the option to be a ½ day session (ending at 12:15p.m.) or a full-day session (ending at 3:00 p.m.).

9. *Does SSCS provide tuition assistance?*

Yes, we do. Financial assistance applications are available upon request. Families complete an online application with an outside company (www.factsmgt.com). They review a family's financial information and give a recommendation to the school's Financial Assistance Committee. Then our Financial Assistance Committee determines the tuition assistance for the family.

10. *How is the school governed?*

The school is governed by a School Board comprised of men and women from the community with various skills and a heart for the school. The School Board determines school policy, and the Headmaster is responsible for implementing approved policies.

Appendix I

THE LEARNING STAGES OF A CHILD

LEARNING STAGE	STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS	TEACHING METHODS
BEGINNING GRAMMAR Grades K-3 Approx. ages 4-8	1. Obviously excited about learning. 2. Enjoys games, stories, songs, projects 3. Short attention span 4. Wants to touch, taste, feel, smell 5. Imaginative, creative	1. Guide discovering 2. Explore, find things 3. Use lots of tactile items to illustrate 4. Sing, play games, chant, recite, color, draw, paint, build 5. Use body movements 6. Short, creative projects 7. Show & Tell, drama, hear/read stories 8. Field trips
GRAMMAR Grades 4-6 Approx. ages 9-11	1. Excited about new, interesting facts 2. Likes to explain, figure out, talk 3. Wants to relate own experiences to topic, or just to tell a story 4. Likes collections, organizing items 5. Likes chants, clever, repetitious word sounds (e.g. Dr. Seuss) 6. Easily memorizes 7. Can assimilate another language well	1. Lots of hands-on work, projects 2. Field trips, drama. 3. Make collections, displays, models 4. Integrate subjects through above means 5. Teach & assign research projects 6. Recitations, memorization 7. Drills, games 8. Oral and written presentations
LOGIC Grades 7-9 Approx. ages 12-14	1. Still excitable, but needs challenges 2. Judges, critiques, debates, critical 3. Likes to organize items, others 4. Shows off knowledge 5. Wants to know "behind-the-scenes" facts 6. Curious about Why? for most things 7. Thinks, acts as though more knowledgeable than adults	1. Time lines, charts, maps (visual materials) 2. Debates, persuasive reports 3. Drama, re-enactment, role-playing 4. Evaluate, critique (with guidelines) 5. Formal logic 6. Research projects 7. Oral and written presentations. 8. Guest speakers, trips
RHETORIC Grades 10-12 Approx. ages 15-18	1. Concerned with present events, especially in own life 2. Interested in justice, fairness 3. Moving toward special interest, topics 4. Can take on responsibility, independent work 5. Can do (understand) synthesis 6. Desires to express feelings, own ideas 7. Generally idealistic	1. Drama, oral presentations 2. Guide research in major areas with goal of synthesis of ideas 3. Many papers, speeches, debates 4. Give responsibilities, e.g. teach younger students, organize activities 5. In-depth field trips, even overnight 6. World-view discussion - written papers 7. Career research.

Appendix II

LATIN - 5 REASONS TO STUDY LATIN

LATIN reveals a great deal about English and greatly enhances the student's powers of expression in his native language.

- * About 80% of English vocabulary comes from Latin and Greek.
- * English vocabulary tests reveal that students of Latin score higher.
- * Latin greatly refines the student's understanding of grammar -- which carries over into English.

LATIN develops and deepens the student's understanding of and appreciation for literature.

- * A doorway is opened to great classical literature -- Virgil, for example.
- * The student's appreciation for English literature grows because great English literature is filled with classical allusions, and a student who understands those has a great advantage.

LATIN provides an understanding of the classical impact on our modern culture.

- * We see this in wedding rings, dollar signs, political structure, architecture, the names of constellations and planets, and, of course, et cetera.

LATIN trains the student in the essentials of scientific method: observation, comparison, and generalization.

- * Students of Latin are equipped in a methodology of rigorous analysis. This ability is not subsequently limited to Latin.
- * Latin trains minds to encounter unfamiliar material, whether in science or any other discipline.

LATIN provides a wonderful foundation for the study of other modern languages.

