

# **Southeastern Christian Academy**

## **Parent-Student Handbook**

### **2025-2026**



*"But you, O man of God, flee from these things and pursue  
righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness."  
1 Timothy 6:11*

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## SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

### **Vision Statement**

Southeastern Christian Academy's vision is that all students exemplify biblical principles, Godly character, and academic skills to be life-long learners and productive citizens as they serve Christ.

### **Mission Statement**

Southeastern Christian Academy's mission is to educate students by exposing them to biblical principles as a framework for all that is taught. The goal for all students is that they be strengthened spiritually, morally, academically, emotionally, and physically to meet the challenges of higher education and their call to serve Christ in the world.

### **Core Values**

#### **Academic Excellence**

Academic quality will not be sacrificed in exchange for a Christian education. We are committed to offering a challenging academic program that helps students reach their full potential and prepares them to excel in high school, college, and beyond.

#### **Biblical Truth**

Scripture is the revealed word of God. It is taught as truth, integrated into the learning experience, and applied to decision-making at every level of the school.

#### **The Gospel**

Our institution regards the gospel of Jesus Christ as integral to our outlook on life, and gospel-centered spiritual transformation as an essential aspect of learning.

#### **Personal Relationships**

The school exists to serve people and does so through personal relationships which exemplify dignity and respect.

#### **Integrity**

The school's day-to-day practices are a consistent model of integrity, efficiency, and accountability.

#### **Stewardship**

The school's management of finances and other resources reflects an understanding that we are caretakers on behalf of God and those who support the school's mission.

### **Philosophy of Education**

Southeastern Christian Academy believes that God has lovingly called each of us as His children to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. He has called us to help our students grow in wisdom and understanding in this relationship in every area of their lives. Each child is a special gift of God, with unique mental, physical and spiritual abilities. These characteristics need to be acknowledged in the classroom. Every student should be challenged to use his/her gifts of intellect to the maximum degree according to age level and ability. (Ephesians 4:11 & 12)

Only as the home, the church and the school come under the authority of God will children develop their potential to the greatest degree. Southeastern Christian Academy is to be a partner with families. We will endeavor to assist students in guiding their development both academically and spiritually. By assisting the home, we are following God's commandment to ". . . bring them (children) up in the training and instruction of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

As Christian educators, we are called to model Christ before our students. "A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:40) The hope of our world resides in the lordship of Jesus Christ. Southeastern Christian Academy is called to assist our children

in taking that hope to the unsaved world. "We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, the wonders He has done...so the next generation would know them. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands." (Psalms 78:4, 6a, 7)

Southeastern Christian Academy is recognized by the N.C. Department of Non-Public Education and is dually accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and Cognia. These programs aim evaluate schools according to their educational mission to determine a continual school improvement plan to increase effectiveness.

### **Expected Student Outcomes**

As we strive to attain our vision, we will develop curriculum, programs, learning opportunities, and learning environments designed to yield student development in four general areas: spiritual formation, Biblical worldview development, academic/intellectual development, and skills development. We will endeavor to produce students who:

#### **Spiritual Formation**

1. has a growing, personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
2. know, understand, and apply God's Word.
3. engage in spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible study, Scripture memory, worship, and service.
4. personally respond to carrying out the Great Commission locally and around the world in a culturally sensitive manner.
5. are empowered by the Holy Spirit and pursue a life of faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love.

#### **Biblical Worldview Development**

1. can articulate, defend, and live their Biblical worldview while having a basic understanding of opposing worldviews.
2. possess apologetic skills to defend their faith.
3. are good stewards of their finances, time (including discretionary time), talents, treasures, and all other resources which are all given back to God in a way that adds
4. value to the kingdom.
5. understand the worth of every human being as created in the image of God, and treat people with respect, dignity, grace, and truth.
6. understand that work has dignity as an expression of the nature of God and that any work done as unto the Lord is an act of worship.
7. understand that all thoughts and choices have consequences; some positive, some negative.

#### **Academic and Intellectual Development**

1. are well prepared in all academic disciplines and are skilled in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking.
2. are proficient in mathematics, science, and problem-solving.
3. have knowledge and understanding of people, events, and movements in history (including church history) and the cultures of other peoples and places.
4. appreciate literature and the arts and understand how they express and shape their beliefs and values.
5. have a critical appreciation of the languages and cultures of other peoples, dispelling prejudice, promoting inter-ethnic harmony, and encouraging Biblical hospitality for the ("alien" or "stranger").

#### **Skills Development**

1. have the ability and desire to investigate and find information and answers to questions on their own.
2. know how to utilize resources including technology to find, analyze, and evaluate information.
3. respect, and relate appropriately with integrity to the people with whom they work, play, and live.
4. have the ability to present ideas and research in visual and/or auditory format with clarity and quality.

5. treat their bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit through decisions about nutrition, fitness, and lifestyle.

### **Worldview Statement**

One of our chief aims at Southeastern Christian Academy is to instill in students a Biblical worldview that is based wholly upon God's Word, the Bible. By worldview, we mean a person's mental framework for understanding the "big picture" of reality, based upon conscious and unconscious assumptions about God, creation, humanity, morality, and purpose.

We believe that the Bible describes the world as it really is. In other words, the Bible answers not only man's religious questions but also the major philosophical questions for which man has always sought answers. The student with a Biblical worldview has a system of thought that is unified, logically consistent, and relevant to every area of life. The propositions below provide a brief description of a Biblical worldview.

### **God**

There is one triune God who is eternally existent in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is infinite, personal, sovereign, all-powerful, all-knowing, and perfect in love, justice, and mercy. God is not silent but has revealed Himself to mankind through the Bible, creation, and the person of Jesus Christ.

### **Creation**

All things were created by God and are sustained by God. Creation consists of a physical realm and a spiritual realm. All of creation was originally good but is now in a fallen state due to the sin of man.

### **Humanity**

Humans were created by God in His image and likeness. Consequently, all human life has intrinsic value. At the same time, man lives in a fallen state as a result of sin. Man's sinful condition alienates him from God and renders him unable to worship God properly, live righteously, understand spiritual things, and recognize that all truth in creation reveals the Creator. People can be restored to a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

### **Morality**

Morality is based upon the character and nature of God, not upon the consensus of society or culture. It is absolute, not relative. God's moral law is revealed in Scripture, and God commands our compliance with that law.

### **Purpose**

God has commanded mankind to have dominion over the earth. Believers are to seek God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven and are to be witnesses of Christ to their culture. History is linear, not cyclical, such that humans have only one life to live, and their decisions in that life will affect their eternal destiny.

### **Statement of Faith**

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative, inerrant Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21).
2. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:1, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30).
3. We believe in the deity of Christ (John 10:33),  
His virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23, Luke 1:35),  
His sinless life (Hebrews 4: 15, 7:26), His miracles (John 2:11),  
His vicarious and atoning death (1 Corinthians 15:3, Ephesians 1:7, Hebrews 2:9),  
His Resurrection (John 11:25, 1 Corinthians 15:4),  
His Ascension to the right hand of God (Mark 16:19),  
His personal return in power and glory (Acts 1:11, Revelation 19:11).

4. We believe in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature and that men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ and that only by God's grace and through faith alone are we saved (John 3:16–19, 5:24; Romans 3:23, 5:8–9; Ephesians 2:8–10; Titus 3:5).
5. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of condemnation (John 5:28–29).
6. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 2:12–13, Galatians 3:26–28).
7. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling and empowerment the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (Romans 8:13–14; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19–20; Ephesians 4:30, 5:18).

## **Position Statements**

### **Preface**

Because we live in a pluralistic society, enrolled families or prospective families may hold a wide range of beliefs on moral issues. For this reason, we believe it is necessary to declare Southeastern Christian Academy's positions on key topics, summaries of which are found below.

In most grade levels, it is highly unlikely that these topics would arise in discussion, or that teachers would give place to them. However, it is possible that questions on these subjects may arise in seventh or eighth grade. In such cases, teachers at SCA will affirm the school's positions.

### **Human Life**

God has an infinite value and unequivocal love for human life. After the fall of mankind as indicated in Genesis 3, the remainder of the biblical story is the story of God's loving pursuit to reestablish atonement. That atonement is finally and fully established in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

God's unequivocal love is manifested in the ministry of Christ where we see revealed the ultimate ground for the valuing of human life. The persons most rejected by human society, most despised by men, are the very ones to whom Jesus reached out with tender love and concern. Above all, His sacrifice on the cross affirms God's love and concern for us as human beings as being of great value, precious in His sight.

### **Abortion**

We are convinced that the Bible strongly affirms the dignity and value of every human life.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." (Jeremiah 1:5)

"My frame was hidden from Thee when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth." (Psalm 139:15)

"And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." (Luke 1:41)

The Scripture passages cited above, and others, are evidence that God accords human value, dignity, and personhood to the unborn child. The Bible does not distinguish between prenatal and postnatal life. Thus, the willful termination of unborn life is a violation of God's moral law.

We also affirm that this position obligates the people of God to nurture and support women who are facing unwanted pregnancies; confront men who respond with indifference to their responsibilities and role in such crises; support and care for children who result from unwanted pregnancies; serve as a therapeutic community to those suffering from the physical, spiritual, and emotional wounds of abortion.



### **Homosexuality**

God created man in His own image, male and female (Gen. 1:27). Sexual intimacy is rightly understood in the context of God's original design for marital oneness: "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh (Gen. 2:24)."

Homosexual practice is a distortion of the image of God as it is still reflected in fallen man, and a perversion of the sexual relationship as God intended it to be. This is affirmed in both the Old and New Testaments.

The Bible also affirms that the spiritual impact of homosexual practice is no different from any other sin. All sin is judged by Almighty God. However, as with all sin, redemption from homosexuality is mercifully offered in the atoning work of Jesus Christ. The word of hope that the church presents is that through the death and resurrection of Christ, God offers to sinners both the forgiveness of sin and the power to live a life pleasing to Him (Romans 8:1-4).

In light of the biblical witness, we conclude:

1. The Bible clearly states that homosexual behavior is a sin.
2. God forgives repentant sinners. As Christians who are ourselves sinners redeemed by the grace of God, we must reach out to those persons who are struggling with homosexuality, offering them the word of hope that is the Gospel to the end that they may experience true wholeness through the freeing, renewing grace of God in Jesus Christ. "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."
3. Unrepentant homosexual behavior is incompatible with the confession of Jesus as Lord.
4. Unrepentant homosexual behavior is incompatible with the ordination vows for the offices of Deacon, Ruling Elder, and Teaching Elder.

### **Sanctity of Marriage**

Marriage is a covenant between one man and one woman and between the participants and God (Malachi 2:14-16). It is therefore more than a temporary agreement of convenience, a contract or a well-intentioned promise. As a binding relationship established by promises, the marriage covenant is solemnly sealed by a ceremony witnessed by family and friends and regulated by the state.

When a believer marries, it is God's will that he or she should be united only with another believer (2 Corinthians 6:14). Because God has created and instituted marriage as a lifelong covenant (Matthew 22:23-30) and because the marriage covenant is to reflect the strength of God's covenant love for His people (Hosea 3:1), any variation from His ordained decree is harmful to the participants and in violation of God's mandates for all people (Mark 10:11-12).

God ordained marriage for the following ends:

The Glory of God  
 Companionship  
 Mutual Assistance  
 The Bearing, Nurturing & Training of Children

### **SCA Biblical Morality Statement**

An integral part of Southeastern Christian Academy's mission is to foster spiritual development and a biblical worldview in the lives of its students. This includes leading students to develop a biblical understanding of morality and to pursue a life that is governed by the biblical moral code. The school works in partnership with families to achieve these desired outcomes, which necessitates that both the school and home come under that authority of God for the benefit of the student.

For this reason, the school reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant or to discontinue enrollment of a student if the atmosphere or conduct within a particular home or the activities or behaviors of the student are counter to or are in opposition to the biblical lifestyle the school teaches. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, or participating in sexual immorality, homosexual activity, bisexual activity, or gender assignment, transgender, identity or expression; promoting such practices; or being unable to support the moral principles of the school. (See Romans 1:27; 1 Cor. 6:9-20; 1 Cor. 7:1-2; Eph. 5:3-5; 1 Thes. 4:2-4; 1 Tim. 1:9-10)

## **ADMISSIONS**

### **Policy Overview**

Southeastern Christian Academy seeks to enroll students whose parents want them to have a Christian education. Both students and parents should be informed of the school's Christian emphasis and agree to support this part of the training.

Prospective families must first complete an application packet and submit all of the required documentation. After a review of the application packet, the student and a parent will be required to visit the school for a student interview.

The student application will be evaluated for admission based on previous grades, attendance records, teacher/principal recommendations, parent cooperation with the school, student interview, test scores from previous school, and a student visit.

The admissions process is designed to identify families and students for whom SCA provides a good academic and spiritual fit. The school will enroll students based upon a variety of criteria, not on a first come first served basis.

### **Non-Discriminatory Policy**

Southeastern Christian Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally 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 programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs.

