



SUMMIT
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

Student/Parent Handbook

Summit Christian School is an equal opportunity employer and provider. The school will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, or ethnic origin in the hiring of its certified or non-certified personnel or to the students or families it serves.

Rev. 8/2020

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WELCOME

At Summit Christian School it is our desire to help students grow in their knowledge of the Lord and to help them develop skills that will enable them to become productive Christian citizens. We seek to partner with you in this endeavor.

The staff at Summit Christian School frequently evaluates our priorities to ensure we are a balanced, Christ-centered, educational program. Summit Christian School recruits and admits students and hires staff of any race, color, or ethnic origin.

STATEMENTS

Statement of Philosophy

Our Christian faith has profound implications for the educational process:

- God reveals Himself in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- God's Word, the Bible, is the authority under which we must live.
- All reality can be understood only as it is related to God who made all things.
- All subjects are taught through the grid of His Word.
- Maturing in Christ-like character is as important as growing in knowledge and wisdom.

Upon this foundation of faith in Jesus Christ and adherence to God's Word, instruction focuses on the children's spiritual, mental, social, and physical development to realize God's plan for their lives. We help the children develop their God-given talents so they can offer these talents back to God in service to Him.

His Word influences the teaching of every subject in the school. The Bible, according to II Timothy 3:16-17, is necessary for equipping an individual for "every good work."

Each student is a special creation of God, uniquely gifted and loved by Him. The Christian school can be one of God's instruments to develop the student's mind and mature his/her character. The student's family life is also important in accomplishing these goals. We promote the involvement of parents working together with the school, respecting the contribution and authority of each other.

Since God is "no respecter of persons", Summit Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of color, national origin, race, or sex. God loves all people.

Statement of Vision

SCS strives to be a school that makes Biblical and academic pursuits engaging so that students will learn, grow, and impact the world for Christ.

Each student is encouraged to:

Dream **vividly**,
Learn **courageously**,
and
Live **boldly** for Christ!

Statement of Faith

We believe:

1. in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God, and inerrant in the original writings and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and life. II Timothy 3:16,
2. in one God, eternally existing in Three Persons -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
3. that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and Man,
4. that man was created in the image of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but spiritual death, which is separation from God, and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature, and in the case of those who reach moral responsibility, become sinners in thought, word and deed,
5. that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, as a representative substitutionary sacrifice, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the grounds of His shed blood,
6. in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into Heaven and in His present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate,
7. in "that blessed hope", the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
8. that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God, and
9. In the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost.

OBJECTIVES

Spiritual Objectives

Recognizing that God's Word is the foundation for all of life, Summit Christian School seeks to lead children into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Daily Bible study and emphasis on practical Christian living provide a strong spiritual framework. It is our goal to help the child recognize the following truths:

1. The Bible is the verbally inspired special revelation of God to man.
2. God, the creator of the world, is the sustainer of the world.
3. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth to die for sinful man.
4. It is necessary to be born again through faith in the finished work of Christ.
5. The child sees his need to worship, adore, and praise the Lord.
6. The child sees the importance of spiritual growth which is nurtured through application of the Biblical principles of fellowship with, prayer to, and service for God.
7. The principles of the Bible set the standard for ethics and morality in every area of life.
8. The Bible is relevant to all subject areas.
9. The child sees the importance of getting along with non-Christians and Christians who hold differing views.

Academic Objectives

Summit Christian School strives for academic excellence. Therefore, we desire to teach the student:

1. individual responsibility in fulfilling assignments,
2. appreciation for the fine arts,
3. acquired skills at every level to help prepare for future study,
4. precise analytic and reasoning powers through the study of mathematics,
5. meaningful communication through the skillful use of the written and spoken language,
6. skills that will provide a groundwork for satisfaction and fulfillment through occupational excellence,
7. our great heritage in this our God-given land,
8. individual responsibility in facing civic problems, and
9. proper attitudes toward authority, in and out of the classroom.

Emotional Objectives

Summit Christian School seeks to provide a staff of dedicated teachers who are interested in the needs of their students. We desire to help children grow up with a sense of security and self-worth. The stability provided by spiritual emphasis and a loving staff will help students securely meet the challenges of learning and living.

Social Objectives

How students relate to each other and to their parents and teachers is important. Christian ethics not only encourage personal spiritual growth, but wholesome social growth as well. It is our objective to encourage the student in the following ways:

1. cooperative work and study habits,
2. proper attitudes toward both those in authority and those in his peer group,
3. development of wholesome attitudes which will carry over into his home life, vocational endeavors, dating life, and, ultimately, into the marriage relationship,
4. development of Christian social graces, and
5. development of proper attitudes and discipline concerning promptness and responsibility.

Physical Objectives

Summit Christian School monitors and seeks to understand the physical needs of each student. The faculty and staff will strive to work with the parent to help the child mature to be healthy and strong. Therefore, we seek to develop the following skills for each student:

1. the importance of proper care of his body, and
2. a sense of discretion in choosing wholesome physical recreation.

ADMISSIONS

Admission

Summit Christian School recruits and admits students of any race, color, or ethnic origin to all its rights, privileges, programs, and activities. In addition, the school will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational programs and athletics/extracurricular activities. Furthermore, the school is not intended to be an alternative to court or administrative agency ordered, or public school district initiated desegregation.

Readiness is a criterion for admission to any grade. Any student applying for admission must be on or above grade level in his/her academic achievement. All students applying for admission to 4th grade must provide a copy of their 3rd grade Ohio State Testing score for English Language Arts and/or the most current 3rd grade Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) scores for reading in order to verify they have successfully met the state requirements for promotion to 4th grade, as required by the Ohio 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee.

Parents of children with significant learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, and/or physical challenges who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 service plans should strongly consider if Summit Christian School is the best placement for their child. Summit Christian School does not service IEPs or 504 plans as mandated in public schools. SCS does not currently supply the resources to manage and implement such plans.

Parents of enrollees must sign the Parent Confirmation verifying that they have read, understand, and will support the contents of the Student/Parent Handbook prior to the beginning of the school year in which their child will be attending SCS.

The expectations for student academics and behavior at SCS are very high. Students who do not demonstrate an investment in their learning, are unable to maintain adequate academic achievement, and demonstrate acceptable behavior may jeopardize their eligibility for reenrollment to SCS.

All children accepted to Summit Christian School are admitted on a probationary basis for a period of one grading period, or nine weeks.

New students are only accepted for the current school year through the end of the first academic quarter.

Entrance Age and Testing

Summit Christian School shall follow the policy of the State of Ohio for the compulsory school entrance age requirements. All children who have not been excluded or excused from school must be enrolled in school by the calendar year during which they turn seven.

The following policies are in effect:

Entrance Age:

1. Kindergarten students must be five on or before August 31st.
2. First grade students must be six on or before August 31st.

Entrance testing is conducted only after the child's parent/guardian has completed the New Family Interview with the principal or administrator. Testing for admittance is held in the spring/summer prior to the entrance year. Prospective students must demonstrate academic ability that is on or above the grade level he is applying to for admission.

Student Transfer or Withdrawal

If a parent desires to withdrawal their student before the end of the school year, the parent/guardian must communicate that desire in writing to the principal, including the date of the last day the student will attend class. After the student's last day of attendance at school, the office staff will calculate the final bill for any charges or outstanding tuition due.

Students on Ed Choice Scholarships or Ed Choice Expansion Scholarships may have their scholarship transferred to their new school provided the school accepts the scholarships.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

The partnership between school and home is essential for student success. At the beginning of the school year, as part of our Back to School Night, we hold parent meetings for new families and new-to-middle school families. The parent meeting is mandatory for these families and highly recommended for returning families. The purpose of this session is to:

- Distribute the current Student/Parent Handbook
- Establish channels of communication necessary between school staff and parents
- Share opportunities that parents/families can partner with the school
- Update parents and students on new developments
- Understand necessary expectations and procedures
- Meet your child's teacher(s)
- Drop off school supplies in their classroom
- Take care of final preparations concerning uniforms, meal program applications, medical documents, transportation details, etc.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Curriculum and instruction at Summit Christian School shall be consistent with the courses of study as adopted by the governing board of the school and with the purposes and the philosophy of education adopted by the board. The standards for curriculum and instruction shall be set pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code and the Operating Standards for Ohio's Schools as adopted by the State Board of Education.