- * Direct descendants of Latin include Spanish, French, Romanian, Italian, Portuguese, etc.
- * Students are given a very good grasp on how inflected languages work, which would include German, Russian, and Greek.

Appendix III

Field Trip Guidelines

1. Each trip must have a designated leader who is best suited to the task. This person will be chosen by the classroom teacher and the Headmaster.
2. Overnight Field Trips are limited to the specific students and teachers of the grades involved.
3. Chaperones are to be arranged by the teacher, and there should be one adult chaperone per room.
 - a. There must be at least one adult chaperone for each hotel room needed. Same sex in each room.
 - b. Additional chaperones will be determined by the teacher.
4. Only children in the specific grade level are able to attend. Siblings can tend to be a distraction and will not be allowed on the trip.
5. Music on the trip will be limited to classical or Christian music.
6. Television will be allowed in the rooms on a limited basis. Programs watched must be agreed upon by the chaperones, with the primary leader having veto power.
7. If for health or financial reasons a child is unable to attend the field trip, they will be given a research project in keeping with the theme of the field trip. The child will be expected to be in school during the time the class is on the trip and work on the research project there. The report will be due at the same time reports are due by the class as a whole.
8. If there is an activity in a hotel room that involves both sexes, an adult chaperone must be present at all times.
9. Overnight field trips should be limited to children in the 4th grade and above. If there is a desire to have an overnight trip that involves 3rd grade or below, the trip must become a “Family Trip” and one parent must attend with their child.
10. Extra-curricular side trips (not planned) are allowed only by approval of the trip leader and with prior verbal and/or written approval from each child’s parent(s). There must be an adult chaperone for every 5 children on these trips.
11. The school should seek to plan some “Family Field Trips” in which all parents are encouraged to attend.
12. Dress and appearance should be appropriate per uniform and dress code guidelines and in conformance with biological sex/gender
13. All field trip participants and chaperones should exhibit appropriate behavior regarding and use of restrooms, locker rooms, changing facilities, or overnight accommodations in conformance with biological sex/gender.
14. Exceptions may be made upon the Headmaster’s approval.

Appendix IV

Chaperone Guidelines

Being a chaperone is a very important responsibility. We greatly appreciate the time and energy used by a chaperone to serve the school.

1. Each chaperone will be given the responsibility to oversee his assigned students for the trip. This means that the chaperone will always have his students in his sight at all times. No student should ever be left alone or travel anywhere alone.
2. Each chaperone will work with the responsible teacher. The decisions for the trip are to be made by the responsible teacher.
3. A chaperone may not make any “side trips” with his child or any student during the trip. (i.e. go out to eat at a different restaurant or go shopping, etc.)
4. A chaperone must be present in the hotel room at all times with the students.
5. Students are only allowed to watch television with the permission of **and** in the presence of the chaperone. Channel selection is limited to The Weather Channel, ESPN, Family Channel, and “news”, unless otherwise authorized by the responsible teacher.
6. No alcohol may be consumed by the chaperone while on the trip.

Saint Simons Christian School is a Christian institution providing a Biblically based education in a distinct Christian environment. We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Saint Simons Christian School and to provide a Biblical role model to Saint Simons Christian School students and families and the community in which we serve, chaperones and volunteers must agree with and agree to abide by the school’s Statement of Faith and Standards of Conduct while you are acting in the capacity as a chaperone or volunteer for SSCS.

This agreement is acknowledged in your beginning of the year field trip permission form.

APPENDIX V

UNIFORM POLICY AND GUIDELINES

General Uniform Information

We believe that a child's environment is important to effective learning and that distractions must be kept to a minimum. We have chosen a uniform dress code for all grades, so that the focus remains on the education. This approved uniform is available by ordering online through Land's End. A school "used uniform closet" is also maintained in an effort to recycle uniforms at less expense. Below are more details to guide you.

Uniform Vendor

- Our vendor is Land's End (www.landsend.com/school)
 - o Our school number is: 900037672
 - o All uniform items should be purchased through Land's End, with the exception of shoes, socks, tights, leggings, and the khaki color, chino style pants & shorts (see details below).