### **Priority Enrollment**

#### **Re-enrollment**

SCA offers priority enrollment for presently enrolled students, provided the re-enrollment forms and registration fees are submitted by the early registration deadline.

#### **Sibling Enrollment**

Limited priority enrollment for qualified, new students is offered, as space is available, to siblings of currently enrolled students. The enrollment privilege must be exercised by the priority enrollment deadline.

### **Admission Standards**

#### **Behavioral Standards**

All students and parents must be willing to abide by SCA's Discipline Policy. Generally, the school does not enroll students who have been expelled from other schools or who have been in serious disciplinary trouble in their former school or their community.

#### **Academic History**

Students applying for first through twelfth grades will be required to meet SCA's promotion requirements for their prospective grade and have passing grades of "C" or better on grade-level work in all major subjects.

### Probationary Status

All students admitted to SCA are accepted on a probationary basis for the first nine weeks of school. They are expected to abide by all policies set forth in the SCA Student Handbook. Grades should be maintained in the “C” average range. If grades fall below that range, the student may be required to receive tutorial assistance at the parents’ expense in order to maintain their position at the school.

Failure to meet academic or behavioral standards during the probationary period may result in the student’s dismissal from the school.

### Student Records

Upon acceptance of enrollment, a parent must provide current health and immunization records and a copy of the child’s state birth certificate. Immunizations must be up to date according to state law, or else a legally valid exemption must be on file.

All student records are kept in the office and are confidential. Teachers must use discretion in reviewing a student’s record. When a student withdraws during the year, a withdrawal form must be completed. A parent or guardian must complete a request for a transfer of records before records are released. Student accounts must be current, or records and report cards will not be released.

Student files may not be taken out of the school office or off school property by anyone. Copies of student files will be released to another school by signed request or by court order.

### Student Withdrawal

A student is not considered withdrawn until the school office has been notified, in writing, by the parent. A “Student Withdrawal Form” may be obtained from the school office. A \$500 withdrawal fee will be assessed at time of withdrawal. In the case of dismissal, the parent will be notified. Please refer to the “Financial Policies” section for information on tuition refund policies.

## FINANCIAL POLICIES

### Payment Policy

- Southeastern Christian Academy seeks to keep tuition affordable; therefore, it is vital tuition payments are made on time through the FACTS Tuition Management System utilized by Southeastern Christian Academy.
- A FACTS management account is **required** for all students. Students may not be enrolled in Southeastern Christian Academy if an account is not active with an **active** form of payment.
  - Acceptable methods of payment are:
    - Checking or savings account automatic draft,
    - VISA
    - MasterCard
    - American Express
    - Discover
  - A FACTS fee of 2.95% will be added to payment for all credit or debit cards.
- All tuition payments are processed through FACTS Management System and are made in one annual payment, two semi-annual payments, or eleven monthly installments.
- Monthly installments are automatically drafted by FACTS on the fifth or fifteenth of each month from July-May.
- The financially responsible party on the FACTS account is required to make all payments for the student(s) attending Southeastern Christian Academy. It is understood that the financially responsible party is accountable for reviewing the payment date(s)/amount(s) on the account.
- If a student enters school after the first month of the new school year, tuition is assessed for the actual days enrolled. Application, Enrollment, Book, and Security Fees are not prorated and must be paid in full.

## FACTS Policy

- Any account that pays tuition in installments throughout the year will use the service of FACTS Tuition Management for automatic debit from the account of your choice.
- In the case of a returned FACTS payment, a \$30 FACTS Returned Payment Fee is automatically deducted within 5 days of the date the payment was returned.
- Returned payment fees are payable to FACTS for each payment attempt that is returned. These are fees associated with the FACTS Tuition Management system and have to be paid to FACTS before any payment can be made at Southeastern Christian Academy.
- Non-sufficient fund (NSF) fees may also be applied from your bank.
- Any changes to your FACTS account are made through the administrative office.
  - Changes include:
    - Address
    - Phone number
    - E-mail address
    - Banking information
    - Payment Dates
- If there is a need to change the payment date or payment amount, you must contact the front office who will notify FACTS if any changes are to be made. ALL changes must be received by the office at least five (5) business days prior to the payment date in order to affect the upcoming payment.
  - A maximum of two payment date changes per FACTS account per semester are permitted.
  - All communications are to be made via email to Accounting. Any other communications (i.e. via text, Facebook, etc.) cannot be guaranteed as received.
- Southeastern Christian Academy cannot move payments that have already started processing within the FACTS application.

## Fees

- The Application Fee is required for all new students and is due at the time of application. This is a non-refundable fee that covers costs associated with the admissions process.
- The Registration Fee is due at the time of re-enrollment for the acceptance of new students. This fee is non-refundable.
- All starting fees are non-refundable and are to be paid by the first day of school.
- Students are not allowed to attend school until fees are paid in full.

## Extra Expenses

- Students can incur extra expenses throughout the school year for various student events, lunches, extracurricular activities, field trips, sports, and more.
- Parents and guardians will be notified of extracurricular activity expenses and are required to sign permission to the school to withdraw monies from the account at the time stated on the forms.
- Payments for extra expenses are required to be paid before the student participates.
- The student will not be able to participate if payments are not made and tuition is not up to date.

## Financial Aid

- Eligibility:
  - Families must submit a formal request to be eligible for financial aid. Financial aid is cannot be combined or transferred between students.
- Request Process:
  - The financial aid is not automatically applied to the student or family's financial accounts.
  - The financially responsible party must formally request the aid by submitting a request to the financial aid registrar.
  - The request process may include providing additional relevant documentation to support the need for financial assistance.
- Approval Process:
  - The financial aid office will review the application and documentation after receiving the financial aid request.
  - The financial aid approval is subject to a formal request and available funds.

- Application of Financial Aid:
  - The financial aid will be applied to the family's account once the request process has been completed and approval has been granted.
  - The Multiple Child financial aid will be reflected in the tuition with an equal to or less than the tuition amount. This financial aid does not apply to students in the preschool program.
- Renewal and Review:
  - Families receiving Financial Aid may be required to resubmit their request for financial aid on an annual basis to ensure that families in need receive the assistance so financial constraints do not hinder academic opportunities.
- Confidentiality:
  - All financial information and circumstantial difficulties conveyed by families during the application process will be kept confidential.

For more detailed information about the financial aid program or to request assistance, please email the office at [info@scashallotte.org](mailto:info@scashallotte.org)

### Delinquent Accounts

- As stated, the financially responsible party is responsible for the FACTS account and FACTS payments. It is imperative that all accounts are paid to ensure operational support of Southeastern Christian Academy.
- Delinquency:
  - An account becomes delinquent with one attempted and failed FACTS payment.
  - Past-due balances are to be paid as soon as they are missed.
  - If FACTS is unable to collect tuition on the scheduled date, a late payment fee will be charged to your account by FACTS in accordance with your payment agreement.
  - Any student with an account that is not up to date **will not** be able to attend field trips, the After School Program, attend special events, receive report cards, order lunches, etc. No extra charges are allowed to be charged on the account until all mandatory tuition payments are made.
  - Accounts must be current at the end of each nine-week grading period. Report cards **will not** be issued nor will transcripts be released if an account is not current for tuition, lunch charges, book fines, etc.
  - Students **will not** be promoted to the next grade if tuition, fees, and extra expenses are not paid in full by June 30.
  - Southeastern Christian Academy **will not** release academic records if the FACTS account is not paid in full.
  - Students with outstanding tuition balances **will not** be allowed to graduate from SCA or register for the next school year.
  - Students with over two months of missed payments and/or an amount totaling more than \$700 **will not** be able to attend school until payments are up to date.
  - Southeastern Christian Academy reserves the right to withdraw students for continued missed payments. In certain circumstances, the financially responsible party must agree to written alternative arrangements as deemed appropriate by Administration and meets all arrangements within the written guidelines
  - If a student(s) is involuntarily withdrawn from SCA due to non-payment, the student(s) will be ineligible for re-admission to SCA for the remainder of the school year.

### Student Withdrawal

- Upon the enrollment of a student, SCA makes year-long financial commitments and expenditures that are non-recoverable. For this reason, the first two (2) tuition installments are **NON-REFUNDABLE** if a student withdraws at any time.
- A \$500 Withdrawal Fee is also assessed at the time of withdrawal for each student.
- If a student withdraws during the school year, the financially responsible party is accountable for tuition for the entire month of withdrawal. If tuition has been paid beyond the month of withdrawal, a refund will be given for the excess.

- The family must complete a Student Withdrawal Form and submit it to the school office at least two days prior to their next scheduled FACTS payment in order for the school to stop payment on the automatic draft.
- The Withdrawal Fee also applies to students who are dismissed if:
  - The violation is covered in the handbook
  - A student gets in trouble and is warned
  - The student knows the consequence of their repeated action is expulsion
  - A student who knows the handbook policies and chooses to continue to use certain behavior also chooses to withdraw from the school due to insubordination. This will result in automatic withdrawal.
  - The only time the Withdrawal Fee does not apply is if it is beyond the school's scope of "ability" or if the school cannot meet our end of expectation.

## **ATTENDANCE, ARRIVAL, AND DEPARTURE**

### **Attendance Introduction**

Parents have the responsibility to see that students are regularly in attendance. Proper education relies on the continuity of instruction, classroom participation, learning experiences, student-teacher interaction, peer interaction, and structured study. Because this is so important to successful academic progress, students who have excessive absences may be subject to failure and/or permanent dismissal from SCA.

### **School Arrival and Dismissal Schedules**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Full Day Dismissal</b>	<b>Pick-up Location (For Both Schedules)</b>
Grades 9th-12th	8:10AM	2:45PM	Carpool Line at Upper School
Grades 6-8th	8:10AM	3:00PM	Carpool Line at Upper School
Grades 3rd-5th	8:10AM	3:00PM	Carpool Line at Lower School
Grades Kindergarten- 2nd	8:10AM	2:45PM	Carpool Line at Lower School
After School Care	3:00PM	5:15PM	Student Center at Lower School

### **Absences**

The absence policy at SCA is written in a spirit of compliance with North Carolina's compulsory attendance law, G.S. 115C-378. This statute requires that children aged seven to sixteen attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the local public school is in session. The law also allows school administrators to excuse students temporarily from attendance "on account of sickness or other unavoidable cause."

In accordance with this statute, SCA has adopted two categories of absence: Unexcused and Excused.

#### **Unexcused Absence**

When a student is absent from school, the absence will be recorded as unexcused unless and/or until it meets the criteria of an excused absence below.

If a student accumulates excessive unexcused absences in a school year, the school may be required to take specific action under the law, including notifying the Department of Social Services that the parent or guardian may be in violation of the compulsory attendance law. Additionally, students may lose credit for academic assignments missed during each day of unexcused absence.

**Excused Absence**

In order for an absence to be recorded as excused, the parent must provide the teacher with an official excuse within three (3) school days. If an official excuse is not provided within that time frame, the absence will remain unexcused. The following are examples of excusable absences:

- Student's illness or injury\*
- Pre-scheduled appointment\*
- Death of a relative

\*An official doctor's note is REQUIRED. A parent note will not suffice to deem excused.

**School-Related Absences & Pre-Planned Absences**

If a student is absent from school immediately prior to or following any school activity, that absence may be interpreted as unexcused. This applies specifically to any student who is absent in the morning following participation in any activity the previous night or any student who is absent the afternoon (day) prior to an activity later that afternoon or evening. Students involved in athletics, fine arts, or extracurricular activities may not participate in that activity (practice, game, or event) if he is absent the day of the activity. Athletes or artisans who are tardy may still be eligible to participate, provided the student is in school for at least four (4) hours, and the excuse for tardiness is not an illness.

If a family/student knows he or she will be absent ahead of time, the following expectations are in place and are the responsibility of the family and/or student to communicate to staff:

1. A Planned Absence Notification form must be completed prior to the period of absence.
2. The student and parents should expect extended absences to have a negative impact on the student's grades.
3. Students may make up assignments, quizzes, and tests under these conditions:
  - a. Assignments may be secured from the teacher in advance. Teachers will endeavor to provide students with work for the period of planned absence; however, teaching responsibilities may not permit the preparation of assignments in advance.
  - b. Assignments obtained in advance are due on the second day of class following the absence period.
  - c. If assignments are not obtained in advance, the student will be allowed one (1) day per day of absence to make up work. However, the student will also be responsible for keeping up with current assignments during the same period that he/she is making up missed assignments.
  - d. Work turned in after the allotted period of time will be considered late and may result in point deductions or a grade of zero (0) on the assignment, according to the teacher's grading policy.
  - e. The student and parents must arrange to make up tests and quizzes after school or otherwise outside of instructional time.
  - f. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE TEACHER BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE MAKEUP TUTORING. The student and parents will be solely responsible for ensuring that the student learns the material taught during the period of absence.
  - g. Makeup testing for the IOWA Assessment will not be offered for planned absences.