Curriculum and instruction shall be maintained at such a level as to provide a quality in-depth education to all students beginning with the kindergarten program through grade eight. Students in all grade levels shall be provided with an education equivalent, or superior, to that provided by the public school district in which they reside. Students shall be provided an education in all areas of needs as required by state law and shall also receive education consistent with the religious beliefs of the governing board of the school.

In recognition of these goals, Summit Christian School shall utilize curricula of the highest educational caliber, with textbooks and materials from sources of highest integrity and quality.

The students of Summit Christian School shall be evaluated near the end of each academic year using standardized achievement tests to measure their progress.

Curriculum

At Summit Christian School, a Biblical worldview is the filter through which all academic pursuits pass. Whether Christian or secular, the curriculum has been chosen with the highest level of academic growth in mind.

Bible

K-6 th	Bible, Deep Roots
6 th – 8 th	Bible, New Testament and Old Testament Survey

English Language Arts

Kindergarten	Starfall
1 st – 5 th	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Into Reading
6 th – 8 th	McGraw-Hill Study Sync

Math

Kindergarten – 5 th	McGraw-Hill My Math
6 th – 8 th	Glencoe Math (McGraw Hill)

Science

Kindergarten	Starfall, teacher created curriculum
1 st -8 th	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Science Fusion

Social Studies/history

Kindergarten	Starfall, teacher created curriculum
1 st – 8 th	Pearson My World Social Studies

Handwriting/Penmanship

Kindergarten	Starfall
1 st – 5 th	Zaner-Blosser

Report Cards

In grades 2-5, students will receive an academic grade for each class and a skill set grade.

The academic grading scale for students in grades 2-8 is as follows:

99-100% A+	73-82% C
95-98% A	70-71% C-
93-94% A-	68-69% D+
91-92% B+	62-67% D
87-90% B	60-61% D-
85-86% B-	59% and below F
83-84% C+	

The skill set grading scale for students in grades 2-5 is as follows:

NI	Needs Improvement
I	Improving
S	Satisfactory
G	Good
E	Excellent

Students in grades K-1 will be assessed in all areas using the following grading scale:

NI	Needs Improvement
I	Improving
S	Satisfactory
G	Good
E	Excellent

There are four 9-10 week grading periods in each school year. Report cards are distributed to the students on the Friday following the end of each grading period. See the school calendar for the exact dates.

Standardized Testing

All K-5 SCS students will be assessed using the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment in the fall, winter, and spring (as needed) of each school year. The data gained from these assessments will serve to guide instruction and gauge each students' growth in the areas of Reading.

Student progress in the core subjects of Math and English Language Arts will be monitored and evaluated using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. The assessments will be taken by all students at SCS in the fall, winter, and spring.

Students in grades 3-8 are required the state of Ohio to take the Ohio State Tests (OSTs) in the content areas of Math and English Language Arts. Students in select grades also take OSTs in the areas of Science and Social Studies.

3rd Grade Reading Guarantee

The 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee is an Ohio law that states every student in 3rd grade must achieve a promotion score in English Language Arts on the Ohio State Test, either in the fall or in the spring, in order to be promoted to the 4th grade. The progress of students in kindergarten through 3rd grade will be monitored and noted as “On Track” or “Not On Track”. Each student’s progress will be communicated to the parents.

Students who are determined to be “Not On Track” will be placed on a Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan (RIMP), which will outline the extra supports, tutoring services, and home strategies that will be implemented to aid the student in reaching “On Track” status.

Failure/Retention of a Student

If a student’s yearly average is a failing grade in two or more academic subjects, a student may fail the grade and may jeopardize his/her enrollment at SCS. Also, students who do not make adequate progress in any core academic subject may be considered for retention. However, Summit Christian School believes it should be the collective wisdom and consensus of the staff professionals when a student is retained in a grade. Therefore, in the final quarter of the academic year, a committee will be formed to determine retention. The committee will include the principal, assistant principal, classroom teacher, one other teacher or tutor, and possibly the school counselor/psychologist. Input from the parents will be considered at this time.

Homework

Generally, the need for out-of-school assignments will increase as the child progresses up through the grades. The type of subject matter the student is working on determines the need for homework.

At Summit Christian School, we want homework to have specific purposes. With this in mind, the following suggestions should serve as guidelines for teachers to:

- Use homework to reinforce new lessons or review material that needs further mastery.
- Individualize the assignments whenever necessary. Everyone in the class may not need to review the same material.
- Make the assignments as creative and interesting as possible. Some middle school assignments may be a joint endeavor of several classes.
- Make assignments short in length and focused. The total length of all academic subjects per night should be approximately 10 minutes or less per year of schooling the students have had. For example: kindergarten = 10 minutes, 1st grade = 20 minutes, 2nd grade = 30 minutes, etc.
- NEVER give homework as a punishment.
- Remember that Wednesday evening is a time of mid-week worship. Assigned homework will be avoided on that night, however students may have unfinished classwork to complete.
- Be mindful of giving homework on concert or open house nights.

Computers

Summit Christian School is equipped with classroom computers and multiple computer labs. Students will utilize the computers as a resource for learning content. The school board and administration have made a commitment to provide the necessary hardware and software to enable all students to acquire acceptable computer literacy.

Computers are used in everyday life. Our goal is to guide students towards a solid foundation in keyboarding, as well as various computer applications, by the time our students complete middle school.

It is expected that as students use SCS computers that they exhibit the highest level of integrity and responsibility with regards to internet safety and wisdom. SCS computers are to be used for school assignments only. Students and families will sign a Technology Acceptable Use and Conduct Agreement.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance

Absences from school may be necessary at times. On the day of absence, parents must call the school (330-762-3382) between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. to report their student absent. The statutes governing school attendance are very specific and leave little option for school authorities to excuse children from school. The State Code classifies absence from school as "excused" and "unexcused". The following conditions constitute reasons for excused absence from school:

1. Personal illness and medical appointments,
2. Illness in the immediate family,
3. Death in the immediate family,
4. Quarantine,
5. Religious holiday,
6. To assist parents in an emergency, and
7. Court summons

If the parents cannot telephone the office, the parents should send a written excuse with their child, stating the day's absence and the reason. Unverified absence will result in the absence being unexcused, with no credit for the day, and may result in disciplinary action.

Students are permitted to make-up schoolwork missed during their absence. The student may have the number of class days missed, plus one, to complete missed work. For example, if a student misses 3 days of school, he/she will have 3 days plus one more (4 days) to complete the missed work. The work is then due on the following day (the 5th day for the example).

No student may participate in an after-school activity if the student is absent more than ½ of that school day.

Attendance and grades are related. A maximum of 30 days absence for a year is allowed. Students exceeding this limit may lose credit for the school year. Middle school students who exceed this limit in any class may lose credit in that class.

Missing more than one and one-half hours of the day because of tardiness or early dismissal will be counted as one-half day absence. If more than one and one-half hours of the school day are spent in the infirmary, one-half day absence is accumulated. Appointments, which require students to miss class time, are recorded as early dismissal or partial absence according to the time missed.

Though we realize an educational value in travel, the school does not encourage the practice of taking students out of school for vacations. Therefore, if certain circumstances make this necessary, a written request from the parent/guardian must be submitted to the administrator and approved 5 days prior to the scheduled vacation. Our goal is to ensure the continuing educational process even when students are absent. In so far as is possible, class assignment will be given to the students either prior to the departure or for completion while they are absent. Students are responsible for all work missed during their absence. If the office is not notified, class work that is missed may not be made up. The days missed will count toward the 30-day maximum as stated in the attendance requirements.