Logos

- All shirts, sweatshirts, and sweater items will need to have the 'embroidered' school logo through Lands' End.
 - o Navy, red, deep purple, hunter green, grey, and black items will have a white embroidered logo.
 - o Light blue and pink shirts will have the navy embroidered logo.
- Note: There is an additional charge per logo per item. Logos are required.

Uniform Shirts

- Polo Shirts: (short sleeve or long sleeve)
 - o Red, navy, deep purple, light blue, pink, heather grey, hunter green and black
 - o Red is the dress uniform requirement
 - o Cobalt (royal blue) is available for Middle School ONLY
 - o All polo shirts must have the 'embroidered' school logo
- Oxford Shirt & Blouse: (long sleeve only)
 - o Blue and Blue Pin-stripe are available for Middle School Boys ONLY
 - o Blue and Pink are available for Middle School Girls ONLY

Shirt-tails & Belts

- Shirt-tails are to be tucked in, with the belt buckle visible. (2nd grade through 8th grade)
 - o Girls wearing feminine cut polo shirts do not have to tuck in their shirts
- All students are required to wear a belt with shorts and pants that have belt loops.
- K4 and K5 students can wear pull-on, "all elastic waist" pants or shorts with no belt loops, buttons, or snaps. In this instance, a belt would not be required.

T-Shirts or Turtlenecks Under Uniform Polo Shirts

- Students are allowed to wear t-shirts and turtlenecks under uniform polo shirts

Pants/Shorts

- Khaki color pants and shorts may be purchased at any store or from our approved uniform selections through Lands' End. Please seek to get pants and shorts that resemble the approved Lands' End selections. Pants/shorts are to be khaki, chino style, and modest.
- The pants and shorts cannot have any patterns or extra pockets, low rise, cargo style, or overly tight or form fitting.

Skirts/Skorts

- Girls may wear any of the approved Lands' End skirts or skorts.
- We also have a red plaid skirt from Lands' End.

Polo Dress – K4 – 5th Grades only

- Girls in K4-5th grades may wear the approved polo dress from Lands' End.
- Polo dress color options: red and navy
- All polo dresses must have the 'embroidered' school logo.

Plaid Jumper With White Blouse – K4-5th Grades only

- Girls in K4-3rd grades may wear the approved plaid jumper from Lands' End.
- The Plaid Jumper must have the 'embroidered' school logo
- A white piped collar shirt may be worn underneath the jumper. No logo required on the white shirt.

Ponte` Dress – Middle School Only

- Girls in Middle School may wear the approved Ponte` dress from Lands' End
- Ponte` dress color option: charcoal heather
- The Ponte` dress must have the 'embroidered' school logo

Tights or Leggings

- Girls may wear solid white, navy blue, black, or red tights or leggings.
- Leggings should go to the ankle.

Sweaters/Jackets – (for use in classrooms & on field trips)

- Only Lands' End approved sweaters, sweatshirts, and jackets are allowed to be worn in classrooms when extra warmth is needed. They must have an 'embroidered' school logo.
- "Spirit Wear" jackets and sweatshirts (with the heat transfer logo) are not allowed to be worn in the classroom except on "Spirit Wear" days or on Fridays if you have a non-uniform coupon. (see Spirit Wear options below)

Note: Heavy outer coats worn at recess may be any brand/style.

- Middle School students may wear a black spirit wear sweatshirt as part of their school uniform. The sweatshirt is ordered through the school, not through Lands' End. Details for ordering will be given in the fall.

Shoes

- Acceptable dress-uniform style shoes are running/tennis shoes, loafers, or bucks. Girls may also wear saddle shoes or Mary Jane shoes. Shoes may be purchased from any location.
 - o Please note that sandals, flip flops, crocs, or clogs are not allowed.

- Girls may wear boots only in the 2nd and 3rd quarters. If they choose to wear boots, sneakers must be brought in for PE class.

Socks

- Knee-high socks should be a solid color. They can be any color already found in the uniform: white, red, navy, light blue, pink, deep purple, black, grey, hunter green, or khaki.
- Shin-high or ankle socks can have multiple colors. We are going to add a little freedom in this category. These socks need to remain simple and not be distracting. We do not want to have 'crazy socks day' every day at school.