**Retention Due to Absences**

For students to be promoted for the year, total absences for the academic year may not exceed twenty (20). This ruling applies whether the absences are excused or unexcused and regardless of the student's academic performance. Exceptions may be granted under unusual or extenuating circumstances (dependent on excused absence evidence) after parental consultation with the administrator.

**Make-up Work**

If your child is absent for more than one day, you may call the school office before 9:00A.M. to ask for work to be collected. Any work that the student can complete while absent will relieve some of the stress associated with "catching up" upon return to school. The work may be collected from the front office after 3:00 P.M. that day.



Students who miss assignments due to illness or other excused absences will be allowed a minimum of one (1) day per day of absence to make up work. Guidelines for making up work missed during a planned absence are described above.

### **Make-up Work due to Extracurricular Absence**

Students who are absent from class due to an extracurricular school event (athletic or fine art early dismissal) are still required to turn in all work due the day of the event. It is the student-athlete or artisan's responsibility to submit the work that is due prior to leaving for early dismissal. It is also the student's responsibility to make prior arrangements with teachers if they will miss any assessments (quizzes or tests) due to early dismissal. Student-athletes or artisans who miss the entire day due to an extracurricular school event will be expected to have completed any assignment due the day after the event in all classes as well as be prepared to take any assessment scheduled for the next day. It is the student-athlete or artisan's responsibility to get work they will miss before leaving school.

### **Signing Students Out Early**

When coming to check out a child early from school, an adult must go to the school office. All students will be called to the office to be checked out at that time. Students who are picked up prior to or arrive later than 11:30 a.m. will be counted absent for that day.

Generally, no student is allowed to leave the school campus at will during the day. Leaving campus without parental or administrative permission will result in serious disciplinary action. Students may only leave the campus during the school day with parental permission, either by phone, writing, or in person. If a parent needs a student to check out of school, they MUST call the office and sign the student out. Parents must NOT call their child's cell phone and tell them to check out. Students who do not drive will only be released to those listed as custodial parents, legal guardians, or emergency contacts in FACTS. Students who leave campus during the day must come to the school office to sign out. If they return the same day, they should sign in at the school office before returning to class. Conditions for leaving campus during the school day are listed below.

- **Illness:** In the case of illness, the school office will establish phone contact with a parent or legal guardian, and verify permission for the student to leave campus. In the event the student does not drive, the student must wait in the area designated by the school for a parent, legal guardian, or emergency contact to arrive.
- **Parental Note:** Students who need to leave early should bring a note stating the reason for leaving and the time of dismissal and the approximate time of return. A parent or guardian must sign the note. If the reason for leaving is not determined to be an excused absence, the student's attendance records will reflect an unexcused absence, and the student may be held responsible for the consequences of an unexcused absence.
- **Off-Campus Lunch Privilege:** Seniors (12th grade) are granted off-campus lunch daily. This is a privilege that is mutually granted in writing, by both parent/guardian and school administration. This privilege may be revoked by either parent/guardian or the administration at any time. Any senior leaving campus during lunch, whose off-campus privilege has been revoked, will result in serious disciplinary action. Seniors must sign out at the school office before leaving campus. Students returning late from off-campus lunch will be unexcused. No food or drinks should be brought into the school building upon return.

### **Tardiness**

#### **Tardiness Introduction**

Parents should make every effort to get students to school on time. Tardiness is discouraged for several reasons:

- It develops bad habits concerning punctuality.
- It starts the student's day off on a negative note.
- It causes the student to miss the beginning of the classroom day (announcements, instruction, etc.).
- It distracts the class.
- It requires the teacher to have to repeat instructions, lessons, etc.



**Excused/Unexcused Arrival/Morning Tardies**

- A child is tardy after 8:10 A.M. Tardies will be recorded as excused or unexcused.
- Five (5) unexcused tardies in a nine-week grading period will result in a parent-teacher conference for Lower School students; Upper School student tardiness policy is below.
- Five unexcused tardies in a semester will prevent a student from being awarded "Perfect Attendance" status.

Reasons for Excused Tardies:	Reasons for Unexcused Tardies:
Student has a dental appointment (note must be present)	Late
Student has a doctor's appointment (note must be present)	Overslept
Sickness of student- non-contagious (note must be present)	Regular traffic situations
Car trouble on the way to school	Repeated car trouble excuse
Traffic due to inclement weather like snow/ice/heavy rain	Repeated family scheduling problems

**Upper School Arrival/Morning Tardies**

- Students will incur a 30-minute lunch detention for every tardy after the first 5 in each 9-week period.
- The 8th tardy in a nine week period will result in ISS regardless of driver status.
- In addition to lunch detention, student drivers will incur suspension of parking/driving privilege for each tardy over the first 9 in each 9-week period.

**Upper School Class Tardies**

Refer to the SCA Discipline Grid located in the "Student Conduct" section below regarding discipline when a student is tardy to class during the school day.

To monitor your child's tardies, especially student drivers, parents may refer to their FACTS Family portal attendance page. If your child receives lunch detention for tardies, a parent or guardian will be contacted via Discipline Referral Form, which must be signed by a parent and returned the next school day.

**School Cancellation**

If the school needs to vary from the regular school calendar schedule, attempts will be made to communicate those changes via the following sources:

- Email Notification
- ParentsWeb Alert Call and/or Text System
- Social Media

**Traffic Patterns**

Our carpool system is designed to provide safety, order, and supervision for each student's arrival and departure. The traffic pattern at SCA is designed for maximum safety for our students. Parents are asked to observe all traffic flow patterns. Since the safety of students is involved, please give wholehearted cooperation in observing these regulations, in spite of the occasional inconveniences inherent in carpool lines. Please advance far enough so that other cars may pick up their riders. Please do not leave cars unattended in the car line and park in designated areas only. Please watch your speed. If your student is not available for pick-up you will need to circle back around in the line.

### Arrival Procedures

Parents or car pools should deliver students to the student's designated drop-off location at the Upper or Lower School building between 7:45A.M. and 8:10A.M..

### Dismissal Procedures

Classes are dismissed on a staggered schedule to eliminate long lines of cars and the amount of waiting time. It is important for drivers to arrive as close to the appointed time as possible.

### Pick-up Guidelines

In the interest of safety and out of courtesy for students, staff, and other drivers, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- If you are at the beginning of the pick-up line and your rider's class has not come out yet, but the other classes have; do not wait at the front of the line.
- Do not conference with teachers during the pick-up procedure.
- Do not park your car in the drive-through, and refrain from making double parking lines.

### Late Pickup and After-school

Students will remain in the hallway until the final dismissal time for their grade level. Any student checked into after-school care will be charged \$15 per day. This charge will be added to their FACTS account. Our after-school program is available from 3:00-5:15pm. Any student not picked up by 5:15pm will be charged an additional \$1 per minute.

## ACADEMICS

### Curriculum

The curriculum at Southeastern Christian Academy is designed to achieve Expected Student Outcomes. We have selected Christian textbooks and curricula based on their anticipated effectiveness in achieving learning objectives. Supplemental material is added where deemed necessary. Biblical worldview principles are incorporated into instruction in every subject area. Curriculum resources include BJU Press and Abeka.

### Grading Scale

Each teacher will provide a way to objectively assess the student's level of learning mastery. These evaluations will come in many forms that are either formative or summative. Graded assignments may include daily class work, homework, class participation, minor and major projects, quizzes, tests, and exams. Quarterly report card grades will not exceed 100 points. All SCA teachers will use the grading scale below, and the report card grade calculations that follow:

Grades K-12
A= 100-90
B= 89-80
C= 79-70
D= 69-60
F= 59-below

## Homework

It is the policy of SCA that all classes in grades 1-12 be assigned weekly homework. Homework serves the following purposes:

- To practice skills learned in class on an independent level
- To help students learn responsibility
- To help parents stay aware of what students are learning
- To prepare students for material that will be covered the next day
- To develop positive study habits

It is strongly recommended that students interested in involvement in extracurricular activities, such as athletics and/or fine arts performances, take into consideration the time requirements of those extracurricular activities before committing to the more time-demanding courses. Students that are involved in both rigorous coursework and extracurricular commitments must be disciplined in time management. Every student is admonished that neither academic nor extracurricular pursuits should supersede their personal pursuit of spiritual growth in their walk with Jesus.

Generally, no credit is given for late homework. Homework is considered “late” if it is not with the student at the time that the homework is due. However, teachers are allowed to give extensions due to extenuating circumstances or reduce the grade of homework deemed late.

### Homework Assignment Guidelines

The following is a guideline for the amount of homework to expect at each grade level:

1st grade	15 minutes
2nd grade	20 minutes including 10 minutes of reading
3rd grade	30 minutes including 15 minutes of reading
4th grade	50 minutes including 20 minutes of reading
5th grade	50 minutes including 20 minutes of reading
6th-8th grade	15-20 minutes per core
9th-12th grade	15-20 minutes per core

This homework time may not include special projects, book reports, etc. All students should read, or be read to, at home on a regular daily basis.

## Report Cards

Kindergarten through twelfth-grade report cards will be issued four (4) times per year— once every nine weeks. Distribution dates are listed on the school calendar. Any questions concerning the grades should be brought to the classroom teacher. Progress reports will be issued on designated dates.

## Late and Missing Assignments

### Grade Deductions

If an assignment is late, the teacher may lower the grade each day the assignment is not turned in. Up to 10 points per day may be deducted for grades 4-12 and up to 5 points per day for grades 1-3.

### Make-up Due to Absence

Students who miss assignments due to illness or other unplanned absences should be allowed a minimum of one day per day of excused absence to make up work. Students whose absence was planned may be required to turn in work immediately upon returning to school. Such decisions are made at the teacher’s discretion.

## **Tutoring**

After-school tutoring with the class teacher may be offered to your student if he/she is experiencing difficulties in their curricula at no additional cost. Tutoring is generally 30 minutes, once a week, and is located in the teacher's classroom. Sessions are usually with a small group.

Guidelines for tutoring are as follows:

1. All tutoring should be reserved for students with a grade average of C or below. In unique circumstances, tutoring will be offered outside of these perimeters.
2. All tutoring in the classrooms must be completed by 3:30 p.m.

If additional tutoring is desired from a parent, the parent is responsible to find a professional tutor who meets individual student needs at their own expense.

## **Promotion Guidelines**

Student promotion will be largely determined by three factors: student achievement in the classroom, standardized test results, and the teacher/administrators recommendation based on an evaluation of student's maturity and readiness for the next grade level. For promotion, a student should pass all major academic subjects (Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Bible) and score above 50% on the standardized test. A student scoring below this standardized test level may be promoted with a teacher recommendation but will be on academic probation through the first twelve weeks of the new school year. During this probation period, the school may determine that the student must receive tutoring from an outside source which may include the summer as well as the school year. The school administrator will make final decisions on all circumstances not covered in this promotion policy.

A student passing a major subject with a yearly average of "D" may be required to receive remediation during summer vacation. If a student has a yearly average of "D" in two major academic subject areas, this may be the reason for retention to the current grade level for the student, and summer remediation may be required.

## **Academic Probation**

**Purpose:** Student grades will be reviewed quarterly to prevent the possible failure of a student. This brings the Administration and the parent together in order to create a viable, tangible solution for the struggling student.

**Process:** This process may be initiated at the discretion of the respective Principal in consultation with the Head of School.

- If the student is making any F's or more than one D the student may be placed on academic probation.
- The Principal will notify the parents of the academic probation.
- A conference will be held with the parent and student in regard to academic probation.
- The student, parent(s), and Principal sign the Academic Probation Form. Copies are distributed to all respective parties.
- If the student is still failing after two successive quarters, the parents may be asked to withdraw their child due to the school's inability to meet the student's academic needs.

## **Honors and Awards**

### **Valedictorian and Salutatorian (9th-12th)**

A senior with the top cumulative GPA during his/her entire high school career will be honored as Class Valedictorian (highest GPA) and Salutatorian (second highest GPA). Cumulative grade point averages (GPA) are rounded to a hundredth of a point (for example, 4.135 is rounded up to a 4.14 or a 4.134 is rounded down to a 4.13). In the event of a tie, the cumulative GPA will be rounded to a thousandth of a point in determining this honor. Students may not be in their first year of enrollment at SCA or have been subject to any significant disciplinary consequence in order to receive this honor. The student who achieves the highest combined SCA and BCC GPA and with the most credit hours will be awarded the valedictorian status. Students who miss more than 20 days within

their senior year will be excluded from the ranking process.

### **Principal's Award**

Our Principal Award is a prestigious award given to just one student from each class at each semester's awards program. Teachers nominate a student that excels academically, behaviorally, and spiritually. This student embodies the "Warrior Way" which encompasses Christlikeness, compassion, courage, and commitment.

### **A Honor Roll or A/B Honor Roll**

Students who have received A's in all of their courses at semester end will receive an achievement certificate for the A Honor Roll. Likewise, students with A's and B's in all courses at semester end receive an achievement certificate for A/B Honor Roll.

### **Academic Excellence Award**

This award is given to one student per academic subject who holds the highest course grade average for two consecutive grading periods. A student may be the recipient of several of these awards if they have obtained the highest grade average in various subjects.

### **Perfect Attendance Award**

This honor is awarded only to those students who are marked present for every scheduled class period of every school day per semester. Students who are tardy to class or dismissed early from class are considered present. School sports dismissals and school-arranged field trips are not counted as absences. Excessive tardies of five or more removes a student's nomination for this award.

### **Christian Character**

Each homeroom teacher nominates one student at semester end for this award who best demonstrates Christlikeness in relationships with peers, classmates, and SCA faculty and staff. This student exhibits the fruits of the Spirit as visible evidence of God's Spirit at work in their lives, which are qualities that Christians are called to cultivate.

### **Elective Awards**

Each elective teacher chooses one student who demonstrates mastery at their course skill, through a combined reflection of their course grade average, overall participation in the course, and course behavior that exhibits a positive role model.

### **Bible Scholar**

This is an academic award given to one student in each homeroom Bible course who has obtained the highest grade average for two consecutive grading periods.

### **Semester Completion**

Each student receives this award upon the completion of each semester. This award celebrates their fulfillment of course curricula, including course goals and objectives, meeting standard requirements, and completing assessments and activities which measure student progress. Semester Completion awards acknowledge each students' efforts towards course mastery and overall semester achievements.

## **Enrichment Classes**

In addition to core academic subjects, enrichment courses are offered in order to achieve specific expected outcomes and to enhance the overall academic experience. In grades K-5, enrichment courses include music and art. Additional elective classes are available to students in grades 6-12. Various club opportunities are available for all grade levels throughout the school year. Fees apply.

## Chapel Services

SCA holds a weekly chapel service for students which takes place in a whole-school setting each week. These assemblies are designed for student participation in worship, prayer, and biblical instruction. The administration will schedule local speakers (i.e. pastors, youth leaders, etc.) to participate in these assemblies. Students are required to attend weekly chapels and lack of attendance will be considered skipping unless a written excuse is returned to school.

## Exemption from Physical Education

The school's physical education program is designed to meet the needs of all students who are physically able to attend school. Written requests from parents for exemption from P.E. for up to one week will be honored. A physician's written recommendation must be presented if more than one week of exemption is requested.

## High School Curricula

### GPA Calculations

Letter Grade	Standard College Prep	Honors	Dual Enrollment
A	4.0	5.0	5.0
B	3.0	4.0	4.0
C	2.0	3.0	3.0
D	1.0	2.0	2.0
F	0.0	0.0	0.0

A grade point average is calculated by taking the sum of the number of points assigned to each letter grade and dividing the sum by the number of courses. SCA uses the scale approved by the NCDPI (North Carolina Dept. of Public Instruction). The following table shows the point scales used.

### Class Ranking

The student who achieves the highest combined SCA and BCC GPA and with the most credit hours will be awarded the valedictorian status. Students who miss more than 20 days within their senior year will be excluded from the ranking process.

### Courses of Study

Southeastern Christian Academy offers our high school students two courses of study in which all requirements must be met for graduation.

1. Future-Ready Track: Credits consists of traditional high school-level courses required by the state of NC in which the student may graduate with a high school diploma. All classes are taught by an SCA staff member.
2. University Track (Career College Promise (CCP) Program): A dual enrollment program in partnership with Brunswick Community College. Review eligibility requirements and details below.

### Dual Enrollment

Southeastern Christian Academy seeks to provide academically qualified high school students with opportunities to earn college credit while completing high school requirements. In keeping with our mission to cultivate Christlike character, academic excellence, and service, the dual enrollment program allows students to expand their learning while maintaining accountability to biblical values and high school commitments.

Beginning their junior year, students have the option to participate in a dual enrollment program in partnership with Brunswick Community College (BCC) which allows them to graduate from high school with an associate's degree and high school diploma. These college courses are taken by the student online while also daily attending classes on our campus to fulfill their high school graduation

requirements. Students have the option to choose an Associate's in Arts or Associate's in Science degree based on their future plans to continue taking classes at a university level. To qualify for this program, students must meet the following **eligibility requirements**:

1. The student must be currently enrolled at SCA having completed their ninth and tenth grade coursework.
2. The student must have received a grade of C or above on all ninth and tenth grade level courses.
3. The student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher.
4. The student must obtain a teacher recommendation from one of their core class teachers.
5. The student must obtain parental consent to participate in the program.
6. The student may not be on academic or disciplinary probation.

If a student fails to pass a college course while enrolled in the CCP program, they will have one more opportunity to retake that course or a course of equivalence the following semester and are considered on academic probation. If a student fails two more courses while enrolled in the CCP program, they will be dismissed from the CCP program and may re-apply for admittance after two semesters.

Students interested in this opportunity must have a clear understanding of the commitment and rigor this program requires. All dual enrollment coursework becomes part of the student's permanent college transcript. Poor performance, including failing or withdrawing from courses, may negatively affect the student's future eligibility for college admissions, scholarships, and federal/state financial aid. Colleges and universities will consider these grades when determining academic standing, and unsatisfactory progress may place students at risk of losing financial awards or aid once enrolled in higher education.

Teachers and administration have the right to deny or dismiss a student admittance into the CCP program if the student does not possess the skills needed to complete such courses.

### **Academic Graduation Requirements**

23 units that include:

- 4 units of English
- 4 units of Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and any math beyond Algebra II)
- 4 units of History (World History, US History I & II, a course in Government)
- 4 units of Science required (one physical science, one biological science and one additional lab course—i.e. chemistry)
- 2 consecutive units of foreign language
- 1 unit of Health or Physical Education
- 4 units of electives (SCA Bible courses meet these for students that are enrolled in our program from 9th-12th grade. Transferred students may require additional courses to meet requirement.)

\*Transferred students in grades 11th-12th may be exempt from this requirement, depending on the date of SCA enrollment and credits needed for graduation.

### **Course Attendance**

Students are permitted a maximum of 10 absences per course, per semester to earn credit for that course, excused or unexcused. Any student who exceeds 10 absences—whether excused or unexcused—will receive a No Credit (NC) designation on their transcript for the course, regardless of academic performance. This policy may affect graduation requirements, grade point average calculations, and eligibility for extracurricular activities. It is the responsibility of both students and parents to monitor attendance and ensure compliance with this policy.

### **Transcript Requests**

A copy of a student's unofficial transcript will be provided, free upon request, to the student's parent or guardian by means of contact to an Upper School Principal. For copies of official transcripts that are required for colleges and universities, the parent or student should complete a "Transcript Request Form" located on our school website under the "Resources" tab. There is a \$5 fee each time the form is submitted. Fulfillment for these requests may take up to five business days.



## Artificial Intelligence Use Policy

### Rationale

We encourage the ethical exploration of technological tools to develop discernment, research skills, and digital stewardship. By citing AI contributions transparently, students honor truth, avoid plagiarism, and model academic honesty consistent with Colossians 3:23: “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.”

### Permitted Academic Use

Students may (and are encouraged to) utilize AI platforms (e.g., ChatGPT, Perplexity, Microsoft Copilot) for preliminary research, idea generation, or outlining. Any AI-assisted content incorporated into coursework must be cited in a manner specified by the teacher (e.g., “ChatGPT, OpenAI, prompt: ‘Explain mitosis,’ response generated 09-03-2025”).

### Prohibited Uses

AI tools may not be used during quizzes, tests, or examinations unless the teacher gives explicit written permission. AI output (verbatim or lightly edited) may not be submitted as a final product (essay, lab report, presentation, artwork, other assignments, etc.). Student work must reflect personal understanding, critical thinking, and originality. Students may not prompt AI tools to produce content that violates the school’s Honor Code, Christian values, or copyright law.

### Academic Integrity & Consequences

If an instructor or administrator reasonably suspects that an assignment has been generated in whole or in part by AI without proper citation, an integrity investigation will be initiated. Upon confirmation of misuse:

1. The student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.
2. Additional disciplinary action up to and including academic probation, suspension, or dismissal may be imposed at the discretion of the administration due to a violation of the SCA Honor Code.
3. Repeated violations escalate consequences automatically and may affect eligibility for honors, leadership positions, and extracurricular participation. Refer to SCA discipline grid.

### Teacher Discretion

Instructors may further restrict or expand AI use for specific projects; such expectations will be communicated in writing at the outset of the assignment. Failure to follow teacher-specific AI guidelines constitutes a violation of this policy.

## LOWER SCHOOL & UPPER SCHOOL DRESS CODE

(K-12th)

### Rationale

The guiding principles for school apparel are modesty and neatness. The SCA dress code is designed to create an atmosphere that is both conducive to sound educational practices and reflective of modesty.

As we are an academic institution, many of our requirements are simply good standards for the educational “marketplace.” We believe that a degree of professionalism in students’ dress will correlate with higher quality in their work and conduct.

It is also our desire to make dress a “non-issue” by eliminating the social differences and status symbols that students sometimes associate with clothing and by eliminating the need for staff to make



subjective judgments about the appropriateness or inappropriateness of particular articles of clothing. The administration reserves the right to make final decisions regarding all dress code standards in individual circumstances. If there are questions regarding whether or not clothing or hairstyle is appropriate, the family should contact the school office to inquire in advance.

### General Dress Code

- **Monday (Chapel day) dress attire** requires a blue SCA official polo shirt with dress code-compliant bottoms. On Mondays, outerwear must be front zipper-style and may not be pullover style to not cover the Chapel day polo. Outerwear must be unzipped completely, and the Chapel polo must be visible.
- **Every Friday** students must wear SCA official T-shirts only with jeans or dress code-compliant bottoms.
- SCA official T-shirts of any color may be worn any day of the week except for Monday Chapel Days (this does not include PE Uniform T-shirts).
- Heavy outer coats or light jackets may be any color and style. Outer coats must be removed upon entering the building. Light jackets that are solid in color may be worn in the classroom. SCA official jackets are suggested but not required. Hoodies may be worn with the hood down at all times.
- Boys may not wear earrings. Girls may wear small earrings. No large-loop or long dangle earrings may be worn due to safety issues. Earrings should not be longer than 1-inch.
- All clothing should be kept clean and in good repair.
- Footwear - Dress, casual, tennis shoes, and sandals are allowed. ONLY leather flip-flops are allowed. No plastic or nylon flip-flops are permitted.
- Jeans must be solid in color, without embellishments, patchwork, or patterns. Ragged, baggy, tight-fitting jeans, or jeans with holes are not permitted.

### Not Allowed:

The following are not acceptable:

- Graphic t-shirts of any kind
- Spandex pants, cotton stretch pants, sweatpants, or other athletic pants with an elastic waistband
- Tank, midriff, halter, low-cut (cleavage showing), tight-fitting, or cropped-tops
- See-through clothing
- Form-fitting clothing
- Bodysuits
- Strapless dresses or tops, even if covered by a sweater
- Mini skirts or short dresses
- Baggy or tight-fitting pants, shorts, skorts, or skirts
- Fairy-hair strands
- Eyelashes should not be false or have extensions
- Fingernails must be of a practical length
- Hats, caps, sunglasses
- Kerchiefs, bandanas, do-rags
- Body piercing jewelry, visible tattoos, or any other body carvings
- Peace signs on clothing or belongings
- Biker-style shorts, short-shorts, athletic shorts, side split shorts, soccer shorts, or other shorts with elastic waistband
- Rolling book bags are not preferred
- Overalls, jumpsuits, or short rompers
- Utility/work belts
- Any clothing that could be interpreted as gothic" in nature
- Temporary tattoos
- Permanent tattoos(upper school): students are not permitted to get tattoos while enrolled at SCA. Tattoos received previous to enrollment may be required to be covered at administration and/or teacher discretion.

### Physical Education Dress Policy

All students in grades K-9 are required to purchase and wear the designated SCA P.E. uniform. This uniform consists of an official SCA T-shirt, official SCA sweatpants or shorts and athletic shoes (with a non-marking sole) of your choice. Students that do not dress out according to this standard for

Physical Education will deduct their P.E. grade and be found in violation of the SCA dress code. Official SCA P.E. clothing MUST BE obtained through the following:

**Custom Logoware and School Outfitters located at 7213 Ogden Business Ln # 218, Wilmington, NC 28411. (910) 681-0888 (May call to place orders)**

**[www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy](http://www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy)**

### **General Hair Code**

- Hair should be kept clean and neat at all times with no unnatural or distracting colors. Unnatural dying of hair is limited to blonde or brown tones.
- Distracting styles, such as mo-hawks, rattails, etc. are not permitted.
- Bangs must be above the eyebrows unless they are pulled back. Hair must be kept away from the face.
- Male students in grades 6-8 must be clean-shaven. Male students in grades 9-12 may have facial hair given it is well groomed.
- Males with longer hairstyles should comply with the following guidelines: hair is no longer than collar length in the back and above the eyebrows in the front.

**If hair violations occur, the student will have two days (following notification) to correct hair to compliance. After two days, the student will incur In-School Suspension (ISS) as to remove the distraction from the classroom. The student will be informed they are not to return to school until the violation has been remedied. Any absences occurred during this period are unexcused.**

### **Girls' Dress Code**

#### **Tops:**

- Students may wear classic collared polo shirts or solid t-shirts in any color Tuesday through Thursday. Official SCA shirts are suggested.
- No sparkles, glitter, or sequins
- Patterned polo-style tops and patterned blouses may be worn in grades 9th-12th only.
- Sweatshirts (pullover or front-closure, with or without hood) are approved in any solid color (plain without designs). SCA official sweatshirts are suggested.
- Cardigans sweaters (plain without designs) are allowed. SCA official cardigans are available.
- Mock or regular turtlenecks are acceptable.
- Vests (pullover or front-closure) are acceptable in any color.
- Solid sweaters (crew, v-neck, regular or cable knit) are permitted.
- ALL tops must be hip-length. No midriff or cropped-cut tops allowed.
- Undergarment straps will be covered at all times.

#### **Bottoms:**

- Khaki and navy are the only approved colors.
- Pants, shorts, skorts, jumpers, and capris are permitted (Excluding PE shirts)
- Shorts must be dress short material and must be no shorter than 2.5 inches of the knee. No biker-style or athletic shorts may be worn. SCA official shorts are suggested.
- No denim, sweatpants, spandex, or velour fabrics are allowed.
- Bottoms must be classic and traditional in cut and style and not tight-fitting.
- No low-rise or hip-hugger pant styles are acceptable.
- Solid white or navy tights or leggings may be worn under shorts, skirts, or dresses.
- All pants should be worn at or near the waist as intended.

#### **Dresses:**

Solid dresses in any color may be worn. Dresses and skirts must be no more than 2.5" above the knee for all grades. Patterned dresses may be worn in grades 9th-12th.

#### **Make-Up:**

7th-12th grade girls may wear a conservative amount of make-up and jewelry, but ask that it not distract from the overall neat appearance. Finger nails should be kept at a reasonable length.

**Official SCA clothing that meets all code requirements are available through Custom Logoware and School Outfitters located at 7213 Ogden Business Ln # 218, Wilmington, NC 28411. (910) 681-0888 (May call to place orders)**  
[www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy](http://www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy)

### Boys' Dress Code

#### Tops:

- Students may wear classic collared polo shirts or solid t-shirts in any color Tuesday through Thursday. Official SCA shirts suggested.
- Patterned dress shirts or polo style shirts may be worn in grades 9th-12th but must be collared.
- Mock or regular turtlenecks are acceptable.
- Sweatshirts (pullover or front-closure, with or without hood) are approved in any solid color outside of Monday. SCA official sweatshirts suggested.
- Cardigans sweaters (plain without designs) are allowed. SCA official cardigans are available.
- Vests (pullover or front-closure) are acceptable in any color.
- Solid sweaters (crew, v-neck, regular or cable knit) are permitted.

#### Bottoms:

- Khaki or navy are the only approved colors.
- Pants and shorts are permitted. (Excluding PE shorts)
- Shorts must be dress shorts material of a modest length. No athletic shorts or short-length shorts may be worn. SCA official shorts are suggested.
- No denim, wide pants, sweatpants, spandex, or velour fabrics are allowed.
- Bottoms must be classic and traditional in cut and style and not tight fitting. No low-rise or hip-hugger pants styles are acceptable. SCA official pants are suggested.

**Official SCA clothing that meets all code requirements are available through Custom Logoware and School Outfitters located at 7213 Ogden Business Ln**  
[www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy](http://www.customlw.com/collections/southeastern-christian-academy)

### Exceptions

Exceptions to this dress code policy are made on certain occasions as approved by the administration. However, if students choose not to participate in these activities, school dress code must be worn.

Any articles worn for a pass day (such as a hat pass) must fit into the style and general guidelines and not create unnecessary distraction (i.e., no pirate hats, hard hats, etc.). Final discretion will be left to administration.

### Dress Code Violations

Decisions regarding what constitutes a dress code violation are at the discretion of administration. Repeated failure to comply with dress code standards constitutes "disrespect or rebellion toward a staff member" and will be handled according to grade-level violations and consequences.

Please see "Grid Key" section below for interpretation.

Grade Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Grade K-5	Teacher Note	Call Home	PC	AD	DC Violation
Grade 6-8	1 RM/PN/AD	LD/PN/Conform	PC/ISS/Conform	AD	DC Violation
Grade 9-12	1 RM/PN/Conform	LD/PN/Conform <sup>27</sup>	PC/ISS/Conform	OSS/AD	DC Violation

### Extracurricular Events Dress Code

The following dress code guidelines apply to all school-related scheduled events, athletic events, and extracurricular activities that are attended by currently enrolled SCA students outside of the normal school day, including events occurring on campus, or off-campus. Modesty guidelines apply to all clothing at all times.

#### **Tops**

No tank, midriff, halter, crop-tops, low-cut, or tight-fitting tops may be worn. No band logos, or inappropriate wording or graphics. No clothing promoting a political agenda or activism. See-through and form-fitting clothing are not permitted.

#### **Bottoms**

Event dress may include pants that are in good condition. Jeans must be free of holes and may not be ragged, overly baggy, or tight-fitting. Students MAY NOT wear spandex pants, biker shorts, or leggings as pants. All pants should be worn at or near the waist as intended. Female skirts, dresses, and shorts must be no shorter than 2.5 inches above the knee.

#### **Footwear**

Any type of shoe is permitted for events except bedroom slippers and rubber flip-flops.

## STUDENT CONDUCT

### Disciplinary Philosophy

Jesus said in Matthew 22:37-40 that all of God's law was summed up in two commandments:

1. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
2. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Each of us has an obligation to live rightly by loving rightly, yet it is certain that apart from God's grace, we will not. Authority structures are set in place by God to promote good and restrain evil (Romans 13:1-6). These structures provide the accountability that people need in order to make wise choices and to learn from sinful ones.

With these principles in mind, teachers and administrators assume roles of authority at SCA. We undertake the disciplinary task with a desire to balance grace with truth, justice with mercy, and internal motivation with external motivation. The ultimate goal of Christian discipline is to see the individual reconciled in their relationships with God and other people, and growing in their hatred of evil and love for good.

In an effort to accomplish this training in Godliness, teachers and administrators will not ignore student offenses, because to withhold discipline would be unloving (Prov. 13:24, 23:13-14). Employees will assign disciplinary consequences based on a careful evaluation of each case. Factors to consider will include seriousness of the offense, age of student, frequency of misconduct, and the attitude displayed by the student.

### **Student Lifestyle Expectations**

"A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold." Proverbs 22:1

As a college-preparatory educational community, the administration and teaching faculty will encourage a high level of self-governance and personal leadership among the student body. Teachers will instill a sense of personal accountability in their classes, and students will be given the opportunity to self-govern various aspects of the dress code, Honor Code, and general student conduct. Students are called to take personal responsibility for their actions, reactions, and academic progress. While

teachers will strive to partner with parents in the educational goals of their child, the outcome of that education will be placed squarely on the shoulder of the student.

### Honor Code

SCA seeks to have its students be men and women of honor—to walk in integrity in everything. Therefore, SCA has adopted the following Warrior Honor Code:

- Spiritual pursuits by taking personal responsibility for their daily walk with Jesus Christ while encouraging others to do the same, to clearly demonstrate my faith by my works (James 2:14-20).
- Academic pursuits by doing 100% of the assignment with 100% of their own effort and ability, 100% of the time; therefore, not sharing or receiving information during or after a gradable assignment, not allowing themselves or others to copy graded assignments, and not plagiarizing the work of another.
- Social pursuits by walking in a spirit of unity among their school family, a spirit of mutual respect among their school family, a spirit of protection for the reputation of the school family.

### Honor Code Violations

In order to be a school that operates in “strength and honor,” it will be the responsibility of both teachers and students to maintain the Honor Code. Honor Code infractions should be reported to administration. Reports will remain confidential unless an administrator deems otherwise. Honor code infractions will be treated with the upmost seriousness and if not accounted for on the SCA Discipline Grid, will result in a minimum suspension.

### Disciplinary Options

Teachers and administrators may choose from a number of disciplinary measures. The most common of these are listed below, although this list is not exhaustive. **While disciplinary action is generally progressive in nature, some situations may warrant immediate escalation at the discretion of the teacher or administrator.**

- Reprimand
- Redirection
- Warning
- Counseling
- Separation in class
- Additional assignments
- Time-out
- Silent Lunch
- Lunch detention (grades 6-12)
- Office Referral
- Student-Principal Conference
- Teacher-Parent or Principal-Parent Conference
- Removal from class
- In-school Suspension (There is a \$75 ISS fee for each time served and this fee will be charged to the student's FACTS account.)
- Out-of-school Suspension
- Dismissal

### Dismissal

#### Eligibility for Re-enrollment

A student who has been dismissed from school is ineligible to re-enroll during that school year or following school year. The SCA Board reserves the right to make the final determination regarding readmission. SCA reserves the right to deny readmission to any student whose actions demonstrate that it is in the school's best interest to refuse readmission.

**Attendance at School Events**

Students who have been dismissed may not visit the campus or attend school functions, including all athletic events.

**Corporal Punishment**

Southeastern Christian Academy does NOT use corporal punishment.

**Lower School Conduct Policy**

A classroom conduct system will be implemented in grades K-5th grades based on a color system including individual and whole group incentives. The system will run weekly from Monday through Friday with Friday being a rewarding day.

Some violations of school policy and suggested consequences are listed below and grouped according to the likeness of the offense. THIS LIST IS NOT INTENDED TO BE ALL INCLUSIVE. Modifications will be made, when necessary, at the discretion of the administration. Additional infractions will be added, and penalties will be modified as the need arises.

**Level I Offenses**

- Use of electronic devices during school hours
- Inappropriate or disorderly conduct in hallway, restroom, outdoors or elsewhere on campus.
- Poor sportsmanship
- Dress Code violation
- Throwing objects
- Failure to bring appropriate materials to class
- Talking without permission or other disruptive classroom behavior
- Out of seat without permission
- Sleeping in class
- Eating, drinking, or chewing gum in class without permission
- Selling items on school property without permission
- Scuffling or horseplay
- Rude or disrespectful behavior toward another student (This may constitute a Level II offense)

**Level I Consequences**

Level I consequences are determined by the teacher and will most likely result with a movement of the students behavior color.

**Level II Offenses**

- Persistence of Level I behaviors
- Repeated dress code violations (3 or more)
- Being in an undesignated area/loitering
- Stealing or being in possession of another person's property
- Profanity, obscene gestures, slanderous statements
- Disrespect or rebellion toward a staff member
- Refusal to participate or complete classroom assignments and activities
- Distributing gifts or invitations to individuals on campus when not inviting the entire class
- Lying, Forgery, cheating, or plagiarism
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Cruel remarks
- Harassment or bullying
- Threats to student or staff \*
- Using physical force or verbal intimidation\*
- Involvement in immoral activities or activities that are contrary to the philosophy and objectives of SCA\*

\* The first consequence may be skipped for fighting and serious threats.



**Level II Consequences**

Level II consequences are teacher and/or administration directed, up to and including in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension, and a parent conference. (There is a \$75 ISS fee for each time served and this fee will be charged to the student's FACTS account.)

**Level III Offenses**

- Persistence of behaviors in Levels I and II
- Vandalizing or destructive behavior to property or persons within the school or community
- Public display of affection or inappropriate behavior towards opposite gender
- Bringing weapons, drugs, drug paraphernalia, vapes, alcoholic beverages, pornographic materials to school
- Possession of fireworks
- If a student is removed from class for any reason, he/she will be expected to complete make-up work within the time designated by the teacher. Academic cheating will result in a grade of zero.

**Level III Consequences**

Level III consequences may result in dismissal from school.

**Upper School Conduct Policy****6th-8th Grade**

The conduct system implemented in grades 6th through 8th is based upon a merit and demerit system, namely "Red Mark System". The system will run weekly from Friday to Thursday. Students will be allowed 3 marks before losing the merit system privilege (also known as "Team Time") for that week. The merit system privilege will be held on Fridays. Students who earn 4 red marks will remain in a classroom to complete a writing assignment during Team Time.

Students who fail to achieve "Team Time" 4 times within a nine-week period will serve 1 day in ISS (In School Suspension). Achieving ISS results in immediate disciplinary probation (see process below). After two ISS sessions, the student is at risk for dismissal. There is a \$75 ISS fee for each time served and this fee will be charged to the student's FACTS account. If a student has received 4 marks but is absent the day of Team Time, the student will serve 2 silent lunch periods the following week to make up for the missed disciplinary action. If after two days the student has not fulfilled their consequence, they will automatically lose the following week's Team Time.

**9-12th Grade**

The Red Mark System is also used in high school, with four cumulative red marks for the week resulting in lunch detention. These can be administered by both teachers and administration.

**Upper School Discipline Grid**

To ensure a safe and respectful learning environment, Upper School uses a discipline grid that outlines specific behaviors and corresponding consequences for repeated infractions. The grid categorizes behaviors ranging from minor disruptions to serious misconduct. For each behavior, consequences are clearly listed for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th offenses, allowing students and families to understand the progression of disciplinary actions. The goal of the grid is to promote consistency, fairness, and accountability while encouraging students to make positive choices.

This grid is not intended to be all-inclusive. Modifications will be made when necessary, at the discretion of the administrator. Additional infractions will be added, and penalties will be modified as the need arises. In all instances, the school will make every effort to administer consequences equitably and fairly.

Administration discretion or alternate plans may be implemented for specific students/circumstances at any time. Any behavior deemed inappropriate for a school environment will be dealt with at the administration's discretion. There is a 10-day maximum for ISS; after that the student may be dismissed from SCA for "continual and willful violation of school rules". Each ISS referral will result in a \$75 charge to the student's FACTS account.

**Grid Key:**

RM: Red Mark	OSS: Out of School Suspension
LD: Lunch Detention	PC: Parent Conference
OR: Office Referral	PN: Parent Notification
ISS: In-School Suspension	PPS: Parking Pass Suspension
AD: Administration Discretion	TD: Teacher Discretion

**Classroom Behavior**

Classroom behavior consequences will be administered by the teacher until the point of an office referral. The below consequences are minimums that a student can expect for violating a respective behavior, but the teacher may use his or her discretion to maintain good order and discipline in the classroom.

If a student is sent to the office for disrupting a classroom, the student will not be permitted to re-enter that classroom for the remainder of the period. Consequences will be AD dependent on the offense and the student will be counted absent for that class period.

<b>Action</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offense</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Offense</b>	<b>Code As</b>
Failure to bring appropriate materials to class	1 RM	1 RM	2 RM	LD	Insubordination
Talking/Interrupting during class	1 RM	2 RM	LD	LD	Disruptive Behavior
Failure to Follow Directions	1 RM	2 RM	LD	LD/TD	Insubordination
Sleeping	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	OR/AD	Disruptive Behavior
Throwing objects	2 RM	3 RM	LD	OR/ISS	Disruptive Behavior
Refusal to Participate	LD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Insubordination
Arguing w/ Teacher	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	OR/AD	Insubordination
Passing Notes/Off-Task	1 RM	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	Disruptive Behavior
Disrespect	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	AD	Disrespectful Behavior
Out of seat w/out permission	1 RM	1 RM	2 RM	LD	Disruptive Behavior
Eating w/out permission	3 RM	LD	OR/ISS	AD	Disruptive Behavior



## Misconduct

Action	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Cheating/Plagiarism	Grade of "0"/ LD/PN	Grade of "0"/ OR/ISS	AD	AD	Honor Code Violation
Willful Disruption	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	Disruptive Behavior
Chewing Gum	1 RM	2 RM	LD	AD	Insubordination
Throwing Food in Lunchroom	LD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Disruptive Behavior
Making intentional mess in Lunchroom	LD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Disruptive Behavior
Sharing/Taking food w/out permission	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	AD	Disruptive Behavior
Failure to serve lunch detention	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	Insubordination
Deceiving school official/forging signatures/ falsifying documents	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Dismissal	Falsification of Information
Indecent Exposure/ Minor	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	Indecent Exposure
Indecent Exposure/ Major	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Indecent Exposure

## Class Punctuality and Attendance

Action	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Tardy to class	1 RM	2 RM	LD	OR/PN/AD	Tardy
Tardy to School (>5)	LD	LD	OR/ISS	AD/PPS	Tardy
Being in an undesignated area/ Loitering	LD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Being In an Unauthorized Area
Leaving class w/o permission	OR/AD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Leave Class Without Permission
Failure to attend class/required activity	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	N/A	Cutting Class
Leaving Campus w/o Permission	OR/OSS	OR/AD <sup>33</sup>	Dismissal	N/A	Leave School Without Permission

**Student to Staff Relations**

<b>Action</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offense</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Offense</b>	<b>Code As</b>
Refusal to comply with a reasonable request	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	AD	Insubordination
Profanity/ Disrespect/ Obscene gestures	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	N/A	Disorderly Conduct
Communicating threats or Threatening acts	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Communicating Threats
Aggression/Assault	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Aggressive Behavior or Assault

**Student to Student Relations**

<b>Action</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offense</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offense</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Offense</b>	<b>Code As</b>
Harassment (Verbal, Written, Cyber, etc.)	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	Harassment
Cyber-bullying	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Dismissal	Cyber-bullying
Hazing	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	N/A	Hazing
Profanity/ Obscene gestures/ Inappropriate Comments	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	Inappropriate language/ disrespect
Inappropriate Use of Electronic Device	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	N/A	Misuse of technology
Recording/distribution inappropriate video/ images	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Misuse of technology
Communicating threats	OR/AD	OR/AD	Dismissal	N/A	Communicating Threats
Public show of affection	2 RM	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	Dismissal	Inappropriate Behavior

## Actions that Could Endanger

Action	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Horseplay	2 RM	LD	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	Inappropriate Behavior
Recklessness/Aggression that results in physical contact	4 RM	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Disorderly Conduct
Aiding and Abetting a School Disturbance	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	AD	Disorderly Conduct
Possession of a Weapon	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Possession of a Weapon
Use, Threat, or Brandishing of Weapon	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use/threat w/ weapon
Aiding, abetting, or failure to report weapon	OR/OSS	AD	Dismissal	N/A	Aiding, abetting, or failure to report weapon
Fighting	OR/OSS/AD	AD	Dismissal	N/A	Fighting

## Electronic Devices

Action/Item	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Cell phone or electronic device use (unapproved) during the day	LD/ Confiscation	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	AD	Inappropriate Use of Electronics

## Breaking the Law

Action	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Destruction of School property	OR/OSS Restitution	OR/OSS Restitution	Dismissal	N/A	Property Damage
Setting off fire alarms /discharging fire extinguishers	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	False Fire Alarm
Setting/Playing with Fire	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Unlawfully Setting A Fire
Theft - Minor	OR/ISS	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	Theft
Theft - Major	OR/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Theft

## Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Action	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense	Code As
Possession/Under the Influence of Alcohol or controlled substance on SCA Property	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	N/A	Possession of Alcoholic Beverages or Use Of Alcoholic Beverages
Possession/Under the Influence of Alcohol or controlled substance <u>Off</u> of SCA Property	AD/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Possession/Use of Alcoholic Beverages
Distribution of drugs/ alcohol on SCA Property	Dismissal /Law	N/A	N/A	N/A	Sale Of Controlled Substance
Distribution of drugs/ alcohol <u>Off</u> SCA Property	AD/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Sale Of Controlled Substance
Possession of own Rx	AD	AD	AD	AD	Possession Of Student's Own Prescription
Possession of OTC medicine	AD	AD	AD	AD	Inappropriate Item On Campus
Drug paraphernalia (may include, but not limited to pipes, clips, papers, vapes, etc.)	AD/OSS	Dismissal	N/A	N/A	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
Tobacco/Nicotine Possession or Use	OR/OSS	OR/OSS	OR/AD	Dismissal	Possession of tobacco

## Vehicle Violations

Action	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense	4th Offense	Code As
Parking Violation	PPS	PPS	PPS	Revoke PP	Parking Violation
Improper Driving	PPS/LD	PPS/LD	Revoke PP	N/A	Improper Driving

### Dress Code Violations

"Conform": The student must call home and have a change of clothes brought to school and will not be allowed to return to class until they are within dress code.

Grade Level	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	4 <sup>th</sup> Offense	Code As
Grade K-5	Teacher Note	Call Home	PC	AD	DC Violation
Grade 6-8	1 RM/PN/AD	LD/PN/Conform	PC/ISS/Conform	AD	DC Violation
Grade 9-12	1 RM/PN/Conform	LD/PN/Conform	PC/ISS/Conform	OSS/AD	DC Violation

### General Family Expectations

Southeastern Christian Academy may take all action necessary to ensure the operation of the school in all matters as it may apply to the student. A positive and constructive relationship between the school and parent, or other adults interacting with the school and/or school community by virtue of their relationship with the student, is essential to the mission of the school. Thus, if the behavior, communication, or interaction on or off campus (including during school-sponsored events) of parent or other adults interacting with the school and/or school community by virtue of their relationship with the student is disruptive, intimidating, overly aggressive, or reflects a loss of confidence or serious disagreement with its policies, procedures, responsibilities, personnel, leadership or standards, or imperils accomplishment of its educational purpose or program, the parent should understand and agree that SCA has the right to dismiss the student and/or the student's family from the school's community. In addition, the parent understands and agrees that SCA has the right to place restrictions on that party's involvement with or activity at the school or on school's property, or at school-related events if the party engages in behavior that SCA determines in its sole discretion to warrant such a restriction.

### Student Harassment Policy

Southeastern Christian Academy is committed to maintaining an academic environment in which all individuals treat each other with dignity and respect. It is to be a school that is free from all forms of intimidation, exploitation and harassment, including sexual harassment. We are prepared to take action to prevent and correct violations of this policy. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination or expulsion.

Any student or staff member subjected to or observing harassment of any kind is to report it immediately to the principal or administrator. All reports will be handled confidentially; however, any reports involving a student will result in parent/guardian notification. All reports will be investigated promptly and thoroughly without discrimination or retaliation against any person involved in any manner.

### Bullying

All students and staff at SCA have the right to feel happy, safe, and included. Students and staff have the right to work in an environment without harassment, intimidation, or fear. Bullying behavior is a form

of harassment, antisocial behavior which does not know any geographic, racial, or socio-economic boundaries. It is defined as intentional hurtful behavior perpetuated over a period of time, in a relationship characterized by an imbalance of power. Bullying is unacceptable behavior.

Bullying can occur in three main ways:

- Physical: where the person being bullied is hit, kicked, or when belongings are taken or damaged
- Verbal: consists of name-calling or insulting, racist or sexist remarks
- Indirect: when malicious rumors or stories are spread, being made the subject of malicious rumors, sending malicious emails, text messages or videos on cell phones, or malicious postings on social networking internet sites

Any student who believes that this policy has been violated by another person should immediately report the violation to the administration.

### **Cyberbullying**

Neither the school's network nor the broader Internet (whether accessed on campus or off campus, either during or after school hours) may be used for the purpose of harassment. All forms of harassment in cyberspace, often called cyberbullying, are unacceptable.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another person by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or Web site and social media postings (including blogs). Often the author (sender or poster) of the inappropriate material is disguised (logged on) as someone else.

Students who feel that they have been the victims of such misuse of technology should not erase the offending material from the system. They should print a copy of the material and immediately report the incident to the school administration. All reports of harassment in the form of cyberbullying will be investigated fully.

### **Threats**

All threats communicated by any person against any student (including himself), students, or school or church property will be treated at face value. Such threats will be communicated to the school and/or church administration and the parents of any student involved. After an investigation of the situation, law enforcement authorities may be notified of legal action.

### **Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices**

Students in grades kindergarten through 5th grade are not permitted to have cell phones or other electronic devices at school.

In order to minimize distractions, encourage active engagement in classroom activities, and ensure a safe and conducive learning environment for all students, students in grades sixth through twelfth who bring their cell phones to school will be required to leave them powered down in their homeroom classroom with their homeroom teacher for the duration of the school day. Students will retrieve their cell phones at dismissal in their homeroom classroom. Phones will be stored in a secure location in the classroom. If cell phones are needed for educational purposes, students will be given permission to retrieve their phone for use. Students are responsible for ensuring their phones are turned off or set to silent mode before turning them in. The school is not liable for any loss or damage to phones while in our custody. Seniors who are leaving campus for lunch may retrieve their phones before leaving campus and must return them to their homeroom teacher upon their arrival back to school. Students with medical needs that require an electronic device with them at all times may possess them throughout the school day.

Parents should refrain from contacting their children via cell phone during the school day. If a student needs to make an urgent call or contact a parent/guardian during the school day, they must obtain permission from a teacher or administrator to visit the front office to use the school phone. Likewise, if a

parent or guardian needs to contact their child during the school day, they may call the school office for assistance.

All other electronic devices, including smart watches\*, iPods, mp3 players, etc., should be kept in the student's book bag or locker throughout the school day and powered down to avoid distractions, unless being used for educational purposes.

If a cell phone or other electronic device is discovered during the school day without direction from a teacher, the device will be confiscated by administration and must be collected at the end of the school day by the respective parent/guardian, or it will be returned to the student at the end of the following school day. After a device is confiscated two times by administration, the student loses the privilege to have an electronic device in their possession at school and suspension may result. (see Discipline Grid)

No electronic devices (other than approved calculators) may be used at any time during tests. Any such use will be considered cheating and will be dealt with in accordance with the conduct policy.

Because of the disruptive and potentially harmful nature of the misuse of electronics, the school reserves the right to read text messages or other content when there is a reasonable suspicion that the device is being used illegally or in violation of school policy.

\*Students in grades 11-12 may wear smartwatches for the purpose of telling time only. Smartwatches will be confiscated if used improperly.

### Hall Passes

A student found to be in the hallway during school hours will have either a red or yellow hall pass. A red hall pass indicates a bathroom trip, and a yellow hall pass indicates that a staff member has given them permission to move to a different location. Failure to be in possession of a hall pass constitutes being in an undesignated area/loitering (see Discipline Grid above).

### Care of Facilities

Our facilities belong to God, and students are expected to take care of the building and grounds as good stewards of the Lord's property. Willful disregard for the upkeep and cleanliness of the property may result in disciplinary action. Any damage to school property, intentional or accidental, will be paid for by the student/parent.

### Lunch Guidelines

When bringing lunch from home, please send nutritious lunches. Lunch can be purchased and delivered to the school on Monday through Friday through [www.myhotlunchbox.com](http://www.myhotlunchbox.com). All lunch orders must be placed by 12pm on the previous day that you wish for lunch to be delivered. Students are not allowed to bring soft drinks, gum, candy, or glass containers to school without special permission. In the event that a student does not have a lunch, food deliveries from local restaurants or third party delivery companies, such as DoorDash, are not permitted. The student will be allowed to call home and a lunch may be delivered by a family member. However, lunch deliveries during the school day in general should seldomly occur, not to form a habit.

Students in the 12th grade may leave the school campus for lunch with a parent and administrator's permission. No food or drinks should be brought into the school building upon return.

### **All persons eating lunch at school should abide by the following guidelines:**

- Teachers will enforce proper table etiquette and the use of good manners at all times.
- **Students should not share food or beverages at lunch.**
- During the first 10 minutes, students will be asked to eat quietly, or even silently, depending on age to assure that they have time to eat. After that, voices should be respectfully low.
- Tables will be cleaned using an appropriate disinfectant.

- Students must bring lunches that do not require refrigeration or heating. The school does not have heating capabilities for student use. Parents are advised to pre-heat and package hot food in thermos-style containers to keep lunches warm until the students designated lunch period.

## **Playground Guidelines**

### **Age and Grade Level Use**

SCA provides two age-appropriate playgrounds for our students.

### **Playground Rules**

Students should observe the following rules at all times while on the playground. Failure to observe these rules may result in a time-out period or other consequence that is age-appropriate.

1. Students are to use only the playground designated for their age group.
2. Students are not to engage in aggressive physical contact.
3. Playground equipment is to be used properly or loss of privileges will result.
4. Students are to stay within the fenced-in area unless given permission to be elsewhere.
5. Students are not to climb fences or trees.
6. Students are not to throw sand, rocks or other objects.

## **Computer Use and Internet Access Policy**

### **General Application**

All provisions of the Computer Use and Internet Access Policy apply to the use of any SCA school computer facilities, equipment, and software by school employees, students, members of the community or others. The SCA computer facilities, equipment, and software should be used for authorized educational purposes only.

### **Individual Responsibility**

Access to computers and the Internet is a privilege granted by SCA. The privilege may be suspended if it is abused in any way. All computer and internet users are expected to use the machines, facilities, and internet access in a responsible manner for educational purposes only.

### **Internet Use**

General school rules and policies apply to all internet use and activities. An internet user must never:

- use the internet for any illegal, commercial, immoral, offensive, or threatening purpose. This includes all written and visual material.
- reveal personal addresses or phone numbers (students only).
- access any website containing sensitive material without written permission and appropriate notification arrangements made by the supervising instructor
- access his or anyone's personal email, folders, files, or general programs, games, chat lines, or social networking sites
- use inappropriate language
- access any website that involves pornography, gratuitous violence, obscenity or anarchist behavior
- use any information from internet research without giving proper credit to the source.

We are pleased to offer computer technology to our students. Student use of the school's technology is a privilege which, at the discretion of the school administration, may be revoked by the school at any time. The school reserves the right to take disciplinary action for misuse and/or to seek financial restitution for any damage(s) caused by a student or other users. Students must agree to the following guidelines:

- 1) **I will** use only the computer that is assigned to me, and I will not attempt to access any unauthorized computer.
- 2) **I will not** attempt to use any software or hardware without the approval of the instructor.
- 3) **I will not** vandalize any software or hardware.



- 4) **I will not** modify any system settings (i.e. display colors, screensavers, etc.)
- 5) **I will not** disrupt the privileges of other computer users or misrepresent other computer users (i.e. login as another user or use someone else's password).
- 6) **I will not** copy, change, read, or use anyone else's software or files without prior permission from the instructor.
- 7) **I will** use the Internet exclusively for activities that are specified by the instructor.
- 8) When on the Internet, **I will not** reveal any personal information about myself or anyone else.
- 9) When on the Internet, **I will not** send messages that contain inappropriate content. This includes profanity and any other non-academic activity.
- 10) When on the Internet, **I will not** download, upload or otherwise gain access to any unauthorized or copyrighted material(s).

## HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

### Illnesses

#### **Notifying the School**

If your child is ill for more than two (2) days, please notify the school since we are concerned for his/her well-being. If your child is absent because of a contagious disease, please notify us so we can contact other parents.

#### **Sending/Keeping Students Home**

Students are required to stay out of school when they have a contagious illness or symptoms of a contagious illness. Those conditions and symptoms include but are not limited to:

- covid-19
- chicken pox
- measles
- scarlet fever
- impetigo
- scabies
- head lice or nits
- Pinworms
- ringworm
- pink eye (24 hours on medication)
- strep throat (24 hours on medication)
- fever within the past 24 hours
- diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- vomiting within the past 24 hours

When a child must be sent home from school, parents should make arrangements to pick up sick children promptly since SCA does not have facilities to isolate sick children. Parents should also err on the side of caution when deciding whether a child is too sick to attend school. Children should be free of symptoms for 24 hours before they may return to school.

### Medicine

The school office keeps a supply of acetaminophen (generic brand), ibuprofen (generic brand), Benadryl, and other simple first-aid items. Parents must fill out the medical section on ParentsWeb as a part of registration in which they will give permission for their child/children to take or be given these items. The school office will not administer acetaminophen or Benadryl without consent from ParentsWeb registration or parental contact.

Any other medicine to be administered to a student must be accompanied by a written parental request, stating the time and the amount to be given. An adult must bring the medication to the office where it

will be kept and administered at the required time. All medicine **MUST** be in the original container and administered as prescribed or noted by the parent. Medicine should be sent to school in the original box or bottle for which it was purchased. Students should not have medication in their possession during class hours. Prescription medicine must be prescribed to the child to whom it will be administered.

Southeastern Christian Academy cannot be held accountable for side effects and reactions caused by any medicines, nutritional supplements, or herbs. All medicines left in the office at the end of the year should be picked up by the parents.

### **Cough Drops**

Students may keep cough drops in their possession (locker, book bag, or person) as long as they are accompanied by a parent permission note.

### **Vitamins and Supplements**

We prefer not to dispense vitamins or nutritional supplements unless absolutely necessary. Any nutritional supplement or herb must be accompanied by a written request from the parent stating the time and amount to be taken. The nutritional supplement or herb must be in the original container.

### **Inhalers**

Students with asthma may keep their inhalers in the classroom. The inhalers will be kept in a secure place by the classroom teacher. Prescription information for inhaler use must be on file in the office.

### **Student Water Bottles**

Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to school daily to use throughout the school day. These are permitted in all classrooms. The student's name should be easily visible on the bottle. Water bottles should have the ability to be completely closed and stored without leaking. Cups or tumblers with straws are not permitted.

### **Food Allergies**

Some of our students have food allergies, and in some cases, these allergies can be life-threatening. SCA takes precautionary measures to ensure that these students remain as safe as possible while in attendance at school or school events.

In some instances when a student has a severe nut allergy, the student's class and/or grade may be declared "peanut free." Other students in that class and/or grade are not allowed to bring peanut food products to school. We consider the risk to the student's life to far outweigh the inconvenience that this policy poses to other parents. We ask parents to use this as an opportunity to model for our students what it means to "consider others better than yourselves." and to "look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others (Phil. 2:3-4)."

Students may not share food with other students in order to avoid contact with such foods that might trigger an allergic reaction (most notably milk, egg products, peanuts, tree nuts, wheat, soy, fish, and shellfish). Parents' sensitivity to this situation will be most helpful on special occasions when treats are distributed to the entire class. Parents of allergic students should have noted so in the Allergies section of the Enrollment Packet at the beginning of the school year. If any allergies are discovered mid-year, the parent must make the front office aware to be added to their documentation.

### **Weapons Policy**

SCA acts in compliance with NCHB 193 in regards to the carrying and possession of firearms by employees on school grounds. The following applies to students:

#### **Definitions**

"Weapon" includes, but is not limited to:

- Any firearm, BBgun, pellet gun, airsoft gun, or lookalike/replica capable of being mistaken for a real firearm.
- Any knife, switchblade, sword, dagger, razor, boxcutter, throwing star, or similar bladed instrument.

- Explosives, fireworks, ammunition, stun guns, tasers, mace/pepper spray, or any chemical or mechanical device designed to inflict bodily harm.
- Martial arts weapons (e.g., nunchaku, throwing sticks, metal knuckles) or improvised objects used with intent to harm.
- Hand tools such as screwdrivers, multi-tools, hammers, wrenches, pry bars, etc. will be included under this definition unless the student has been provided written permission to have the item in their possession by administration on a case-by-case basis.
- Any object that a reasonable person would consider capable of causing injury and that is brandished or used in a threatening manner.
- Pepper spray intended for self-defense purposes must remain in a vehicle in the parking lot for driving students.

### **Prohibited Conduct**

Students, parents, volunteers, and visitors may not possess, handle, carry, display, transport, store, or use a weapon:

1. On SCA owned, leased, or controlled property, including parking lots and athletic fields.
2. In any vehicle located on school property or used to transport students (including personal automobiles, rental vans, or buses).
3. At off campus field trips, athletic events, retreats, overnight trips, or any activity sponsored, endorsed, or supervised by SCA.
4. Any exceptions to this policy must be granted by the Head of School in writing.

### **Reporting Obligations**

Students or staff who see or suspect a weapon on campus must immediately inform the nearest staff member, administrator, or School Resource Officer (SRO).

### **Search, Seizure & Law Enforcement Notification for Weapons**

If there is reasonable suspicion of a weapon, school officials may conduct searches of lockers, bags, vehicles, or other personal effects in accordance with the Search and Seizure Policy. Any discovered weapon will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement. Parents/guardians will be notified as soon as safety allows. The School Resource Officer (SRO) may work independently of this policy in accordance with state and local law, as well as the direction of school administration.

Refer to the SCA Discipline Grid for consequences of being in violation of the weapons policy.

### **Search and Seizure Policy**

In order to protect the safety and welfare of students and personnel, SCA reserves the right to search students' automobiles, lockers, book bags, purses, and clothing for illegal drugs, alcohol or weapons brought onto the school premises, and to seize any contraband found in the search, under the circumstances outlined below. Any alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, or weapons found in lockers, cars, etc. under the student's control will constitute possession. Students having possession of illegal drugs or weapons may be turned over to local authorities. Parents will be contacted immediately and severe disciplinary action will follow (refer to discipline grid).

### **Personal Searches**

A student and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reason to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. Students may be asked to empty their pockets, pocketbooks, wallets, book bags, etc. without the parent's permission or the student's permission. Registration of the child constitutes parental consent to such searches. If the student refuses and the school feels a personal search of the student's person or belongings is required (as per the safety of that student or any other student), both law enforcement and the student's parents will be notified and the situation will be handled in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.

### **Automobile Searches**

Students in 10th-12th grades are permitted to park on SCA premises as a matter of privilege, not a right. SCA retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the

exteriors of students' automobiles on campus. The interiors of students' vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reason to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, without parental consent, and without a search warrant.

### **Seizure of Illegal Materials**

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contra-band materials, such findings shall be turned over to the proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

### **Visitors**

Anyone other than students and staff must report to the office and sign in as a visitor prior to going anywhere on campus. Each visitor will be given an identification badge to enter the building, which should be returned to the office before leaving. An appointment should be made in advance through the office for a parent to visit a classroom during school hours.

### **Fire Safety and Tornado Drills**

Students are informed about fire safety and tornado procedures at the beginning of the school year. Teachers are trained annually on evacuation procedures in the event of a fire or tornado emergency. Fire safety drills will be conducted monthly and there will be designated tornado drills during the course of the school year.

### **Security Alert and Lockdown Policy**

In the event of a school Security Alert or Lockdown, parents or any non-law enforcement personnel will not be allowed to access the school building. All students and staff will be directed to be in their designated areas during a lockdown and will remain there until the Head of School or designated law enforcement personnel has given an "all clear". There will be designated Security Alert/Lockdown Drills during the course of the school year.

### **Student Transportation**

Transportation to and from SCA is solely the parent/guardian's responsibility. During registration, the parent/guardian must specify who will be allowed to provide transportation for their child to and from school. Should transportation arrangements need to be altered, the parent/guardian will need to notify the school office of any changes in designated drivers. Parents/guardians must also specify if their child will be allowed to provide transportation to other students.

### **Student Drivers**

#### **Student Driver Parking Policy**

Driving on campus is a privilege and should be regarded with the utmost responsibility. Students in 10th-12th grades are allowed to apply for an SCA parking permit. Student drivers must register their vehicles with the school office in order to obtain a valid parking decal. Parking decals must be displayed clearly on the driver's side of the rear windshield. A copy of the student's valid driver's license and proof of insurance must be provided when registering a student's car for on-campus parking. Students who fail to follow the parking permit policies may lose their parking privileges temporarily for single infractions or permanently for multiple infractions.

### **Vehicle Liability**

SCA does not assume any liability for damage to or losses from any vehicle parked on campus during the school day or during any school-sponsored extracurricular activity. Vehicles parked on campus should be locked at all times.

### **Vehicle Restrictions**

Students are not allowed to keep prescription medication, tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, electronic cigarettes, or weapons in their vehicles. Students are not allowed to be in their vehicles during the school day. No loud noises should emanate from vehicles while on school property, this includes modified exhaust systems in which the result of the modification is the amplification or increase of noise emitted by the motor vehicle.

## Locker Policy

Each student in grades fourth through twelfth grade is provided a locker. The following are guidelines for using school lockers:

- The school is not responsible for missing or damaged locks.
- Students may not share lock combinations with other students.
- Students may not switch lockers.
- Students must not attempt to open any locker that has not been assigned to them.
- Students must not tamper with locks or lockers
- Students must not abuse lockers by writing on them, applying stickers, or damaging locker mechanisms.
- The school is not responsible for items missing from lockers.
- Students must not store items that are not allowed on campus in their lockers.
- Students are required to give their homeroom teacher their lock combination at the start of the school year.
- Students should be well-practiced on how to open their locks before the start of the school year.
- Three-number dialing combination padlocks are allowed only. Locks that require a key for entry are not permitted.
- **No open containers of food or drinks are allowed to be stored in lockers.**

School administration retains the right of access to all lockers at any time for any reason. Periodic locker inspections may be held at any time.

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS

### Family Involvement

One of our most basic beliefs as Christian educators is that God has given parents the primary responsibility for educating their children. SCA exists as a partnership with the home, and we can only be effective and properly grounded as an institution when that partnership is well-maintained.

For this reason, it is imperative that parents stay involved with their child's educational progress by meeting with teachers when requested, assisting their child at home with assignments, attending school meetings, etc.

### Praying for the School

Perhaps the greatest contribution that parents can make to the school is that of regular, fervent prayer. Below is a sample list of requests that parents could make to God on our behalf. Parents and friends are free to add their own.

- Pray for God's presence and power to reign on our campus.
- Pray for the physical, spiritual, and emotional safety of our students and staff. Pray for our teachers to model the Christlikeness, grace, maturity, and responsibility that we hope to see borne out in the lives of our students.
- Pray for wisdom and Godly leadership on the part of the administrators.
- Pray for God's provision for every need.

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### General Guidelines for Volunteers

There are numerous ways that parents can offer their time and talents in assistance to SCA. There are opportunities to help in the classroom, in the office, on field trips, at school events, or on special projects. Whenever volunteering, parents should:

- Sign in at the office.
- Please dress conservatively/modestly and follow the dress code listed below.
- Siblings may not take part in volunteer activities without prior permission.

- Volunteers should refer disciplinary issues to the teachers.

### **Field Trip Chaperones**

If space is available, parents are often welcome to accompany students on field trips, but will not have any chaperoning responsibilities. Parents who choose to accompany their students on a school trip must pay for their own expenses. Parents must follow the adult dress code (noted below) unless notified otherwise. See the “Field Trips” policy in the Miscellaneous Policies section for further information.

### **Parent Dress Standards**

We request that parents uphold the school’s dress code standards of modesty and neatness when they are on the school campus, chaperoning field trips, or attending school functions. Volunteers at school or on field trips should abide by the following staff dress code policy:

Adults should not wear sweatpants, short shorts, yoga pants, etc. at any time. Tight pants and tight skirts are not appropriate. Shorts that are knee-length are acceptable. Strapless, thin-strapped, or see-through clothing is not permitted for adult attire.

### **Parent/Teacher Relations**

#### **General Guidelines**

- Teachers at Southeastern Christian Academy are professionals and should be treated as such.
- If the student has a school-related problem, it should be reported to the teacher as soon as possible. It is never appropriate for parents to deal with a student other than their own at school.
- Disciplinary concerns about any student on campus should be directed to a faculty member or the administration, preferably the student’s teacher.

#### **Conferences**

- If a conference is needed, please call to schedule an appointment. Please resist the temptation of having a “mini” conference in the hallway or in the pick-up line.
- Upper School parents should schedule group conferences through the student’s homeroom teacher. The homeroom teacher will try to facilitate a joint meeting with all teachers instructing your student. Individual conferences may be scheduled directly with the relevant teacher.

#### **Communication**

- All teachers and administration may be reached through e-mail or by calling the school office. Please feel free to send them your questions or requests. Teachers and administrators will attempt to respond within 24 hours, but if they have not, please resend the message. A delay in response may mean that something has been lost in the translation of the message.
- If there is no response, please let the administration know that you are having difficulty making a connection with the teacher. IT IS EXTRAORDINARILY IMPORTANT that all lines of communication remain open.

### **Conflict Resolution**

Constructive criticism is essential to the improvement of our school. However, criticism, if not properly channeled, will be destructive. When problems arise concerning policy, procedures, administration, teachers or students, resolution should be sought according to the Matthew 18 principle. Please remember Matthew 18:15-16 where Jesus commands us: “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you...But if he will not listen, take one or two others along...”

In conflict situations, the appropriate chain of command is:

Teacher  
Principal (Academic)/ Dean of Student Affairs (Non-Academic)  
Head of School

If this chain of command is not followed, you will be referred back to the appropriate person. Teachers are asked to follow the same chain of command and to encourage others to do so. In the event that a



parent comes to an administrator with a concern and has not spoken to the teacher, the administrator will listen to the subject of concern and then direct the parent back to the teacher. If requested the administrator will be present at the conference in order to aid in a resolution to the concern.

## **MISCELLANEOUS POLICIES**

### **School Hours**

The main offices are open from 7:45 A.M. - 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday during the school year and 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Monday through Friday during the summer. SCA operates for a school term of ten months on a regular schedule excluding reasonable holidays and vacations. The regular school day begins at 7:45am and ends at 3:00pm.

### **Change of Address**

Please go on FACTS and update any change of address, telephone number(s), and place of employment of both mother and father. The current phone number of the persons to be called in case of emergency is needed as well. All changes which affect your child/children should be made on FACTS before the date the change is effective. It is extremely important for the safety of all students that records are kept up-to-date.

### **Change in Routine**

If there is a change in routine, such as when or by whom your child is being picked up, please send a note to the student's teacher. We must have written permission to send a child home with anyone other than the people who are on the pick-up list that you filled out on FACTS during registration.

### **School Telephone Usage**

School telephones are business phones and are not to be routinely used by students. In demanding situations, and if a student is properly supervised, he/she may be allowed to place a call. Students may not use the school telephone for making social arrangements, or to remind parents to bring forgotten items, unless authorized by the teacher.

### **Lost and Found**

Parents are encouraged to label their children's clothes, book bags, lunch boxes, and other belongings. Items left unattended in the hallway, bathroom, gymnasium, or elsewhere will be placed in a lost and found bin. Students should check the lost and found and/or inquire in the office in the event that items are missing. Unclaimed articles will be given to charity at the end of each month.

### **Books**

Any school books issued by SCA are the responsibility of the student to whom they are issued. All books owned by the school should be covered with book covers. Students will be charged a replacement fee for any lost books. Payment must be prompt, and each student is responsible for making up the work he/she misses during replacement time. A fine will be charged for any damaged books.

### **Prom (Grades 9-12)**

All female students or female guests attending the banquet are required to have their dresses pre-approved by the designated dress code committee. SCA students are allowed to bring a student guest who is not currently enrolled at SCA if the following conditions have been met:

- The guest must be compliant with our dress and dance standard;
- The guest must complete a Prom Approval Form, which will include a character reference from an SCA parent, a character reference from the guest's high school principal, and a signature of the guest indicating their compliance with the code of conduct. The guest may not be over the age of 18.



Prom is a chaperoned event. All music must be approved by the administration. Dancing must be deemed appropriate by the administration and chaperones. Suggestive dancing that involves prolonged physical contact will not be permitted.

## Field Trips

### **Student Guidelines**

- School dress code is required on all field trips, unless otherwise specified. (Outerwear must be SCA code or it must be removed before entering a building.) This policy is enforced to help us easily identify and supervise our group.
- Students must comply with school policy while on field trips.
- Students should respect the drivers of their vehicles by using a quiet voice, sitting still, and following all directions.
- Be responsible for any possessions you bring on the trip, including any gift-shop money.
- Remember that you are a representative of SCA, and our actions are a direct reflection of the school.
- Wait to eat snacks until you arrive at a desired destination. Respect the vehicle of your field trip driver by eating outside and managing your own trash.

### **Chaperone Guidelines**

#### Role of Chaperones

The role of chaperones is to assist with transportation; to ensure student safety; and to help maintain proper group decorum. See the “Field Trips” policy in the Miscellaneous Policies section for further information.

#### Adult/Student Ratio

For safety purposes, there must be a sufficient ratio of adults to students or the field trip will be cancelled. Parents, when accompanying the class, are to take responsibility for helping the teacher supervise the students.

#### Sibling Attendance

Siblings or other children outside the student’s class will not be allowed to attend class field trips. If this causes difficulties in childcare, perhaps parents can take turns keeping siblings. The number of chaperones/drivers will be limited according to need.

## Overnight Field Trips

Students in grades five (5) through twelve (12) may have the opportunity to participate in overnight field trips. Overnight field trips can offer learning experiences, relational bonding, and spiritual growth opportunities that cannot be achieved in the classroom or on a day trip. However, these trips also bring with them added challenges and risks. Accordingly, the following additional policies pertain to overnight trips.

- **Overnight field trips are optional.** Parents should weigh the risks and rewards of the trip and use their best judgment in determining whether their child should participate.
- If a student chooses not to participate, alternative assignments will be given to substitute for the learning experiences and graded assignments associated with the trip.
- Teachers and administrators will make every effort to identify and manage risks associated with each field trip. Most risks are reasonably managed through advance information about the location of the trip; safe travel guidelines; advance preparation for allergies and other medical conditions; constant supervision of students by staff; and proper conduct of students throughout the trip.
- The teacher and/or administrator will provide details about arrangements for the trip, including travel details, itinerary, sleeping arrangements, and student supervision.
- Sleeping arrangements for all overnight trips must adhere to the following guidelines:
  1. No members of the opposite sex will be allowed to sleep in the same room, tent, cabin, etc.
  2. Adults will not sleep in the same bed or bedding with a youth.
  3. There will never be one adult and one youth per room unless they are family members. Reasonable curfews should be scheduled and enforced.

5. Adults sharing a room of the opposite sex must be married.

## **Student Opportunities**

Athletic competition and Fine Art productions are a privilege at Southeastern Christian Academy. Athletes and Fine Art participants represent the school to the community and must display Christian character. Students participating in athletics or fine art productions must also maintain academic eligibility. If these requirements are not met, students will be suspended from all athletic competitions and/or dramatic production rehearsals until they are deemed eligible by administration.

In order to participate in interscholastic sports, students are further required to provide a Sports Physical Form and a Concussion Form each year. SCA waives any liability for any student who is injured while participating in its organized sports program.

### **Academic Eligibility for Athletics/Fine Arts Participation**

A student participating in athletic competitions or fine art (non-graded) performances must not have more than one "D" and no "F" in any one course at the end of each quarter. Academic eligibility will be checked at the midway point in each grading period and again at the end of the quarter. A student will be suspended from participation if deemed academically ineligible. A student will remain under suspension until the administration or Athletic Director re-checks the grades at regular, weekly (5 school days) intervals. The student will be restored to participation status when they have met the eligibility requirements.

## **Parties**

### **Policy Overview**

- Holiday parties, other than birthday parties, will be celebrated with an emphasis on Jesus Christ and His gifts to us.
- Gifts and invitations, if brought to school, must be for the whole class, leaving no one out. If an "all girl" or "all boy" party is given, invitations may be given out at school to all the girls or to all the boys.
- There should be no dictation of the dollar amount for gifts to be given by the students to the staff.

### **Birthdays**

- Treats may be brought for class birthday celebrations and will be shared at lunch.
- Invitations for birthday parties outside of school may be brought to school if given to all boys, all girls, or the whole class. Select invites must be mailed.

### **Halloween**

- SCA does not celebrate Halloween or take part in any Halloween traditions.

### **Thanksgiving celebrations**

- Should maintain a focus on thankfulness and giving

### **Christmas parties**

- Must focus on Christ's birthday
- Personal gifts should not be exchanged at school.

### **Valentine parties**

- Must be Christ-centered ("Jesus loves me.")
- May include a Valentine's exchange in which no child is left out

### **Easter parties**

- Should focus on the Resurrection
- May include an Easter egg hunt or a scavenger hunt