Reporting Absences

When a child is sick or must be absent from school, the parent must call the school office before 9:30 a.m. on the day of the absence to report the reason for the absence. Please be sure to give the child's name and grade and/or teacher's name. If a parent is unable to call the school office, a note explaining the absence and the dates absent should be sent in with the student upon return to school.

Tardiness

In accordance with our school philosophy and listed objectives, students are required to exhibit proper discipline concerning punctuality. Parents will be expected to help the school develop this sense of responsibility. This can be done by ensuring that your child is consistently on time for school. Please do not subject your student to discipline because of parental factors.

Students who are tardy 12 days prior to February 1 will forfeit their opportunity for early reenrollment. The only have opportunity to reenroll during the open enrollment window.

Students who are tardy 20 or more days in a school year will jeopardize their reenrollment eligibility for the following school year.

TRANSPORTATION

Summit Christian School is approved for public school bussing to and from school. Parents must apply for bussing with their child's public school district in order to use bus transportation. Once you are approved for bussing with your public school district, they will inform you of pick up and drop off times and location. Some districts may elect not to bus students and must, therefore, reimburse parents for the cost of transportation. Procedure for securing the reimbursement may vary from district to district. For help in this matter, call your local school bus garage.

In the event that there are issues with bussing, parents are responsible for arranging alternate transportation for their student. Any students remaining in the school building at 3:05pm will be sent to aftercare and aftercare charges will apply.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Arrival

The school day begins at 8:10 a.m. The school day ends at 2:55 p.m. for all students. This means that students should be in their seats prepared for the day at 8:10 am. Time should be allowed for a child to go to their locker prior to the tardy bell. Therefore, it is suggested that students arrive **no later than 8:00 a.m.**

Students who arrive prior to 8:00 a.m. will report to early care. From there students will be dismissed to the cafeteria if they have ordered or brought breakfast. **At no time are students permitted to wander the building.**

Students arriving after the designated school starting time must go directly to the school office for an admittance slip before going to their classroom teacher.

Parents of students in 1st – 8th grades are only permitted to walk student to class with special permission. Parents of **kindergarten** students may walk them to class on the first day of school, and then by special permission.

Dismissal

If your child's homebound transportation plans are changed, you must notify the office prior to 2p.m.

Students who do not use public school busses for transportation home from school will be dismissed to parents beginning at 2:55 p.m. and ending at 3:05 p.m. Parents must come to the front entrance to pick up their child via the circle drive in the front parking lot of the school. To pick up your child in the circle, simply pull into the circle drive, display your school issued name card, and wait for a middle school student to escort your child to your car. **Please do not leave your car during dismissal.** If you have business to do within the school after school hours, either you must pick up your child in the circle and park in front of the building or make prior arrangements with the school to have your child meet you in the office.

Early Dismissal

Parents who need to pick up children earlier than the regular dismissal time must follow these instructions:

1. Come to the office to complete the sign-out sheet. Our personnel will locate your child and summon him/her to the office to meet you. Parents are not permitted to go directly to the classroom.
2. Children will not be released to a person who is a stranger to school staff without prior notification from you.

*Please note that early dismissal does disrupt the flow of end of day procedures in the classroom and the office. Thank you for respecting these procedures.

EARLY AND AFTER CARE

Early Care

Early care hours -- 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Students arriving prior to 8:00 a.m. first check in at the front desk, then report directly to early care. After checking in with the early care monitors, permission may be given to go to the restroom or elsewhere as necessary. Students will not have access to their lockers or classrooms during this time. It is not necessary or permissible for parents to take students to the gym or cafeteria.

Students are free to bring breakfast items to eat during early care in the cafeteria. Breakfast is also available for purchase, via the National School Lunch Program, and may be eaten during early care. See the **Meal Service** section for details. Students arriving after 7:45am will not be permitted to go to breakfast; breakfast service ends at 7:50am.

There is no charge for early care.

After Care

After care hours -- 3:10 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

There is a daily charge of \$12.00 for each child in aftercare when it is utilized. Any student who is not picked up by 3:05pm will automatically be included in the after school care program and will be charged for this service. The aftercare program ends at 6:00 p.m. If a student(s) is not picked up by 6:00 p.m., there will be an additional charge of \$20.00 for **every 15-minute period** (or portion) thereafter.

Regular users of aftercare will purchase a pre-paid punch card from the school office. Each punch card costs \$120.00 and is good for 10 aftercare uses. In the event of an emergency or unexpected circumstance requiring the use of aftercare, parents will be billed monthly for services rendered. Charges must be paid as soon as possible after receiving the billing statement. If the aftercare fees are not paid by the end of the billing month, a \$35.00 late fee will be assessed. Failure to pay these charges on time could result in denying your child attendance in aftercare and/or at SCS.

To pick up your child from aftercare, come to the south entrance (near the main parking lot on Northampton Rd by the playground). Ring the doorbell at the south doors, then the aftercare staff will let you in to sign out your child. You must come into the building to retrieve your child.

Feel free to pack a snack for your child to be eaten in the aftercare program. Snacks and beverages are also available for purchase during aftercare only. The cost is \$.50 per item. A "milk/snack card", good for 20 items, can also be purchased from the school secretary for \$10.00.

If students wish, they might bring in a special toy or game from home, but please make sure that it is labeled with the child's name. We also ask the students avoid bringing in combative-type toys, as this tends to incite rough and inappropriate play.

Students in after care will be given time to do homework. There will be a quiet area designated where they may do so.

If a student stays after school for an extracurricular activity or detention and is not picked up at the designated time, the student will go to aftercare until parent comes to pick up the child. A charge for the use of after care will be incurred. Regardless of age, no student is to roam the school building or property unsupervised.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Discipline of Students

At SCS we do not have rules, rather we have expectations to which students are held. These expectations apply to students while they are on school property, on school buses (public or chartered), and at school related events off campus. The core of those expectations is:

1. Respect God
2. Respect SCS and the people and things in it
3. Respect yourself

Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children will behave in a manner that will not take away from a safe, orderly, and academically productive learning environment.

For minor incidences, consequences will be issued by the teacher. For major offenses, students may be given detention, suspended, or expelled, depending on the offense.

At SCS, we believe:

1. Every teacher at Summit Christian School has the right to teach and every student has the right to learn.
2. One student's choice to misbehave will not be allowed to interfere with the learning opportunities of other students.
3. Misbehavior of a student will not excuse him/her from successfully completing the learning objectives.
4. Every discipline situation is an opportunity to teach expected behavior.

Parents and students are responsible for knowing teacher expectations and procedures. Teachers will communicate with parents about concerns related to their child's behavior choices. Teachers and staff will give opportunities for grace to each student as they demonstrate appropriate behaviors.

Any level 3 offenses will earn the student Behavioral Probation (**BP**) that will commence on the day of the offense and will continue for a period determined by the administration. Behavioral Probation requires that the student make immediate and consistent correction to the inappropriate behavior of concern. If there is no noticeable change at the end of the established **BP**, the parents will be asked to withdraw the student from SCS immediately.

Discipline will be administered to correct inappropriate behavior, not to punish. All students will be given the opportunity to admit their misbehavior, show remorse, and become a positive influence at Summit Christian School.

In the event of negligent or willful property damage, the student and/or his/her parents will be responsible for the cost of repairing or replacing the damaged property.