Dress Uniform Requirements (Picture Day / Field Trip / Special Occasions)

- Girls
 - All grades – Red polo shirt & khaki skirt or skort
 - K4-5th grades have a second option – Red polo dress
- Boys (All grades)
 - Red polo shirt
 - Khaki pants or shorts

Spirit Wear Clothing

- Spirit wear may be ordered using the link below. The sweatshirts may be worn over a school uniform shirt during the week. However, the t-shirts and other clothing items are only to be worn on non-uniform days or spirit wear days.

<https://apparelnow.com/saint-simons-christian-school-apparel>

Other

- Hair must be of natural color and style. No unnatural colors will be permitted including but not limited to: blue, purple, green, pink, extreme colors of red or orange. This includes items such as fairy hair, hair tinsel, and hair floss. No designs may be shaved into the hair/scalp.
- No piercings other than ears for girls. Girls may not wear more than double piercings during school hours. Piercings for boys are not permitted.
- Workout leggings may not be worn on non-uniform days in the middle school.

NOTE: The Headmaster reserves the right to make changes to or rule on uniform/dress code issues at his discretion that may not be specifically mentioned in this policy.

APPENDIX VI

MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

ADDENDUM

Level 1

3 B's within a two week period will result in a Silent Lunch.

Level 2

Next 3 B's within a two week period prior to the end of the school year will result in an after school work detention with the Headmaster or designated middle school teacher.
(Detention details will be determined by administration.)

Level 3

Next 3 B's within a two week period prior to the end of the school year will result in an In School Suspension (ISS). All work must be done with only half credit received for the work.

Level 4

Next 3 B's within a two week period prior to the end of quarter will result in a one day suspension. All work must be done with no credit received for the work.

➤ **All students return to Level 1 at the beginning of each quarter.**

NOTE: The Headmaster reserves the right to make changes to or rule on uniform/dress code issues at his discretion that may not be specifically mentioned in this policy.

APPENDIX VII

Saint Simons Christian School 2023-24

Healthy Campus/Sick Policy

A. Healthy Campus -

It is the desire of Saint Simons Christian School (SSCS) to allow the school to remain open and function as normally as possible all school year long. It is also the desire of the SSCS school board, headmaster, and staff to walk in wisdom and faith while making decisions for the betterment of our school community. A healthy campus requires vigilance and good communication on the part of parents and staff alike.

In an effort to maintain a healthy campus, SSCS parents are expected to **keep home** any children who are ill. The following guidelines will be used when considering a child being sent home from or returning to school. Only non-symptomatic and fever-free persons will be allowed to enter the campus. In the event of any signs of illness being noted, parents will be expected to *communicate with the school nurse for advisement before bringing the student to campus*. Parents/guardians may contact the school nurse for assistance in assessing a student's health. Final decisions will be made by the headmaster and the school nurse.

If a student or staff member has a newly diagnosed illness of any kind, the school nurse shall be informed within 12 hours of said test results. Clearance to attend/return to school will be decided based on the nurse's assessment, the sick policy within this handbook, and current public health guidelines.

SSCS values the involvement of our families, so parents/family members will be invited on campus for events and to chaperone field trips and off campus events. Any person coming to SSCS campus or event will be expected to self-screen for any signs of illness before coming, not come to campus if ANY signs or symptoms of illness are present, communicate with the office staff if unable to attend. Any person may communicate with the nurse for advisement if there are any questions of symptoms.

1. Sick Policy

A. Fever- Temperatures are usually lower in the morning, and fever along with other symptoms may indicate your child has a contagious illness. A student who has a temperature higher than 99.9° will stay home from school until he/she has been without fever for at least 24 hours without taking any fever reducing medication. Any student at school found to have a temperature greater than 99.9° will be required to go home until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours without taking any fever reducing medication.

B. Vomiting/Diarrhea- Children vomit and have diarrhea for a number of reasons that may not be a contagious illness. If a student vomits or has diarrhea more than once, he/she will stay home from school and not return until he/she has not vomited or had diarrhea for 24 hours. If a student vomits or has diarrhea at school, he/she will be assessed by the school nurse. At the nurse's discretion, the student may be sent home and will be required to stay home until it has been 24 hours since the student last vomited or had diarrhea.

C. Cough- Frequent coughing may indicate allergies, a viral cold, pneumonia, asthma, or other chronic conditions. Before sending a student to school with a new cough, parents should contact the school nurse and may be asked to consult the student's healthcare provider.

D. Pain- If a student is experiencing persistent pain (ear, stomach, head, etc.) that will prohibit him/her from fully participating in all class activities, he/she will stay home until feeling better.

E. Rashes- Many viral illnesses that are contagious present with rashes or lesions/sores, e.g. molluscum contagiosum or strep throat. A student's healthcare provider should evaluate any new rash before the student comes to school.

F. Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis): Conjunctivitis may be caused by allergy, virus or bacteria. Students can pass this condition readily to others and should be treated and stay home at least 24 hours after treatment begins and until there is no longer discharge when the child awakens in the morning.

G. Head Lice-

- i.** Head lice is spread by direct contact. Lice are not a health problem and not an indication of poor hygiene. SSCS is a “no live lice” school. Lice checks will occur periodically throughout the year.
- ii.** On Campus: Any student who is found to have live lice at school will immediately go home for treatment and may return to school after treatment has been completed. If a student on campus is found to have nits, the family will be notified so a treatment plan can be created.
- iii.** Off Campus: Any student off campus who is found to have live lice will stay home and may return to school after treatment has been completed. If a student off campus is found to have nits, the family will notify the school nurse/front office so a treatment plan can be created.
- iv.** When a case of lice has been discovered on campus, a notice will go home to the affected class.

H. Infectious Skin Conditions (Impetigo, MRSA, etc.): All skin lesions must be covered until healed. The parent/guardian of any student with infectious skin conditions will notify the school nurse/front office. Clearance to return to school will require a healthcare provider note.

H. Strep Throat- Any student with strep throat will remain home until 24 hours after starting antibiotics and 24 hours of being fever free with no fever reducing medication.

H. Musculoskeletal Injury- SSCS is able to accommodate students requiring orthopedic/orthotic assistive devices (crutches, splints, etc.) based on a healthcare provider note. PE/Recess will be adjusted as appropriate. A healthcare provider note will be required to return to activities/normal function. If a student is unable to function at school without the device after clearance is received, school absence may be necessary.

H. Covid- If a student or staff member has a newly diagnosed illness, the school nurse shall be informed within 12 hours of said test results. If there is a positive case of Covid, the school will not close, nor will that grade level be quarantined. Any student or staff member with Covid will remain home until they are steadily improving and have been 24 hours fever free without any fever reducing medication. Final clearance to return to school will be authorized by the school nurse.

H. Large Scale Communicable Disease- If there are multiple cases of a communicable disease throughout the school at any given time, a determination will be made by the school board whether to remain open or to close for a period of time to slow the spread in the school. Again, it is the desire of SSCS to allow the school to remain open and function as normally as possible all school year long.

2. Medications at School

1. Prescription medications: Whenever possible, prescription medications should be given at home, before or after school. Medications administered in school may include:

i. Regular daily medications prescribed for children with acute or chronic health conditions. Any student with regular daily medications will be provided a medication authorization form to be completed by the appropriate healthcare provider prior to any medication being administered at school.

ii. Emergency medications, such as those prescribed for allergic reactions, asthma, seizures, migraines and complications of diabetes. Any student with emergency medications will be provided an emergent treatment plan form to be completed by the appropriate healthcare provider prior to the student attending school.

iv. Medications on an “as needed” basis for pain or other mild symptoms (over the counter or prescription medications). Any student with as needed medications will be provided a medication authorization form to be completed by the appropriate healthcare provider prior to any medication being administered at school. Only students who have signed permission from parent/guardian will be administered over the counter medications on an as needed basis.

v. Over the counter medications administered as deemed necessary by the school nurse. Prior to the beginning of the school year, parents are given the option to agree to administration of specific over the counter medications. No medication will be administered without this permission in place. One time permission may be given by a parent via phone call or text to the school nurse.