Behavior Levels

Level 1

Definition	Behaviors that: DO NOT significantly violate the rights of others or cause a safety issue
Examples of Offenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress code violations • Running in the hallway or classroom • Getting out of seat without permission • Leaving the classroom without permission • Refusing to do work • Making inappropriate noises • Disrespecting others' or their property • Other offenses deemed appropriate by teacher
Procedures and Consequence Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform student of rule violated and change their behavior wheel color • Describe expected behavior • Contact parent if necessary • Debrief and re-teach expected behavior • Inform student of appropriate consequence • Incident and consequence may be documented in FACTS • Detention assigned by teacher

Level 2

Definition	Behaviors that: Significantly violate the rights of others, cause a safety issue for self or others, and/or chronic level 1 behavior
Examples of Offenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated level 1 behaviors • Arguing with teacher or other authority/talking back • Disrespectful attitude • Foul language • Instigation • Claiming work as own when it has been copied, plagiarized • Cheating • Lying • Theft • Threatening statements or actions • Use of cell phone or other electronic device during the school day taking pictures or videos, texting, calling, etc. during the school day • Bullying, harassment, intimidation – repeated negative actions (electronic, verbal, or physical) against another student or adult • Public Displays of Affection – kissing, holding of hands, hugging, or other displays of affection while on school property or during school sponsored functions. • Other offenses deemed appropriate by the administration
Procedures and Consequence Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform student of rule violated and change their behavior wheel color • Describe expected behavior • Removal of student from situation • Contact parent • Incident and consequence documented in FACTS • Conference with school chaplain (as needed) • Detention, In School Suspension, or other consequences deemed appropriate and assigned by the principal

Level 3

Definition	Behaviors that: Require immediate removal, are chronic level 2 behaviors, and/or require administration involvement
Examples of Offenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated level 2 behaviors • Fighting • Throwing classroom objects at others • Making racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs • Possessing look alike weapons • Deliberate, malicious destruction of school property • Assault of students • Sexual harassment • Misuse or inappropriate use of school technology or internet • Forgery • Inappropriate physical contact of any nature • Other offenses deemed appropriate by the administration
Procedures and Consequence Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate removal of student from situation • Inform student of rule violated and change behavior wheel color • Describe expected behavior • Conference with school chaplain (as needed) • Contact parent • Incident and consequence documented in FACTS • 1-5 days of Out of School Suspension • Student placed on Behavioral Probation

Level 4

Definition	Behaviors that: Require immediate removal and require administration and/or law enforcement involvement
Examples of Offenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated level 3 behaviors • Possessing weapons • Assault of staff • Use or possession of illegal drugs on school grounds or on/at school sponsored functions • Other offenses deemed appropriate by the administration
Procedures and Consequence Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate removal of student from situation • Inform student of rule violated • Describe expected behavior • Conference with school chaplain • Contact parent • Contact law enforcement (as appropriate) • Incident and consequence are documented by administration in FACTS • Immediate expulsion of student

Administrative Removal of Students

Students may be suspended from school for up to five days by the school administration. Suspensions may be “in school” or “out of school”. This is determined by the school administration.

The administration or classroom teacher may remove a student from the classroom or school activity without prior notice if the continued presence of the student poses a danger to other persons or to property or if the child is choosing to disrupt the educational process.

When repeated offenses occur by the student, and/or there is a lack of cooperation on the part of the parent/guardian, the administration may place the student on probation. The probation period may be any length of time from two weeks to nine weeks (the length of a grading period). Probation is the same as notification of intent to remove a student from SCS. It may be given for academic or behavior difficulties.

A student may be expelled for conduct, which violates the Summit Christian School Code of Conduct. Such expulsion is permanent. Expelled students may never reenroll at SCS.

The following procedures will be followed:

1. Both student and parents are given prior notice of the intent to expel and the reasons for the action.
2. If a student is removed on an emergency basis, the parent will be contacted immediately, and an explanation will be provided.

ANTI-HARRASSMENT, ANTI-INTIMIDATION, ANTI-BULLYING

Introduction

Although H.B. 276 requires only public school districts to establish an anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, and anti-bullying policy, Summit Christian School (SCS) recognizes the wisdom of including this type of policy and procedure within its bylaws. Therefore, the school voluntarily includes the following rules and guidelines for implementation by all board members, staff, contracted personnel, students, and volunteers. Although the state law refers specifically to student, the SCS anti-harassment, anti-intimidation and anti-bullying policy is inclusive of all stakeholders associated with SCS. Throughout the policy, the rules apply equally to all stakeholders of SCS, not just students.

Goal

The goal of this policy is to provide an educational and work environment which is free of harassment of any type. It is the desire of Summit Christian School to establish a climate which fosters understanding of individual uniqueness, recognizes positive behavior, and promotes a spirit of teamwork/cooperation.

Definition

According to section 3.1 of the Ohio Department of Education's Policy Model, harassment, intimidation, or bullying is defined as any intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student, or group of students, exhibits toward another student(s) repeatedly and, the behavior causes both:

- caused mental or physical harm to the student, and
- is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to create an environment that is intimidating, threatening or abusive for the other student.

This behavior may or may not be exhibited toward an individual because of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability. It could include, but is not limited to name-calling, taunting, hazing, threatening, coercion, intimidating, stalking, sexual harassment, or bullying. This extends to cyber-bullying which uses any means of technology.

Application of Policy

This policy applies to

- all activities on school property,
- all activities off school property, but approved for student participation or sponsored by SCS,
- all activities that are related such as field trips, athletic, drama, speech events ,
- behavior in-route to or from school, or
- behavior which uses SCS technology for transmission.

Note that aggressive behavior which takes place out of school, but which spills over in a disruptive manner at school may also be investigated with the possibility of disciplinary intervention.

Reporting

It is important that students or adults report incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying promptly to a teacher or the administration of SCS. Any report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying needs to be documented on a “harassment, intimidation, or bullying” form (HIB form). Students or adults may request anonymity. If this is designated, the investigation may be restricted, and discussion with the perpetrator may or may not be possible. The request to remain anonymous may be rescinded within 10 days of submitting the HIB form.

Investigated and confirmed cases of harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be reported to the school board.

Miscellaneous Violations of Anti-Aggression Policy

The staff, administration, or school board will also take appropriate steps to discipline anyone who

- engages in retaliation against a person who has made a report, or an allegation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or
- knowingly reports or files a false complaint of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Training and Prevention

The SCS board, administration, and staff will actively engage in instruction and activities with the goal of eliminating forms of aggressive behavior and establishing a climate of respect and responsibility. To this end, SCS will seek to provide:

- open communication with student and parents,
- explanations to parents and students regarding student behavior expectations,
- in-service training for faculty and staff,
- strategies to help students to know what to do if they experience a harassment, intimidation, or bullying situation.

The commitment of Summit Christian School is to review the implementation of the anti-harassment, anti-intimidation, anti-bullying policy and procedures annually.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Daily Uniform

ALL STUDENTS	Pants/Shorts	Dockers style (no cargo pockets) shorts must be fingertip length or longer	navy or khaki
ALL STUDENTS	Shirts	long or short sleeve polo	navy, gray, or primary red
ALL STUDENTS	Sweaters	cardigan or pullover (no fleece)	navy, gray, primary red or white
ALL STUDENTS	Fleece Jacket	SCS logo fleece ONLY <i>Note: polo shirt must be worn under fleece</i>	
ALL STUDENTS	Shoes	running/athletic shoes boots sandals with straps or buckles dress shoes	NO FLIP FLOPS heels not higher than 1"
ALL STUDENTS	Socks		navy, gray, primary red, white, or black are recommended
ALL STUDENTS	Belts	belts are recommended if pants have belt loops	black, brown, navy, gray, primary red or white
GIRLS only	Skirts	3 rd –8 th only must be fingertip length or longer	SCS plaid, khaki, or navy
GIRLS only	Jumper	kindergarten – 2 nd only must be fingertip length or longer	SCS plaid, khaki, or navy
GIRLS only	Leggings/ Tights	can be worn only under skirt/jumper capri or ankle length	navy, gray, primary red or white are recommended

Miscellaneous Guidelines:

- Students in 5th-8th grade are required to wear an official SCS gym shirt and plain navy shorts for PE class. Students are also strongly encouraged to bring deodorant.
- Hair must be natural in color, well groomed, and not a distraction.
- Headbands must be less than 2" in width and height and not a distraction.
- Students may not wear hats or other head coverings during the school day, except for during recess.
- Make-up can only be worn by female students in 6th – 8th grade and must be light and tasteful

- Female students may wear nail polish if they so choose. Female students in K-5th grade must keep their nails neatly trimmed. Only female students in 6th-8th grade may wear artificial nails. All students' fingernails (boys and girls) must not be a distraction, hinder learning, or pose a safety concern.
- K-5th grade students may wear post earrings only. 6th – 8th students may wear simple, dangling earrings.
- Uniforms must be clean, free from holes/excessive wear, and fit the student properly (not excessively tight or baggy).
- Weather, and common sense should dictate when shorts will be worn to school.
- Students may wear undershirts however the undershirts must follow the shirt color guidelines and are NOT to show from under the polo shirt sleeves.
- Winter boots may only be worn to and from school and at recess time. Students must bring regular shoes to change into for class time.
- Students may only wear official SCS Spirit Wear on Fridays with their uniform pants, skirt, or jumper.

“Dress Your Own Way Day”

On the last Friday of every month students and staff enjoy a “Dress Your Own Way Day” (DYOWD). In order to participate, students and staff give a minimum donation of \$1.00. All are welcome to donate more if they feel led to do so. The money collected on DYOWDs is then used to be a blessing to missionaries who speak at chapel services, families in need, special missions, etc. Those who participate are permitted to dress in their regular street clothes rather than their daily uniforms.

On the days when our students are rewarded with a “DYOWD”, the following guidelines must be followed:

- No worldly logos, words, or pictures
- No tears/holes
- Shorts, dresses, skirts must be fingertip length or longer Not excessively tight or baggy clothing
- No flip flops or dress shoes with heels in excess of 1”
- No tank tops
- No hats, head coverings, or headbands wider or higher than 2”
- Rules of modesty are a must

HEALTH GUIDELINES

Immunization

State law requires that children entering school for the first time to be immunized as follows:

- Four (4) immunizations against diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough (DPT)
- Hepatitis B vaccine
- Three (3) immunizations against polio
- Two (2) immunizations against measles/mumps/rubella (MMR)
- Three (3) doses of hepatitis B vaccine
- A tuberculin skin test to determine if child has been exposed to tuberculosis is highly recommended, but not required.

By law, children must be excluded from school if they do not meet these requirements or have on record in the school office a parent-signed waiver.

Fever and Vomiting Protocol

If a student develops a fever of 100 degrees or higher, he/she may not attend class until their temperature remains under 100 degrees without the aid of medication for 24 hours.

If a student vomits, regardless of the presence of a fever, he/she is not permitted to attend class until 24 hours after the last vomiting event.

If a student has a fever or has vomited while at school, they must be picked up from school within an hour to avoid the spread of disease.

Communicable Diseases

Symptoms of concern:

- Conjunctivitis
- untreated infected skin patches
- unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stool
- stiff neck
- evidence of lice, scabies, or other parasitic infection

The children with any of the above symptoms will be removed from contact with other children and taken to a designated area of isolation. A staff member will supervise the child until the parent or guardian arrives. Information regarding communicable diseases and treatment of injuries is posted in the office.

Staff members with any sign of communicable disease will follow the same procedure of isolating themselves from students and will remain away from school until such time that the disease is not contagious.

When a child has a diagnosed communicable disease (for example, chicken pox or lice), other parents will be notified by school newsletter while protecting the identity of the child with the condition. The child will be readmitted to school when all symptoms of this illness are absent or with a written statement from the child's doctor that the condition is no longer contagious.

Medications

For the safety of all students, faculty, and staff: **All medications, prescription or over-the-counter must be kept in the school office during the school day. This includes cough drops, antacids, ointments, and other non-prescription medications.**

The school will administer necessary medications, prescription or over-the-counter, to students under the following conditions:

- Parents have completed the Administration of Medication form,
- prescription medications must be brought to school in the original containers as it comes from the pharmacy with the student's name on the prescription label,
- over-the-counter medications must be brought to the school in the original packaging labelled with the student's name, and
- any paraphernalia, bandages, etc. needed to administer the medication must be provided by the parents.

Feminine Hygiene

Female students who have started their menstruation cycle must provide their own feminine hygiene supplies. If your daughter requires medication for cramps, the protocol for prescription or over-the-counter medications must be followed.

Sanitation Protocol

Teachers and children are expected to wash their hands with soap after using the restroom and before preparing or eating food. Common surfaces are disinfected daily. Toys and other materials in the classroom are washed frequently. Restrooms and floors are cleaned and disinfected regularly.

Vision and Hearing

Summit Christian School will provide vision and hearing screening for all students on a rotating basis. When a problem is suspected, a referral will be sent to the parents. Counsel and follow-up will also be provided.

Medical Exemptions

Requests for medical exemptions from any class or activity must be submitted to the administration and accompanied by a doctor's note.

Suicide Prevention Policy

Summit Christian School will follow the *Suicide Prevention Protocol* as designed by Dr. Kelly Posner from the New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University. All faculty and staff members will be trained to use this protocol.

If a student communicates a suicidal threat, the faculty/staff member will either administer the *Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale Screener* or contact an administrator or school counselor to administer the *Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale Screener*. Upon communicating a suicidal threat, the student should never be left alone until his/her risk level has been assessed utilizing the *Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale Screener* or by using a full risk assessment given by the school counselor using the following protocols:

- If a student receives a score of 1 or 2, the risk level is determined low.
 - The student will complete the *Self-Harm/Suicide Contract*.
 - The student may return to class.
 - The faculty/staff member will contact the student's parent via phone and make a record in Renweb under the Parent Teacher Contact tab.

- If the student receives a score of 3 or 4, the risk level is elevated.
 - The student will be referred to a school counselor for a full risk assessment.
 - The student will complete the *Self-Harm/Suicide Contract*.
 - The school counselor will contact the student's parent via phone and make a record in Renweb under the Parent Teacher Contact tab.
 - Students who are determined to have an elevated risk of suicidal behavior will be required to meet regularly with a school counselor or show evidence of meeting regularly with an outside licensed mental health professional until the risk has diminished.
 - The school counselor will determine if the student is fit to return to class or should go home for the rest of the day.

- If the student receives a score of 5 or 6, the risk level is high.
 - The school counselor will perform a full risk assessment and notify the parent via phone and make a record in Renweb under the Parent Teacher Contact tab.
 - The student will be removed from the general population and will be monitored by an adult in a safe, secure, predetermined location.
 - The student will complete the *Self-Harm/Suicide Contract* once returning to school.
 - The parent will pick up the student within an hour to transition the student to Emergency Department Care. If the parent does not pick up the student within an hour, SCS will call 911 to transport the student to Emergency Department Care.
 - The student will not be allowed to return to school until cleared by a licensed mental health/medical professional.
 - Once the student is cleared to return to school the student will be required to meet regularly with a school counselor or show evidence of meeting regularly with an outside licensed mental health professional until the risk has diminished.

- If a student is found to be attempting suicide,
 - SCS will call 911 immediately.
 - The student's parents will also be notified.
 - The student will not be allowed to return to school until cleared by a licensed mental health professional.
 - The student will complete the *Self-Harm/Suicide Contract* once returning to school.
 - Once the student is cleared to return to school the student will be required to meet regularly with a school counselor or show evidence of meeting regularly with an outside licensed mental health/medical professional until the risk has diminished.

* An excused absence will be recorded for students who are absent from school due to mental health treatment for suicidal behavior.

WELLNESS POLICY

Promotion of Wellness

The SCS Wellness Committee, comprised of the administration, Lunch Program Coordinator, and physical education teacher, will promote the importance of personal wellness to students and families of SCS. The methods for promotion will include, but are not limited to, flyers, in-class discussions and lessons, and family events. Our goal is to help students and their families understand proper nutrition and physical activity practice for optimal living.

Goals

- Every student will have access to nutritional balanced meals and beverages (according to USDA standards for child nutrition) every day.
- Every student will have opportunity for a minimum of 20 minutes of physical activity each day while at school.
- Every student will be educated in the importance of proper nutrition and physical activity.
- All classrooms will limit the number of unhealthy snacks and food rewards provided during the school day, including at classroom parties.

Marketing of Food and Beverages

The marketing of food and beverages will be limited to those food items that meet the USDA standards for child nutrition. Other food and beverage items will not intentionally be marketed to students or their families.

Evaluation and Review

The application and effectiveness of the Wellness Policy will be evaluated by the administration.

The SCS Wellness Policy will be reviewed every three (3) years by the Wellness Committee and interested faculty and SCS families. During the review, the following criteria will be assessed:

- Compliance with the wellness policy
- How the wellness policy compares to the model wellness policies
- Progress made in attaining the goals of this wellness policy.

Updates to the policy will be made known to the school body via The Signal and the Student/Parent Handbook.

MEAL SERVICE

Lunch

SCS participates in the National School Lunch Program. The price per meal is \$3.50. Students will order lunch on a month by month basis. When possible, it is wise for the student/family to plan a week or so ahead so that meals will not be missed. Students who purchase reduced price or full price meals will have to purchase a pre-paid card.

Beverages sold during meal services and after care include white milk, chocolate milk, and orange juice. Snacks are available for purchase only during aftercare. The cost is \$.50 per item. A pre-paid milk/snack card, good for 20 items, can also be purchased from the school secretary for \$10.00. Some parents find this more convenient.

Oops! Forgot my lunch! So, what's the solution? Luke 3:11 "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same." If a child has forgotten their lunch, they will be permitted to charge a school lunch. Lunch charges are expected to be paid the day after the charge is made. Students will not be permitted to charge again until the balance has been satisfied.

Due to allergies and family dietary concerns, students are not permitted to share any portion of their packed meals with another student.

In addition, we will encourage students who have not finished their packed lunch to take their leftovers home.

Breakfast

Breakfast is also available in the mornings from 7:20 – 7:45am. Students will order breakfast on a month by month basis. The cost per breakfast meal is \$2.50. Students who purchase reduced price or full price meals will have to purchase a pre-paid card.

Free and Reduced Price Meals

Families who meet specific household income may be eligible to receive meals free or at a reduced price. Applications for "Free" or "Reduced Price" meals are available from and submitted to the Lunch Program Coordinator. Please allow a minimum of two (2) weeks for processing.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Tuition

Tuition payments for all students will be due on the first day of each month beginning July 1. If payment is not made by the 8th of the month, a \$35.00 late charge will be imposed and added to the account. If payment in full is not received by the last day of the same month, the student will not be permitted to attend class until payment is made in full and the account made current.

If you wish to communicate a special financial situation and request an extension on tuition due, it must be submitted in writing to the school board and received by the monthly meeting (the third Thursday of each month). The School Board is the only authority in granting extension of payment.

It is the desire of the School Board to work with families that experience unforeseen financial problems. Communication from the parents is the first and minimum requirement in working out an acceptable payment plan. Once an extension agreement is granted, payments must be made in full and on time. The Board reserves the right to use a third-party collection agency to collect past due accounts. Summit Christian School must act as a responsible fiscal agent in order to meet the financial obligations to staff and creditors. The school never wants to risk the opportunity for continued educational ministry because of poor business practices.

Families who have a child on an Ed Choice Scholarship or Ed Choice Expansion Scholarship are required to come into the school at two (2) times through the school year to sign tuition checks. These checks are the tuition payments for the student and must be signed within one week of notification of the checks' arrival at the school. Failure to sign a student's Ed Choice check will result in the exclusion of the student from class until the check has been signed. SCS does offer an option for you to sign a Limited Power of Attorney. The Limited Power of Attorney will allow SCS to only process the tuition checks without you coming into the school to sign.

Students who have an unresolved past due balance may be dismissed from or jeopardized their eligibility for reenrollment at SCS.

T.R.I.P. (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

To help defray the cost of tuition, the Tuition Reduction Incentive Program (T.R.I.P.) is available to all families. Parents can save hundreds of dollars on tuition by using the T.R.I.P. program. Merchants in our area and across the nation allow the face value purchase of gift cards and the T.R.I.P. program forwards a percentage of the cost back to parents as a tuition credit. Call the school office for a detailed information packet on this special program.

Special note! SCS allows money earned through the T.R.I.P. program to be used for the following fees in addition to tuition:

- Reenrollment fees
- Special activity fees
- Overnight and weeklong field trips
- Lunch/breakfast charges

T.R.I.P. balances remaining at the end of the school year will be carried over to the next school year. Balances for students who leave SCS, regardless of the time of year, will be forfeited and placed in the general SCS budget.

Student Fundraising

Students may only conduct individual fundraising if they are representing established organizations (scouts, charitable foundations, athletic teams, etc.) and have the permission of SCS administration. Students may not solicit faculty and staff directly, but they may post order information in the office. Distribution of goods is the sole responsibility of the student and/or parent. Students may not conduct individual fundraising for personal gain (e.g. overnight or weeklong field trips) unless it is done so as part of an SCS organized fundraiser.

Personal Technology

Cell phones, tablets, fitness technology, and other personal technology may be brought to school **AT THE STUDENT'S OWN RISK**. SCS is not responsible for personal technology that is lost, stolen, or damaged. While at school all personal technology must be **turned off and kept in the student's book bag, in their locker, for the duration of the school day**. If a student does not follow this rule, the technology will be taken and kept in the office for a minimum of one week. If there is a legitimate reason for a student to make a call, the staff can give permission for the student to use their cell phone or allow them to use the school phone.

Parent Conferences, Visits, and Communication

In order to maintain a safe, orderly, and consistent climate for learning, no persons other than contracted and volunteer school staff should be in the school during regular school hours. If parents need a conference with the teacher, they may call the school office and arrange one or contact the teacher via email, voice mail, or note in the planner.

Upon entering the building, parents and visitors must check in at the school office. This is pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code. Please avoid unnecessary classroom interruptions.

The SCS staff welcomes a partnership with parents. Stability is given when there is a partnership between home, the school, and the church. Often, the lack of communication is at the center of misunderstandings. Communication between staff and parents should be direct but tactful. At SCS, we expect all individuals to follow the principles for biblical communications (Matthew 18) when resolving issues or registering a complaint. It is to begin with the school individual directly involved in the situation (usually the teacher), then the SCS principal, and lastly the SCS Board of Education. Only policy may be appealed to the SCS Board of Education. Individual discipline decisions are not eligible for appeal.

Change of Contact or Address Information

It is extremely important that we have the most current, viable contact and address information on file in the school office for the purposes of emergency and regular communication. In the event that a student and his/her family changes contact (phone and/or email) or address information, the school office must be notified as soon as possible. A change of information form is available upon request.

Volunteers

There are many opportunities for volunteering at SCS during the day and at home. For the protection of all students, Summit Christian School, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to approve or disapprove of any person wishing to volunteer at or for the school. Every adult 18 years or older who desires to volunteer at Summit Christian School in any capacity must submit to a background check prior to beginning volunteer service of any kind. Please contact the office if you are willing to serve with us.

Recess

Students have recess time every day. Recess will be held outside unless the temperature is below 25 degrees F (with wind chill) or inclement. Parents must ensure that their children are appropriately dressed for the weather so that this time of recreation can be enjoyable.

The instances when a student will be permitted to stay in during recess time are few, however if the child has a physician diagnosed condition that prohibits him/her from going outdoors for recess, a signed physician's note stating the duration of the restriction must be on file in the office.

Guidance and Student Counseling Services

Guidance and student counseling services may be provided by administration, the school chaplain, or a certified, licensed counselor on staff. In the event that the classroom teacher believes counseling would be beneficial to the student, a referral will be made to the administration. Parents will also be notified if a referral is made. Upon parental consent, counseling will commence, and parents will be kept informed of the progress of their child.

If any SCS faculty or staff should have significant concerns about a student's mental or emotional state, one emergency session with the school counselor without parental consent is permitted by law.

Library Services

Summit Christian School has its own library. It is a priority of the school to continually add good literature and resource volumes to our library. Hundreds of new works are purchased or donated annually.

FACTS

FACTS is the school management program for many facets of SCS, including grades, attendance, and discipline.

ParentsWeb is a function of FACTS that allows parents and guardians to access their child's grades for the purposes of investing in their child's education and maintaining the partnership between home and school. Contact the school if you are interested in using ParentsWeb.

Release of Student Information

Student information and records are only released to the custodial parents. In order for student information and/or records to be released to anyone other than the custodial parents a Release of Records form must be filled out, signed by the custodial parent(s), and submitted to the school office a minimum of two (2) business days prior to releasing the information. The exception to this is formal requests from public or private schools.

Parent Calendar

The SCS Parent Calendar is available on our website and in the school office. A copy is sent to families with supply lists.

Fines for Damages

Any school issued materials (planners, books, lanyards, etc.) that are lost and/or damaged beyond repair will incur a fine for replacement.

Replacement Cards

Students will be issued a \$5 replacement fee for lost or damaged student id card.

School Day Cancellations

On days when weather or other circumstance threatens the well-being of students or the safe operation of education, school will be cancelled. As soon as we know classes will be cancelled, we will notify families via One Call Now (our system for sending mass messages) and our Facebook page. We will also notify major TV stations in our area. These networks provide on-line and on-air/on-screen updates. You can also sign up for text alerts from the major TV sessions.

SCS Board of Education

Members of the SCS Board of Education consist of former and current parents, community leaders, and educational professionals. All board members must be born-again believers and members in good standing of a local Christian congregation. School administrators and a teacher representative serve the school board as non-voting members. For a current list of SCS board members, please contact the school office.

Addendum I

ONLY APPLICABLE FOR 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Frequently Asked Questions

In response to the release of our reopening plan, members of our school family have expressed questions, comments, and concerns about the plan. The Summit Christian School Board of Education is hopeful that the following will give clarification and help with understanding.

How will bussing work this year?

Bussing for our students will be much the same as last year. Students will have assigned seats and siblings will be seated together whenever possible. There will be no more than two students per seat. The bus windows and roof vents will be opened for increased ventilation. Hand sanitizer will be carried on every bus. And students will be required to wear their masks while on the bus. Akron Public Schools will send detailed information to families.

Why is there no remote learning option for families?

With the appropriate safety protocol in place, in-person learning is the best educational option we can offer our students for several reasons.

1. Children learn so much more than just the “ABCs and 123s” when they are in a classroom with their peers and their teacher. We hold children’s social and emotional development equally as important as their academics.
2. The majority of our students have parents/guardians whose work schedule does not grant them the freedom to be at home to assist their children if remote learning is optional. If we are faced with another mandated closure as we did last spring, remote learning will be the only option and, therefore, employers will be more understanding.
3. A large number of our students depend on our breakfast and lunch programs for adequate daily nutrition. When our school is closed, students do not have access to sufficient nutrition.
4. For a significant portion of our students, their home language is not English. In-person learning is optimal since the parents/grandparents in those homes have a very difficult time assisting their child with remote learning due to the language barrier.
5. We are diligently working to be equipped and ready to do remote learning online should we be mandated or need to do so in the future. Until we are better equipped with one-to-one technology for students and have our online remote learning resources in place, in-person learning is the best option we can offer.

What if I choose to homeschool my child for the first semester?

1. Ed Choice Scholarship Students

Unfortunately, if you choose to homeschool your child and your child is on an Ed Choice Scholarship, your child will lose their scholarship for the year since they will not be officially enrolled in an Ed Choice provider school. If all of the criteria for being awarded an Ed Choice scholarship are met the following school year, you could reapply. These

are rules set forth by Ed Choice. Additionally, your child will lose their place in the class for this school year and SCS cannot guarantee that their place will be open the following year. Should you choose to become a non-scholarship family and pay tuition, we will make every effort to hold a place in your child's class for this school year.

2. Non-Scholarship Students

If your child is not on a scholarship, we will make every effort to hold a place for your child in their class for this school year.

Will temperatures be taken at school?

All students will have their temperature checked with a touchless thermometer by the office staff as they enter the building. Also, each classroom will be equipped with a touchless thermometer for quick assessment as needed.

How often will bathrooms be cleaned/sanitized?

Bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized 2-3 times each day.

How will teachers prepare for the possibility of doing remote learning?

All teachers will be required to have at least two weeks' worth of remote learning plans prepared, which can be distributed at a moment's notice.

When will remote learning take place?

Remote learning will take place in the event of a mandated shutdown or if the Summit Christian School Board of Education determines that in-person learning cannot be conducted safely and effectively.

How will remote learning happen this year?

We are diligently working to equip our school with a Chromebook for each student in grades 3-8 and iPads for students in kindergarten through 2nd grade. Once those are in place, we will conduct remote learning via online education utilizing Google Classroom, Google Meets, and various online and print materials. In the event that remote learning must happen before the Chromebooks and iPads are prepared, we will use learning packets until the technology is ready, then transition safely and efficiently to online learning.

How will classrooms be arranged to accommodate social distance?

We will organize classrooms so that social distancing can be maintained whenever possible. In some situations where distancing is difficult, dividers and shields will be in place.

Will enforcing mask and social distancing protocols be distracting to teachers?

Adjusting to mask and social distancing protocols will be a challenge at the beginning of the year, as is the case with any new school-wide protocol of this magnitude. We are confident that faculty, staff, and students will adapt quickly.

How will students social distance during recess?

Recess monitors will do their best to enforce appropriate social distance while on the playground. Students will be expected to maintain social distance while at recess. Additional recess protocol will include all students washing their hands when they come in after recess, recess equipment (basketballs, soccer balls, jump ropes, etc.) will not be available to students for at least the first semester. The students will have access to play structures. Indoor recess will take place in classrooms.

Will there be a nurse in the school each day?

No, however our part-time nurse will be conducting thorough trainings with all faculty and staff prior to the school year beginning.

What will happen if there is a positive COVID case within the school?

SCS will communicate with the Summit County Public Health Department when a student or staff person has tested positive for COVID-19 and will fully cooperate with their guidance.

When it becomes known that a student is showing symptoms and has tested positive the following protocol applies:

- SCS will contact the family in order to verify if they have been in contact with both their doctor and the county health department (and been tested).
- SCS will contact the Summit County Public Health Department and cooperate in contact tracing. Summit County Public Health Department will contact potentially exposed students' families per their policies.
- This does not mean a student is automatically quarantined/isolated if he/she was in the same class as someone who tested positive.

What if a staff member or student has been exposed to someone with COVID?

If any staff member or student has been exposed ("exposed" or "exposure" being defined as maintaining less than 6-foot distance for more than 15 continuous minutes or as communicated by the Summit County Health Public Department) to someone with COVID but remain symptom free, you may return to SCS after:

- 14 days or after a quarantine required as directed by the Summit County Public Health Department.

OR

- the individual brings a doctor's note stating that he/she is COVID-free and safe to be back a school.

What if a staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19?

A written clearance from a medical professional needs to be provided before returning to school.

What health guidelines will be in place for students and staff specific to COVID?

Symptoms of COVID-19 range from mild to severe and may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. The CDC reports that COVID-19 is mainly spread through contact with an infected person’s respiratory droplets (such as saliva or mucus from coughing, sneezing, yelling, or talking).

INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT COME TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE ANY **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING:

- fever of 100 degrees or higher
- persistent cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- chills
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- loss of taste or smell

INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT COME TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE ANY **TWO** OF THE FOLLOWING

- body aches
- runny nose or congestion
- headache
- sore throat

What if a student or staff member becomes symptomatic while at school?

All classrooms and the office will be equipped with touchless thermometers. Should anyone feel unwell or display symptoms of illness at any time, they will have their temperature assessed immediately without the unnecessary travel to the office. If a fever is detected (100 degrees or higher) the individual will report, with their belongings, directly to the office clinic. If their symptoms align with those in the question previous to this one, they will also gather their belongings and report directly to the office clinic. For students, they will remain isolated in the clinic and parents/guardians will be called and expected to pick the student up within the hour. For faculty, staff, or substitute teachers, they will leave the building as soon as possible.

When can students or staff return to school after a positive COVID test?

Per the CDC guidance, if an individual tests positive for COVID-19 they will need a note from a medical professional stating that they are safe to return to school.

What if a student or staff member has/had symptoms but did not have a test or is waiting for the results of a test?

Per CDC guidance, a staff member or student in this situation may return to school after one of the following options:

OPTION A (*ALL criteria must be met***)**

- 10 days have passed since symptoms started
- All symptoms have improved
- No fever for at least 72 hours (3 days) without medication

OPTION B

- Present a doctor's note indicating that the cause of the symptoms is due to issues other than COVID-19 and specifically indicating that the individual may return to school.

Will students still switch classrooms?

Students in middle school will remain in their homeroom for each class and the teachers will travel to the students. For our 5th grade classes, they will switch only twice during the day and the desks will be sanitized between switches. As for specials, classes will travel to their specials classes and sanitize their hands as they enter and exit the specials' rooms. Specials classrooms will be sanitized between classes. All classrooms (including homerooms K-8) will be sanitized at the end of each day.

Why are we being asked to sign a Parental Notice and Release?

We have received some questions from our parents about the Parental Notice and Release that was sent out to all of our Summit Christian School families, and why the parents of each of our students are required to sign the Parental Notice and Release. We apologize that we did not send an explanation to you when we sent you the Parental Notice and Release.

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and around the world, there has been significant public debate about whether schools should reopen for in-person education. Some health experts have advised that it is not yet safe for schools to reopen for in-person education, and that schools should begin the school year in a remote learning environment. Other health experts have advised that as long as disease mitigation strategies are implemented, such as wearing facial coverings, cleaning, hand washing, and social distancing, that schools can safely re-open for in-person education.

The status of COVID-19 in our area is constantly changing, but at the present time Summit Christian School has decided that the best available current evidence supports the position that our school may safely re-open, and that it is best for the intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual health of our students that they attend class in our school building five (5) days per week. Furthermore, the overwhelming majority of our parents want their children attending school in-person.

While we strongly believe that in-person instruction is best for your children, and while we will follow disease mitigation strategies, we cannot promise or guarantee that no student, teacher, staff member, or administrator will contract the COVID-19 virus or be exposed to another person who has the COVID-19 virus. Summit Christian School needs to make sure that our parents know that they are taking some risks when sending their children back to school, and that those risks are extremely serious.

Summit Christian School is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (“ACSI”). Because of COVID-19, and the risks associated with returning to school, ACSI, through its attorneys, prepared a Parental Notice and Release for use by its member schools. The Summit Christian School Board of Education reviewed and approved the Parental Notice and Release and decided to make it a requirement for our students and their families.

The reason that the Board decided to require the Parental Notice and Release is because the Board has a fiduciary duty under Ohio law to minimize the potential liability of Summit Christian School to lawsuits or other legal actions against the school. Summit Christian School is a non-profit organization and does not have an endowment or other significant assets. We try to keep our expenses as low as reasonably possible so that as many students as possible can receive a quality Christian education. All of the money that is received by Summit Christian School, including money from tuition payments, donations, or from the State of Ohio, is held and used solely for the purpose of educating your children. If someone were to sue Summit Christian School and receive a large money judgment from the court, our students would be hurt the most, because it would reduce the amount of money that would be spent for the benefit of our students. In fact, if there were a lawsuit against Summit Christian School that required the school to pay a large sum of money in damages, the result would possibly be catastrophic to Summit Christian School and would potentially result in the closing of the school.

The Summit Christian School Board of Education decided that because of all of the risks relating to COVID-19, and all of the risks from things that we don’t know about today but that could arise during the upcoming school year, that Summit Christian School would reopen for in-person learning only if the parents of all students attending school would be required to sign the Parental Notice and Release. Without Parental Notices and Releases from all of our parents, the Board of Education could not responsibly reopen Summit Christian School for in-person learning. Please know that Summit Christian School has always gone above and beyond with our cleaning and sanitizing to help prevent the spread of many known viruses and other germs.

With respect to COVID-19, Summit Christian School has put into place a comprehensive plan to comply with, and exceed, recommendations by Federal, State, and Local health authorities. This plan was articulated in the FAQ document that was sent to all parents and will also reside in the student/parent handbooks which you will receive on Back to School Night.

We all look forward to having your children back in school. But you, your children, our teachers, and our staff are taking some risks in returning to school. In asking you to sign the Parental Notice and Release, we are asking you to acknowledge that there are serious risks in returning to school, to acknowledge that Summit Christian School cannot protect you or your child from those risks if you choose for your child to return to school, that you are voluntarily assuming those risks, and that you acknowledge and

agree to the other terms set forth in the Parental Notice and Release. **If you do not understand any part of the Parental Notice and Release, we encourage you to please seek assistance from someone who can explain it to you before you sign it.**

As a Christian school, we are bound by the laws of the State of Ohio and the laws of the United States of America. But we are bound by an even higher law – to the law of our Lord Jesus Christ. We must answer to the Lord for all of our actions, including following guidelines relating to COVID-19 or any other diseases or conditions. Your signing of the Parental Notice and Release does not change our duty to follow precautions designed to protect your children.

Additional considerations for 2020-2021

To ensure the safety of all students and staff at SCS, it is essential that all the members of the SCS family take proper precautionary steps. SCS has a reopening plan that outlines the school's requirements and expectations pertaining to COVID-19 protocol. The plan may be modified from time to time as necessary. Any modifications will be communicated to our school community.

So, as we begin this school year, please understand the following:

1. All members of the SCS must abide by the protocol in place.
2. All must acknowledge and understand that the circumstances regarding COVID-19 are changing from day to day and that SCS board members and administration are monitoring the situation closely. We ask that parents and guardians accept full responsibility for familiarizing yourself with the most recent updates, as well as the changing conditions in our community, and all state and local orders.
3. It is critical that information between parents, students, and the school be exchanged honestly and in a timely fashion. Thus, the failure to timely disclose information and the falsification of information provided to the school, such as that pertaining to symptoms of students, family members, or other individuals, may result in discipline, up to and including expulsion.
4. Summit Christian School cannot promise that, even with the steps we are taking, our students will not be exposed to COVID-19. The risk of becoming exposed to, or infected by, COVID-19 may result from or be caused by the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself or others, including other school families, school employees, or third parties. Also, families recognize that there is still a risk of contracting the virus, particularly in group settings, even if all members of the community follow precautions designed to lower the risk of infection.



SUMMIT
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONFIRMATION

To ensure smooth operations and optimal education for all students, this parent/student handbook and the policies and procedures herein must be followed and supported by all involved parties. To that end, at least one parent/guardian must confirm that this handbook has been read, understood, and will be supported by all parties associated to Summit Christian School students. This confirmation **MUST BE SIGNED AND RECEIVED BY THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL** in order for students to attend school.

We thank you and give praise to the Lord for the partnership we share, and we look forward to a fruitful year!

I, _____, have read, understand, and will support the policies
(print name of parent/guardian)
and procedures presented in the SCS Parent/Student Handbook.

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____

Relation to student(s) _____

Student(s) name(s) **and** grades:
