

Summerville Catholic School



2017-2018 Handbook

THIS ASSIGNMENT BOOK BELONGS TO:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

HOMEROOM TEACHER: _____ GRADE: _____

School Hours:
8:15 AM to 3:10 PM

Office Hours:
7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Website: www.summervillecatholic.org

As a Catholic school community, we believe in the uniqueness, dignity and potential of every student. Following the life and example of Jesus Christ, we strive to build character while teaching compassion. By strengthening our students in spirit, mind, and body, we prepare them to lead lives based on faith, values, and learning

WELCOME!

Dear Families,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Summerville Catholic School as we begin the 2017-2018 school year! Summerville Catholic School began in the 1980s as an elementary school with the first classes being held in St. John the Beloved Church's Madden Hall. Since then, the school has moved to our own campus and added a middle school.

This past year, SCS underwent an exciting new change to return to a regional Catholic school model, meaning all five supporting parishes share an equal partnership in the school. The five supporting parishes are St. John the Beloved, St. Theresa the Little Flower, Immaculate Conception, St. Thomas the Apostle, and St. Philip Benizi. We look forward to continuing to flourish with the help of these wonderful, supportive parishes.

As a Catholic school, we are more than a private school. We not only provide academic excellence, we also strive to put Christ first and foremost in all that we do, thereby helping students to grow spiritually as well as academically.

Because of the Christ-centered nature of SCS, we are very active in the community, partnering with many local charities to help those in need.

Naturally, none of this is possible without the relationships with the families of SCS. The school and family partner to educate the whole child. With that in mind, it is important for families of SCS to be active members of the school community, and we encourage you to use your time and talents in our many volunteer opportunities throughout the school year.

We look forward to a year filled with faith and many successes.

God bless you and the SCS community!

Mr. Charlie Tisdale

MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic school community, we believe in the uniqueness, dignity and potential of every student. Following the life and example of Jesus Christ, we strive to build character while teaching compassion. By strengthening our students in spirit, mind, and body, we prepare them to lead lives based on faith, values, and learning.

SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

We believe that Summerville Catholic School is a Catholic educational community dedicated to the mission entrusted by Jesus Christ to the Church. Our community provides an environment that helps to instill sound ideals, morals, and values as guided by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To bring this about, we work toward developing a program that will acknowledge and accept the responsibility to nurture the academic, spiritual, cultural, and physical growth of each student while allowing him to advance according to his own unique and personal talents.

Summerville Catholic School strives to continue its strong tradition of excellence by guiding its students to become involved members of their church and society. With God's grace, our students will continue to enlighten their faith through personal prayer and Christian attitudes.

CORE VALUES

Summerville Catholic School: Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

- Living as Disciples
- Celebrating Service
- Partnering with Parents
- Achieving Possibilities
- Inspiring Every Learner
- Welcoming to All

GOALS OF THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

- To ensure the proclamation of the message of the Gospel in every elementary and secondary school of the Diocese of Charleston
- To foster the building of a faith community among students, faculty, administration, parents, and parishioners
- To instill the importance of service to one another as an obligation of living in a Christian community
- To develop in each student the Christian social principles of peace and justice
- To assist and support the schools in their endeavors to be educational institutions of academic excellence and centers for moral formation
- To assure quality Catholic education by maintaining high standards in teaching and learning
- To develop a global perspective that will demonstrate an understanding and respect for other cultures and language

AMENDMENT

This handbook may be modified by the school after reasonable notice to the parents/students of the effective date of any changes. Any section headings are for convenience of use and shall not affect the interpretation of any provisions. If the school should elect not to take action in a particular situation, this shall not be construed or interpreted as a waiver or preclude the school from acting in a subsequent situation of the same or similar kind.

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I. ACADEMICS

SCS is accredited by the Diocese of Charleston through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA), Summerville Catholic School serves students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

The pre-school through eighth grade programs are staffed by degreed and certified teachers. The curriculum standards used at Summerville Catholic School are developed by the Diocese of Charleston. These curriculum guidelines are based upon national educational association standards and satisfy the requirements set by the state of South Carolina and more.

SCS will employ the following grading scale.

A+ = 98-100	B+ = 89-91	C+ = 80-82	D = 70-73
A = 95-97	B = 86-88	C = 77-79	F = 69 and below
A- = 92-94	B- = 83-85	C- = 74-76	I=Incomplete

An Honor Roll system is in place at Summerville Catholic School to challenge students in Grades 2 - 8 to continue to strive for excellence in all phases of their development.

Criteria for honors are as follows:

Principal's List for Elementary School: Students must achieve 92 or above in all major subjects, and an 83 or above in all specials. Major subjects are Religion, Reading, Language, Spelling, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Principal's List for Middle School: Students must achieve a 92 or above in all major subjects, and an 83 or above in all specials. Major subjects are Religion, Literature, English, Math, Science, Social Studies, including Spanish I, Algebra, Geometry, and English I Honors.

Honor Roll: Students must achieve 86 or above in all major subjects, and an 83 in all specials.

II. ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION

Parents can monitor academic progress on RenWeb and through work returned in the Tuesday folder. Report cards are distributed four times during the school year. Progress reports will be given between issuance of report cards to alert parents as to whether the child is doing satisfactorily in academics. Elementary teachers will also report social and work habits.

Parent-teacher conferences are by no means limited to report card time. If the need for a conference does arise, the parent or teacher may request it via email. To expedite communication, in the middle school, direct your email to the appropriate teacher rather than the homeroom teacher or principal. It is only through the closely coordinated efforts of the home and the school that the goals of education can truly be achieved. Conferences should last no more than 45 minutes.

Progress reports and report cards not signed and returned within two days may result in disciplinary action for your child.

III. ADMISSIONS

At the time of school entry or at any other time where a change in custody status/arrangements occurs, it is the responsibility of the parent(s) to provide the principal/administration with a true and correct copy of the legal document for any student for which there is a legal custody agreement or for any student not residing with his/her parent. School communication with the appropriate guardian is essential. Custodial parents should identify in writing other adults who may have access to information regarding their child. Non-custodial parents may receive information (when requested) regarding the child unless specific documentation to the contrary is provided in the legal custody agreement.

This school abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of non-custodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, the school will provide the non-custodial parent with access to the academic records and to other school-related information regarding the child. If there is a court order or approved mediated agreement specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the school with an official copy of the court order. Divorced or separated parents and/or guardians will be required to provide a copy of a legal document indicating their right to the custody of the student.

SCS will employ the following admission policies:

1. Students entering 3-year-old kindergarten must be three years of age by September 1st of that school year and must be fully potty-trained.
2. Students entering 4-year-old kindergarten must be four years of age by September 1st of that school year and must be fully potty-trained.
3. Students entering 5-year-old kindergarten must be five years of age by September 1st of that school year.
4. Students entering Grade 1 must be age six by September 1st of that school year.
5. A parent/guardian must present a birth certificate, baptismal certificate (for Catholic students), South Carolina Immunization Certificate, and the stated school registration fee for that year. Students currently enrolled must re-enroll for the following academic year. Re-registration dates will be announced in school newsletters, church bulletins, and local newspapers. Any students not re-registered during this time are considered for enrollment on a space available basis, just as are new students.

“The schools of the Diocese of Charleston do not discriminate on the basis of any race, color, sex, national origin, or disability in administration of educational policies, admission policies of local programs, athletics, and school administered programs.”

Records of all Summerville Catholic students are kept confidential and in a secure, locked room.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. Just as the parent has the right to withdraw a child if desired, the school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student and/or family if the administration determines that the partnership is irretrievably broken.

The faculty of Summerville Catholic School is committed to providing quality education in the most appropriate academic setting for each student. At times, educational and/or psychological testing may be recommended to enable the teacher to better assist the student. In the event that Summerville Catholic School is unable to adequately meet the special needs of a student, this will be communicated to the parents and suggestions for tutorial help or alternative placement will be made. The parent's cooperation in matters of testing, extra assistance, and alternative placement is expected.

All students are subject to a probationary period during the first nine-week grading period. This allows both the parents and the school to determine if Summerville Catholic School can meet the child's needs. At the end of the probationary period, the child will be evaluated based on educational assessment, schoolwork, school attendance, and any disciplinary actions needed. Should any child's academic progress or effort be inconsistent with his/her ability, the child will be put on academic probation at any time during the year.

A. ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WITH PROFESSIONALLY DIAGNOSED LEARNING DIFFERENCES

Summerville Catholic School, like Jesus, wishes to welcome all children and is aware that some children have special needs. It is the parents' responsibility to provide documentation and information to the principal at the time of application regarding personal conditions, which may require special services.

Following are guidelines regulating the classroom inclusion of students with special needs or of students with professionally diagnosed learning differences. A learning difference is "professionally diagnosed" by one qualified in the appropriate field of medicine or education who can provide documentation assisting parents and the school to better assist the child in the learning process. These guidelines apply whenever a parent or guardian requests or requires exceptions, adjustments, or accommodations to the teacher's ordinary classroom expectations or classroom management strategies.

1. When a student with special needs or with a professionally diagnosed learning difference applies for enrollment, the principal, parents, and inclusive education teachers should meet to define the student's needs and the school's ability to meet those needs. These needs must be identified with the assistance of documentation and guidelines provided by a qualified professional such as a letter from a doctor or an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). After the first quarter of the school year, the teachers and administration will evaluate the progress of the student.
2. Classroom inclusion of either a special needs student or student with a professionally diagnosed learning difference requires the cooperation of both the school and the parents and the realization by both that circumstances and available resources may make such inclusion of a particular student impossible. "Inclusion" means including the student in a regular classroom and classroom activities according to a teacher's usual learning or classroom management expectations.
3. An annual written agreement between the school and the student's family should be developed and executed before the commencement of each academic school year. This agreement should set forth specific goals and expectations of the student and the responsibilities of the school and the family. This agreement should be based on the recommendations provided by the parents to the principal and the teacher from a qualified professional.
4. Special arrangements for homework, preferential seating, grading, promotion, graduation, or other identified exceptions, adjustments, or accommodations should be developed and described within the annual agreement.
5. Failure of the student or his/her family to abide by the terms of the annual agreement or to cooperate fully with both the principal and the classroom teacher shall be grounds for student withdrawal.

B. TRANSFERS AND WITHDRAWALS

Parents expecting to move and/or withdraw a student from attendance at Summerville Catholic School must contact the school office not less than one week in advance of the student's last date at school, so that necessary clerical work may be completed. All textbooks and library books must be returned, and all fees, including PSA, and tuition payments paid in full before records can be mailed.

Families withdrawing a child(ren) from Summerville Catholic School after the first day of school and prior to the end of the school year are required to pay tuition for the remaining portion of the semester of their withdrawal. Transcripts and records will not be released until the balance is paid in full with a certified check or money order. Transcripts must be requested by the new school and may not be hand carried.

IV. ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential to successful performance in school. In conformity with state regulations, school is in session 180 full days unless an emergency forces its closing.

Students are allowed absences equaling a **total of 10 days** (excused and unexcused). After the 5th absence, a letter from the office will go home for review and a signature. After the 8th absence, the principal, teacher, and parent will meet to review the student's attendance record. Students with ten or more unexcused absences will be reviewed to determine if the student is ready for the academic work of the next grade.

Students **MUST** be present in homeroom by 8:15am. Four (4) unexcused tardies within a semester is considered excessive. Four unexcused tardies will result in one (1) unexcused absence. **To ensure the safe arrival of all students, parents/guardians are required to sign in their student(s) at the main office when arriving late.**

On the first day a student returns to school after an absence, the student must present to his/her teacher a **written note** from the parent/guardian. This note needs to list the child's full name, date(s), reason for absence, and parent signature. Also, any incident of a communicable disease must be reported to the school office. If a child is absent three or more consecutive days, a medical excuse from a doctor must accompany the absentee note.

A PARENT NOTE DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY CONSTITUTE AN EXCUSED ABSENCE.

A student who leaves before noon will be marked absent for one-half day. Students who have appointments (medical, etc.) and are out for two or more hours will be marked absent for one-half day.

Students not present for any part of the school day may not participate in extracurricular activities on the day of the absence, except in the case of excused early dismissals/absences for travel to school-related events.

When parents wish to take their student out of school for several days for personal and/or medical reasons, the parents should discuss the student's progress and anticipated work with the teacher. However, the school is under no obligation to provide a tutor, make-up work, and special testing schedules for such a period of absence. The administration has the sole discretion to determine the conditions and terms governing such absences.

All work will be made up upon the student's return to school. Teachers will establish a reasonable time for the work to be completed. Work not made up will result in lower grades. Report cards will not be provided in advance for students anticipating an absence.

If parents are going out of town and leaving another responsible adult in charge of the children, they must notify the school office in writing and provide in advance the name, address, phone numbers, and other necessary information regarding the care of the child/ren while the parents are absent.

V. BIRTHDAYS

Students may come to school dressed in TAG day attire on his/her birthday or HALF birthday for JUNE and JULY birthdates. For example, a student with a birthday in July may celebrate with tag day dress on the same day of the month as their July birthday in January. If a student's birthday falls on a MASS DAY, weekend, or school holiday, he/she will need to speak to the homeroom teacher to schedule a different TAG day. August birthdays celebrated before the start of school may be celebrated on their HALF birthday in February. In an effort to promote inclusion and community building, if an "out of school" party is planned, invitations may not be distributed at school unless the entire class is invited. We ask that families not send to the school flowers, balloons, and birthday gifts.

VI. BULLYING

Summerville Catholic School makes every attempt to provide a safe environment for all individuals. Bullying is NOT an acceptable behavior for members of our school community and will not be tolerated. Bullying and intimidation are actions that are contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Bullying is a persistent, repeated behavior involving a deliberate, conscious intent to hurt, threaten, frighten, or humiliate someone. It involves a power imbalance between aggressor(s) and victim with the targeted individual having difficulty defending himself. An isolated incident, however troublesome or offensive, is not “bullying” under the school policy.

All reports of bullying, harassment, or intimidation will be treated seriously. The administration’s review and investigation of a credible allegation will be done in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner.

Bullying is **NOT** conflict, ordinary teasing, horseplay, disagreement, or aggression between students who are reasonably capable of defending or speaking up for themselves.

Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings which have the effect of creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student’s educational opportunities.

In cases of reported bullying, the principal or designee shall interview all students involved (i.e. the aggressor(s) and the victim(s)) and investigate, as appropriate. This investigation may include interviews with students, parents, and school staff; review of school records; and identification of parent and family issues. Any student who retaliates against another for reporting bullying may be subject to appropriate consequences.

If a bullying allegation is proven to be true, the principal may take action as follows:

1. Parent conference with an appropriate consequence(s).
2. Attempts may be made to help the student change his/her behavior.
3. Consequences can include, but are not limited to, denial of privileges, in-school or out-of-school suspension, and expulsion if the bullying is proven to be serious enough.
4. Depending on the severity of the incident(s), the principal may also report incidents of bullying to law enforcement if appropriate.

This policy provides opportunities for the principal to exercise fairness, common sense, discretion, and alternatives for inappropriate behavior.

VII. CARLINE

- Drop-off and pick-up zone is at the **front of the school only**. Someone will always be on duty in the morning and afternoon to assist the children. No child will be dismissed to any other parking area.
- **In order to assure the safety of our students and personnel, refrain from using cell phones while driving in carline.**
- No students will be released between 2:45 pm and dismissal time. Please do not come to the office to pick your child up early to avoid the carline.
- In order to avoid confusion and to minimize disruption and noise, please do not wait in the office. The end of an academic day is very important. It is at this time that “last-minute” review and instructions are given to all students.
- If your child is already in EDP when the carline begins, you must park and use the designated crosswalk to get your child from EDP.
- **Parents, grandparents, or drivers are to remain in line, in your car, and wait for your student(s) to come to the car.** Please do not park in the parking lot or along Black Oak Blvd. in the No Parking area and come down the hill to pick up your child. We will not let your child walk up the hill or across the street to your car. Please do not attempt to enter the back lot against the flow of departing traffic. The back lot entrance is closed to in-coming traffic during normal student drop off and pick up times. Everyone’s time is valuable, and if you stay in your car and move through the line, it will be better for all involved. The only thing that truly matters is the safety of all our students and staff.
- No child will be released to anyone EXCEPT his/her parents without written permission. Please be sure all carpool drivers are listed on your emergency card.
- Students opting to walk or bicycle home will be released at 3:30pm. This will minimize any potential possibility of a student stepping into or riding into the path of a moving vehicle.
- Families who choose not to follow these procedures will be asked to leave Summerville Catholic School.

To ensure the safety of our children during arrival and dismissal times, it is **imperative** that families cooperate with the following traffic plan:

1. The first 7 spots in car line are reserved for those who purchased the spot during our PSA auction. These families will park in the school driveway pick up zone. All others please form **two lanes** of cars on the gravel area and **one lane** on Black Oak Blvd.
2. **Beginning at 3:00, the car closest to the school building may begin to move forward, followed by the next gravel lane and finally the lane on the road may move forward. Every other car should allow the car in the next lane to advance in front of them. Please be courteous and follow the rotation.**
3. When dropping off or picking up students, drive close to the curb and move all the way forward.
4. Unless directed to do so, do NOT pull around the car(s) in front of you. Remain IN LINE until you exit the parking lot.
5. The PSA will provide a family placard to be used during carline. Hang this from your rearview mirror so that it can be easily seen and read. Additional placards may be purchased from the front office for \$1.
6. Vehicles WITHOUT a placard may be directed to park, use the designated crosswalk, and come to the front office to pick up the student(s).

VIII. CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN LIFE

All students will participate in the weekly school Mass. Students will also take part in special, seasonal celebrations such as St. Francis of Assisi Pet Blessing and May Crowning. Further, in order to promote Catholic social teaching, students and families will be expected to participate in various outreach projects such as cereal drive, Habitat for Humanity, Ronald McDonald House, and Operation Christmas Child. These will provide students with the opportunity to make a difference in our parishes, surrounding communities, and around the world. Students who are non-Catholic are expected to participate in our Catholic community.

IX. CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

SCS discourages the bringing of personal electronic devices to school, such as, but not limited to, cell phones, tablets, IPODs, smart watches/devices (which include applications, email, or text capabilities), headphones or earbuds, and laser pointers. Electronic devices must be OFF and inside the bookbag from the time students arrive on campus until the student leaves campus. Violations of this policy will result in confiscated items. Confiscated electronics MUST be picked up from the front office at the end of the day by a parent. Consequences concerning repeated violations will be at the discretion of the principal. SCS is not responsible for lost or damaged items.

X. CODE OF CONDUCT

In all areas of learning, discipline must be considered in the development of the whole person. The Code of Conduct is based on the Gospel message of Jesus. Growth in self-discipline, a responsibility for Catholic moral values, and a loving respect for the rights of all persons is encouraged and nourished by the Code of Conduct. In short, students, parents, and faculty realize we lead by example as Jesus did, and we respect the dignity and uniqueness of every individual.

In order to not disturb the academic atmosphere of the classroom or school, these basic tenets have been developed.

- a) Teachers have a right to teach. Students will respect the efforts of teachers to teach.
- b) Students have a right to learn. Students will respect the efforts of classmates to learn.

Based upon the Catholic moral values and loving respect for others taught by Jesus, students:

- a. will be honest and committed to integrity
- b. will be respectful and courteous toward all teachers and adults
- c. will speak respectfully to and about others and refrain from any form of harassment
- d. will use appropriate language at all times
- e. will respect all school and personal property
- f. will refrain from any deliberate disruption in the school
- g. will complete all assignments and participate fully in class
- h. will adhere to the school's cell phone policy
- j. will comply with the Internet Acceptable Use Policy
- k. will demonstrate good sportsmanship when engaged in all school-sponsored activities
- l. will adhere to the dress code and
- m. will, at all times, whether at school or in the community, conduct themselves in a manner which reflects the Catholic values and principles of the school.

A. DISCIPLINE

Because it is impossible to foresee all problems which arise, this handbook empowers the faculty and administration to take disciplinary action for any behavior (within or outside the school community) which violates the spirit, philosophy, and code of conduct of the school, even though not specified. In justice to the other students, circumstances may dictate that a student be removed temporarily or permanently from the particular school setting.

Students who lack self-discipline or who violate the rights of others can expect disciplinary action. Each offense will be dealt with on an individual basis according to the age of the student, the nature of the infraction, and the severity of the case.

The following are some approved disciplinary measures:

1. verbal warning (no more than two a day)
2. assignment of special tasks
3. denial of privileges
4. lunch detention
5. morning detention
6. parent/teacher conference
7. administrative behavior plan
8. probation
9. in-school/out-of-school suspension
10. expulsion.

Behaviors which fall under each of these measures include but are not limited to:

Warning, denial of privileges, assignment of special tasks: excessive talking, first uniform infraction, first failure to return signed Tuesday folder or other school communication, lack of respect for other's property

Lunch detention: disruption of classroom instruction, possession of inappropriate belongings, second uniform infraction, repeated failure to return school communication, misbehavior during Mass, not respecting personal space of others (kicking, pushing, etc.), repeated disrespect for property to include school desks and lockers

Parent conference, morning detention: lying, cheating, plagiarism, disrespect, failure to report to detention, first violation of cell phone policy, cursing or obscene gestures, public display of affection, repeated uniform infractions

Administrative intervention, probation: bullying/harassment, destruction of property, deliberate plagiarism, repeated misuse of cell phone policy, violation of Internet Acceptable Use Policy, insubordination.

Repeated infractions can result in more serious consequences, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion; there is no requirement for progressive discipline.

Possession of, selling, sharing, or consuming any type of tobacco, drug, or alcohol at any time; endangering the moral or physical well-being of the students, faculty, or any person on school grounds; possession of any kind of weapon on school property or at any school-related activity; and when there is any positive promotion against religion or faith **results in automatic and permanent expulsion.**

The principal/administration or his/her designee has the right to protect the health, welfare, and safety of school patrons against drugs, weapons, unauthorized publications, and other contraband materials. Search of a student's person and/or personal property, on school property or at a school activity, may be conducted by the school principal/administration or his/her designee. It is only necessary that a search be reasonable and related to the school rights in these regards. The failure of a student to voluntarily submit to a search shall be presumptive evidence of the existence of contraband and grounds for appropriate disciplinary action.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SCHOOL

In an effort to offer better communication to our families, the school newsletter will be emailed to every family on a weekly basis. This weekly email will contain school updates, flyers, monthly calendars, PSA communications, and other announcements. Families will then be able to print out what is directly pertinent to their household, thus eliminating unnecessary paperwork. The school website is updated frequently and can be found at www.summervillecatholic.org.

Schoolwork, tests, papers, newsletters, and individual teacher communication will be sent home in the Tuesday folder. You are asked to review the contents of this folder with your child and then sign in the appropriate space. Your signature indicates that you have reviewed the enclosures. Please be sure to sign any tests and papers as requested or required by the teachers. The folder must be returned to school within two days. **Please note that folders not returned within two (2) days may result in disciplinary action for your child. It is also a school expectation that students do NOT go through their Tuesday folders until they have left school. Consequences may occur if students do not adhere to this policy.**

B. COMMUNICATION WITH THE PRINCIPAL

The principal welcomes all communication with parents, informally, and/or by appointment. If there is a concern regarding an issue in the classroom, the parent is to meet with the teacher or staff member first. If the issue is not solved to the satisfaction of either the teacher and/or parents, it is appropriate to contact the principal.

C. COMMUNICATION WITH THE TEACHERS

We encourage communication with your child's teachers. If at any time parents have a question or concern regarding the progress of their child, they are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher directly by sending an email, writing a note, or calling the main office. Teachers will make a reasonable effort to respond within one day of messages received. To expedite communication, parents of middle school students are encouraged to contact subject area teachers rather than the homeroom teachers when questions arise. Because teachers have specific duties throughout the school day, they should not be sought out for a conversation without a previously scheduled appointment. Out of respect for teachers' personal time, teachers should not be contacted at home, nor should teachers and staff be approached with school matters off school grounds due to matters of confidentiality.

XII. EMERGENCY

Fire drills are held monthly as required by law to ensure that each student is aware of fire and all other exits. Evacuation routes are posted in each room, and students are instructed in proper procedures so that they can exit the building in a quiet and orderly manner. Other safety drills such as, earthquake, tornado, lockdown, and intruder will be conducted throughout the year.

As part of our safety plan, procedures to account for the presence of each child as they enter or exit the premises and move from location to location around the school are implemented accordingly.

SCS does have a full-school evacuation/reunification plan in place should the need arise; this plan employs the RenWeb emergency alert system. Notifications will be sent through phone and email. Assure that a correct phone number and email address are on record with the school.

XIII. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. We expect students to maintain academic and behavioral standards and the teachings of the Catholic Church. These regulations and procedures apply while on school premises, during practices and competitions, and in the public arena. A student will be considered ELIGIBLE to participate in athletics and clubs at Summerville Catholic School if his/her most recent academic report reflects a **C- (74%) or higher in all subjects, including all special area subjects.**

A student will be considered ON PROBATION if he/she has

1. one or more grade lower than a 74% in any subject
2. repeated disciplinary action resulting in a detention or otherwise at the discretion of the administrator.

Probation is a two-week period during which a student works to improve his/her grades and/or conduct. During this two-week period, a student is still a member of the team; however, he/she is not permitted to practice or participate in team events. Instead, the student should wisely spend time improving his/her grades and conduct.

The student remains a full, participating member of a team if his/her grades at the end of the probationary two-week period reflect a 74% or better in every class, and he/she maintains conduct in keeping with the SCS code of conduct and the teachings of the Catholic Church.

A student will be considered INELIGIBLE for sports and/or clubs at Summerville Catholic School should there be no improvement after the two-week probationary period. They will remain ineligible until the next progress report or report card is issued. Ineligibility means that a student cannot participate in practices and/or team events.

The SCS Beta Club adheres to national standards regarding academics and behavior. If your child is invited to join, those standards will be outlined for you.

XIV. EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM

Summerville Catholic School offers an Extended Day Program as a service to parents and their children, both before and after school. The program is sponsored by Summerville Catholic School and is guided by the philosophy and policies of the school.

During online registration, parents will complete the EDP form. This form provides emergency information for EDP services should the need arise.

The full SCS EDP Handbook is available online via RenWeb.

EDP employs a door code to drop-off/pick-up students. This code will be given only to regular, full-time users of EDP. For emergency or all other situations, parents can call the EDP phone number (843) 998-3440 to gain access to the school. Sharing of the EDP door code is strictly prohibited as it violates the safety of our children; therefore, parents/guardians who do so will be required to pay the fee to change the code. Parents must also refrain from sharing the code with their student(s).

It is a requirement that parents sign-in students to EDP before school. No student may be dropped off at the curb and enter by themselves.

XV. EXTRA HELP

All teachers will make a reasonable effort to be available after school one day a week for extra help. **This is not a tutoring session** but a time for the teacher to give special attention to a particular skill a student finds difficult. A note from the teacher will be sent home in advance asking your child to stay for extra reinforcement with a particular skill. A signature is required by a parent/guardian in order for your child to stay after school.

If you feel your child is struggling with a particular skill, please contact the teacher directly. A student may NOT stay for extra help if 24 hours notice has not been provided to or by the teacher.

XVI. FIELD TRIPS

A school field trip is a privilege extended to each child. However, if the principal and/or teacher determine a child should not attend the field trip due to improper behavior, missing assignments, incorrect dress code, etc., the child will remain in school. Permission forms for field trips must be signed by the parent and returned by the due date. **If the signed permission slip is not returned, the student will remain at school while the class goes on the field trip.**

Field trips are considered an extension of the school day, and the code of conduct will apply.

Field trips must have an adequate number of chaperones in order to help provide supervision to our children outside of the school environment. Field trips will be cancelled if there is an insufficient number of chaperones. All drivers and chaperones must meet and be approved through Diocesan standards. SCS office staff will verify each driver/chaperone before every field trip.

Parents who are not verified may NOT meet the class at the event.

Due to safety concerns and the responsibilities of chaperones, siblings are not permitted on field trips.

Youth weighing less than 100 lbs. may not be seated near the front seat airbag.

Cell calls and texting are not permitted while driving or chaperoning students.

As part of our safety plan, student rosters are taken on the field trip and procedures to account for the presence of each child as they enter or exit the vehicle and move from location to location are implemented accordingly. In addition, all medications given on field trips must comply with medication administration policies.

For students with prescription medication and/or medically necessary health-related conditions, a trained individual needs to be present on the field trip such as a school nurse, parent/guardian, or designated family member to ensure care and safety. If a trained individual of the school is unable to chaperone the student on a field trip, it is the responsibility of the parent to provide a trained individual to accompany the student.

XVII. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The success of Summerville Catholic School relies on the commitment of families to be involved in their child's education and make Catholic education a financial priority. The school relies on tuition and fees for a substantial portion of the budget to operate an excellent spiritual and educational program. Therefore, when tuition and fee payments become delinquent, it is a serious matter. Each family registered to attend must sign the agreement to adhere to the SCS Tuition Policy. Delinquent accounts will be subject to further action.

Families with outstanding balances are reminded that all monies for tuition, hot lunch, lost or damaged textbooks, EDP, library fines, PSA activity responsibilities, and PSA service hours payout must be paid in full before progress reports, report cards, and/or records will be released. Families are required to complete 20 service hours per school year. Many opportunities are made available throughout the year—both in and out of the building. The SCS Family Service Hours Handbook is available via RenWeb.

No cash payment (currency/coin) over \$10.00 can be sent to the school **with a child**. Any cash payment over \$10.00 must be brought to the office by a parent or guardian who will wait for issuance of a cash receipt from the office staff.

XVIII. FOOD/DRINK

Students are not to have candy, food, or drink in class unless during specified snack time in the elementary school. SCS allows students to bring a reusable (not disposable) water bottle to school; water bottle usage in the classroom will be at the teacher's discretion. At no time is gum permitted on school grounds. Food and drink are not permitted outside during carline.

XIX. HOMEWORK

Homework is provided for the purpose of reinforcing learning that has taken place in the classroom, extending learning opportunities, and fostering independent study habits. Homework that has been assigned by one teacher should not be done during school hours in another teacher's classroom without permission. Homework should not be done during morning homeroom. Students should report to school prepared each morning with their completed assignments. **Parents may review pending homework assignments, projects, and tests by first checking the child's agenda and then visiting the homework section of the school website.** Homework must show a student's own personal work and effort.

The amount of time it takes to complete assignments varies greatly from student to student. If the amount of time your child spends on homework is consistently excessive, schedule a conference with your child's teacher. The teacher will work with you to identify problems and make a plan to help your child complete assignments in an efficient manner. Parents are asked to check on all assignments and on the quality of work that is done. Children should be held accountable to parents as well as to the teachers. If you would like strategies concerning how to help your child be successful with homework, please contact your child's teacher(s).

The Catholic Church has advocated for years that weekends are intended for families and family life. In an effort to foster that spirit, we are attempting to refrain from the assigning of homework over the weekends. Please note, however, that this does not include test preparation, reading, projects, or high school credit classes. Students and families are expected to plan accordingly for tests and project deadlines.

XX. LOST AND LEFT

Student clothing, lunch boxes, books, and any other personal belongings must be clearly marked with the student's name. Lost articles and clothing may be claimed from a large box, kept near the entrance to the Great Room near the media center. A notice will be put in Seahawk News when the volume of items becomes excessive. Items not claimed will be donated to charity. Students are responsible for checking for any items they may have lost. The school is not responsible for damaged or lost possessions.

XXI. LUNCH

We encourage parents to send in nutritious lunches for their children, as well as snacks for elementary grade snack time and snacks if your child will be staying for after-school care. Hot lunch will be provided by local vendors. The hot lunch menu can be found on the school website. Please review the school calendar carefully for field trips and other activities before ordering hot lunch. Hot lunch orders are placed one month in advance, so we are unable to provide any refunds. **Canned soft drinks are not permitted for any grades except during school-sponsored events. No glass containers should be brought to school. Students who have forgotten their lunch will be provided a modest lunch and milk for a cost of \$2.00. Your RenWeb account will be charged.**

A. LUNCH TIME PROCEDURES

1. Students will remain seated at their assigned tables during lunch until dismissed.
2. Students will be responsible for maintaining a litter-free area around, on, and under their tables.
3. Uneaten food will remain in lunch boxes and will be taken home.
4. Due to potential food allergies, parents are asked to remind their children not to share lunches at school.
5. Recess for all students will take place before lunch.
6. Students will take their lunches with them to recess. Students may not be permitted to return to their locker or classroom to retrieve forgotten lunches, money, drinks, etc.

XXII. MEDIA CENTER

The media center is a place where students can read, discover, and explore. There are over 10,000 volumes in the media center, and we continue to work to increase and update the collection. Computers are also available for student use. Students in K3-4th grade have library time once a week, and students in 5th – 8th grade come every other week for library time. Open library time is also offered throughout the week for students needing to check out a book, do research, or use a computer for school-related projects. During open library time, the student needs to bring a pass and ensure that the media specialist is present in the media center, or the student must return to class. Each student is expected to act appropriately in the media center. Food and beverage is not permitted in the media center. Students are expected to treat books, equipment, and furniture respectfully in the media center. The use of the media center is a privilege.

Each student is responsible for books taken out in his/her name. Overdue notices are sent out at least once a month. If a book is overdue, a student may not be able to check out another book until the overdue one is returned. If a student loses or damages a book, the student is responsible for the replacement cost.

XXIII. MEDICAL

All school health room, administrators, and staff are required to administer medication within the framework of the procedures outlined in Diocesan policy.

All prescription and over the counter (OTC) medications (to include cough drops and topical creams) may be administered during the school day when all of the following conditions have been met

1. after the first dose of any medication has been given at home
2. when the parent/guardian provides and transports the medication to and from school and the medication is given directly to the office staff
3. when the appropriate Diocesan medication form has been completed by a physician and signed by a parent/guardian
4. when the medication is brought to school in its original container stating the name of the student, the dosage, and the method of administration prescribed by a physician. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to notify the school of any changes to the original prescription. The new prescription must also be brought to the school in the original container and be accompanied by the Diocesan form, and
5. for any medication, parents must document the number of tablets or dosages to be secured for administration by the authorized school personnel. If tablets are to be divided, the parent/guardian is responsible for dividing the tablets in order to achieve their child's proper dosage.

Students are NOT permitted to self-medicate. Students are not to carry/possess medications including cough drops, unless instructed by a doctor to have the medication on their person at all times (i.e. asthma inhalers, etc.). The school does not assume responsibility for medications taken independently by the student.

Students sent home from school with a fever are unable to return to school until they are fever free (under 99.9) without the assistance of medication for 24 hours. Do not send your child to school if he/she has a fever in the morning. Students must also remain home 24 hours after the last episode of diarrhea and vomiting. Therefore, if your child is sent home with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, he/she may NOT return the following school day.

A. MEDICAL ALLERGIES

Cooperative efforts between students, parents, physicians, and school staff members can help minimize risks for students with allergies. The Diocese of Charleston has implemented an allergy plan that must be kept in file on the office. In order to minimize incidents of life-threatening allergic reactions, SCS will maintain a system-wide procedure for addressing these reactions and maintain an Emergency Action Plan for any student(s) whose parent/guardian and physicians have informed the school in writing that the student(s) has a potentially life-threatening allergy.

B. MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

In the case of an emergency when an ambulance is required, SCS will call 911 first and then contact the parent. SCS students will be transported to Summerville Medical Center. School records will accompany the student. A designated school official will ride in the ambulance with the student and stay with the student until a parent arrives.

C. IMMUNIZATIONS

All students enrolled in SCS must present a current SC Certificate of Immunization signed by a physician. If this requirement is not met, it is possible that your student may not be allowed to attend school. The only exemption to the policy is in the event that a student has an illness that would compromise his/her life by being immunized. Documentation of a compromising condition must be presented prior to the first day of the school year.

D. NO NIT POLICY AND REGULATIONS

POLICY 1 HEAD LICE - NO NITS (PEDICULOSIS)

Any student found to have head lice, nits (lice eggs) or egg cases shall be excluded from school until all head lice, nits and egg cases have been completely removed from the child's entire head, as verified by designated school staff.

REGULATION 1-A

NO NIT PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

Head lice are an unfortunate fact of life. All they need to survive is a human head. They spread easily through close contact between peoples' heads and through sharing brushes, combs, or hats. Lice like clean heads just as well as dirty heads. They have no respect for age or socioeconomic status. Therefore, they have the potential to be present on any person in our district. Our goal is to control and eliminate their presence.

I. Identification of cases: Often the first clue to the presence of lice is frequent head scratching and/or a rash on the scalp. To actually diagnose requires a closer look.

A. Responsibility for screening heads:

1. The onsite registered nurse (RN) or designated staff person may conduct an annual in-service education program, if deemed necessary

2. Designated staff members will check students in a confidential manner

B. Who should be screened?

1. Any student where there is a strong suspicion that they may be infested i.e., demonstration of the signs and symptoms.

2. If you have reason to believe that a student may have contracted the lice from another student that has been diagnosed i.e., in the same class, a sibling, or a close friend.

3. If two or more students in the same classroom have been found to be infested, all children in that classroom may be examined.

II. Treatment

A. Parent Contact

1. The office staff is responsible for calling the parent/guardian of each infested child and requiring that the child be picked up and treated.

2. The parent/guardian will be given written instructions on how to treat their child

3. As stated in Policy 1 and Regulation 1A, the No Nit Policy of the school will be explained to the parent/guardian

4. The treatment certification form will be brought to the attention of the parent/guardian. An explanation will be given that this form must be signed by the parent/guardian before the student is allowed to return to school.

5. Inform the parent/guardian that the child must be brought back to school by them and must be screened for lice/nits in the office and be completely nit free before they can return to class.

III. Follow-up

A. Return of the student to school

1. There is no need for the student to remain out of school once the treatment has been completed. Therefore, they should not require longer than a one-day absence

2. Before the student is readmitted they must:

- Turn in the certification of treatment
- Be verified by school staff as being Nit Free

IV. Re-infestation

A. Follow above procedures

B. Notify the registered nurse (RN) or staff designee

C. The RN/staff designee and principal will determine what additional interventions, if any, are needed.

XXIV. PARENTS AS PARTNERS

As partners in the educational process at SCS, we ask parents to set rules, times, and limits so that your child:

1. goes to bed early on school nights
2. arrives at school on time and is picked up on time at the end of the day
3. dresses according to the school dress code
4. complete assignments on time, and
5. buys or brings nutritious lunches and snacks

Parents are highly encouraged to participate in the programs which are developed for the education of their children. The wide spectrum of this involvement includes volunteer work, participation in parent-teacher conferences, attendance at meetings and seminars designed to help parents assist their children at home, and active involvement in the school's Parent School Association.

It is expected that parents who enroll their children at Summerville Catholic School be committed to the mission, vision, values, policies, and procedures of the school. All families are expected to support the school by giving of their time, talents, and financial support.

If a parent/guardian repeatedly or seriously violates proper school protocol, displays inappropriate or disruptive conduct toward students, or displays disrespectful, disruptive, or harassing behavior toward teachers, the school, parish, or diocesan staff, the school may take corrective action. Such corrective action may include, at the discretion of the principal and pastors, the following: particular rules or procedures the parent must follow in interacting with the school and its students and staff; restriction or termination of the parent's access to school or parish property; dismissal of the parent's child(ren). The school may impose other appropriate corrective action, without prior recourse, based upon the nature of the parent's conduct and the surrounding circumstances to ensure a safe environment for all.

The education of a student is a partnership between the parents and the school. Just as the parent has the right to withdraw a child if desired, the school administration reserves the right to require the withdrawal of a student if the administration determines that the partnership is irretrievably broken.

XXV. PARTIES

Room parents should coordinate with the teacher to organize class parties. Class parties will be limited to Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and end of year celebrations. Special events coordinating with class curriculum and instruction may occur throughout the year at the teacher's discretion.

XXVI. PERSONAL HYGIENE

As outlined in the SC DHEC Official School Exclusion List, children who require assistance with personal hygiene after two or more urinary accidents or diarrhea episodes within one day, will be required to go home. Parents will be contacted to pick their child up from school immediately. A reminder that in order for your child to attend school, he/she must be fully potty-trained. When appropriate, students are invited to use and bring deodorant and reapply as necessary. All students are expected to dress and groom themselves neatly—including after P.E. class. In an effort to keep SCS as healthy as possible, parents are asked to remind students to wash hands after restroom use and use sanitizer or hand wipes before eating lunch and after coughing or sneezing.

XXVII. PROMOTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Per Diocesan standard, advancement to the next grade is based on the student's daily performance, test results, attendance, recommendations, and the student's ability to complete work successfully on a more advanced level.

Promotion to the next grade depends on successful completion of ALL subject areas. Administration may recommend the repetition of the grade, tutoring, or summer school classes as a requirement for promotion when, after conferences with the teachers and parents, it is believed that such action will better prepare the students academically or emotionally for the next grade.

The decision of the principal is final and binding.

Elementary subjects include Religion, Reading, Language, Spelling, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

Middle school subjects include Religion, Literature, English, Math, Science, Social Studies, including Spanish I, Algebra, Geometry, and English I Honors.

XXVIII. PARENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (PSA)

The PSA is a parent-driven organization which serves to foster unity among our families and offer support to SCS. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend meetings and participate in fundraisers and functions throughout the school year. Our fundraising efforts support numerous projects at SCS; thoughtfully consider supporting fundraising whenever you are able.

XXIX. PERSONAL ITEMS

It is inappropriate to bring the following items to school or school functions:

- Toys (including fidget spinners)
- Sports equipment
- Electronic devices
- Cameras
- Laser pointers
- Candy/gum
- Magazines
- Aerosol cans
- Weapons (including toys which have a likeness to any sort of weapon)

This list is not all-inclusive and can be edited at any time. Confiscated items **MUST** be picked up from the front office at the end of the day by a parent. The school is not responsible for lost or damaged items. Repeated violations of this policy will result in stronger disciplinary measures.

XXX. SAFE ENVIRONMENT

In our ongoing effort to provide a safe environment for our children, please be advised that any parent/guardian known to a diocesan or parish school who is a parent or guardian of a child who is enrolled at one of our schools and is listed on a sex offender registry is required to sign an agreement restricting that individual's access to our campus. A list of those sex offenders known to the school whose child is enrolled may be reviewed during normal school hours upon written request to the administration.

XXXI. SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Diocese is in the process of restructuring Summerville Catholic School. Once completed, the Diocese and school administration will work with the regional parishes to rebuild the Advisory Council.

XXXII. SCHOOL CLOSING POLICY

As we are located in Dorchester County, the decision to close school or dismiss early is determined by Dorchester School District Two. **Such weather or emergency information is usually announced on your local television news channels (usually Channels 2, 4, & 5) or radio (1250 AM).** If Dorchester Two announces "no school," a delayed start, or an early dismissal because of weather conditions, we will follow their lead for elementary schools. SCS half day dismissal will always be at 12:00 noon. Please listen for these Dorchester School District Two announcements. We kindly ask that you **DO NOT call the school, as our lines must remain open for critical information during such times.**

However, SCS has a RenWeb Alert System. In the case of an emergency or school closing, a RenWeb alert will be sent to all phones and emails that are registered in our system. These numbers are supplied to the school by the parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year. Please assure numbers and emails are kept current and notify the office of any changes immediately.

Please make sure that your child knows what to do in the event of an early dismissal. Make sure your child knows where to go and with whom to stay. The Extended Day Program will not be available if a decision is made for early dismissal or school closing.

XXXIII. TECHNOLOGY

Parents must agree to the Acceptable Use Policy in the online enrollment process in order for students to be able to use the Internet at school. Students will also sign the Acceptable Use Policy at the beginning of the school year.

The Internet is a useful research tool available to SCS students at designated times in the computer lab, library, and classrooms. Students are expected to limit themselves to appropriate websites as directed by their teachers. There is no expectation or right to privacy or right to freedom of speech when using the school's computer resources, which are the school's property. Any use of the school's computers and Internet access must be in support of education and research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the school.

Using school facilities for Internet access and e-mail is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use includes but is not limited to unauthorized transmittal or improper use of copyrighted materials or materials protected as trade secrets; transmission of threatening or obscene materials; vandalism of computer files; violation of computer security as determined by the school administration and; viewing sites which are unsanctioned by SCS.

These actions can result in a cancellation, denial, suspension, and/or revocation of computer privileges by the school administration and also subject the user to further disciplinary action.

Accessing social exchange websites such as, but not limited to Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, etc. from school computers is prohibited. Any student who has one of these accounts and who misrepresents the values of SCS, or who uses such venues to harass or intimidate any other person will be subject to strict disciplinary measures, including loss of school computer privileges and/or suspension. Students who are permitted to have personal websites are cautioned

against giving out information that could jeopardize the safety of himself/herself or any other SCS student or staff member.

SCS adheres to privacy laws in its attempt to protect the rights of all students. As a result, the parents of students enrolled at SCS are forbidden from posting photographs taken at school-sponsored events that include the images of students other than their own on personal social media accounts such as Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

Photos and comments posted on personal social media may NOT defame the school or any of its members.

The school has the right to request removal of photos and comments with school identity.

XXXIV. TELEPHONES

Phones located in classrooms and throughout the school are not for the use of students during the school day or during afternoon and evening events/activities. Students may use the office phone with written permission from a teacher in cases of emergency only. Forgetting lunches, PE uniforms, permission slips, etc. does NOT constitute an emergency. Parents are asked to refrain from calling the school with messages to be relayed to the child except in cases of emergency.

XXXV. TESTS AND EXAMS

A testing schedule has been established for middle school students. This does not include quizzes. Students are aware of tests and quizzes several days in advance:

Grade 6-2 tests per day

Grade 7-2 tests per day

Grade 8-3 tests per day

Students in grades 7 and 8 will take midterm and final exams in core subjects at the completion of first and second semesters. 7th and 8th grade exams account for 20% of the overall semester average. Students in 6th grade will take cumulative tests at the end of first and second semester that count as a second quarter and fourth quarter test grade respectively. These exams/tests will come from the concepts taught during each semester. Students are encouraged to save assignments, homework, and tests each semester in preparation for exams.

No student may exempt a midterm exam first semester.

Any student may exempt a particular final exam in the spring if he/she has a 92% yearly average in that subject. Students will be told they have exempted an exam several days prior to the start of exams. 6th grade cumulative tests may not be exempted.

Due to the exam policy of Bishop England, students taking English 1, Geometry 1, Algebra 1, and Spanish 1 may not exempt exams for these classes. Because these exams also take longer, your student will be required to come to school at 7:30am to begin the exam.

Standardized testing for the 2017-2018 school year will be NWEA MAP Tests occurring in September, January, and May.

XXXVI. TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are supplied to students for their use during the school year. **Students are required to cover all books—either with clear contact paper for soft covers or book socks for hard-cover books—to protect them from damage.** Consumable books must be returned prior to the end of the year. Fees will be charged to RenWeb accounts for lost and/or damaged books. Class novels may be checked out from the library or purchased.

XXXVII. UNIFORMS

Uniforms are mandatory at Summerville Catholic School to reflect the high standards and values we place on a proper educational atmosphere. The purpose is also to unify in spirit and to present a visual symbol of our united student body. Therefore, the breaking of uniform code is viewed as disruptive not only in disobedience of dress code, but also as a disregard in the “esprit de corps” of the school. Final decisions regarding the school uniform rest with the principal/administration.

A. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- All students are expected to dress and groom themselves neatly. No perfume or cologne is allowed.
- The uniform should be kept neat and clean, **with shirts tucked in at all times**. Torn or ripped clothing is not permitted.
- A modest cross or religious medallion may be worn around the neck. No rings are permitted. Students may wear one simple bracelet or watch per wrist.
- Drawing on self, body art, and/or temporary tattoos are not permitted.
- **Hair must be brushed and kept neat. Strange, faddish, or unnatural colored hair or hairstyles may not be worn.** Students will be asked to correct any hairstyle or hair color that is considered inappropriate. They will have one week to take care of any needed corrections.
- Hair must be kept neat and **MUST** be out of the face and eyes.
- Watches or activity trackers are permitted.
- Earrings may only be worn by girls with pierced ears. Girls with pierced ears may wear one stud earring or small hoop on the lower lobe of each ear. For safety reasons, long dangling earrings are not permitted. Boys are not permitted to wear any type of earring.
- Coats, including Summerville Catholic jackets, are not permitted to be worn during regularly scheduled class times. Students may wear approved school sweatshirts or sweaters.
- Hoods may **NOT** be worn in the building at any time.
- No hats are to be worn in the building except on designated days.
- Underwear, undergarments, and t-shirts of any type must be covered at all times. Undergarments that can be visible through a shirt should always be white with no print or logos.
- The only acceptable sweatshirts are the traditional SCS sweatshirt, the Sammy the Seahawk sweatshirt, or a current athletic team sweatshirt.
- **NO** sweatshirts may be worn during Mass; students may wear a school-approved sweater.
- A solid white or navy blue cardigan, pullover, or vest sweater may be worn (no monogram required).
- Students must maintain uniform standard during the entire school day.

B. GIRLS' UNIFORMS

<p>SHIRTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collared white or hunter green knit shirt with school monogram (monogram is not needed if worn under a jumper) • Knit shirts may be short or long-sleeve • White woven shirt with Peter Pan collar and a school monogram (unless worn under a jumper) • Solid white turtlenecks under the required uniform are appropriate during cooler weather 	<p>SKORTS/SKIRTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K3-K5: a knee-length solid navy skort • 1st-3rd: No skorts or skirts permitted • 4th-8th: knee-length plaid or navy skirt <p>*Rolling over the waist of the skirt is not permitted.</p> <p>*Knee length is defined by the hem of the skirt touching the CREASE AT THE BACK OF THE KNEE.</p> <p>*For modesty reasons, shorts in navy or black must be worn under all skirts.</p>	<p>JUMPERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K3-3rd: a knee-length plaid jumper <p>*Knee length is defined by the hem of the skirt touching the CREASE AT THE BACK OF THE KNEE.</p> <p>*For modesty reasons, shorts in navy or black must be worn under all jumpers.</p>
<p>SHORTS/PANTS/BELTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knee-length, plain navy uniform shorts or slacks with belt loops • Belts must be solid black, brown, navy, or plaid and must be visible <p>*Shorts and pants should be straight-leg, flat front, and uniform style.</p> <p>*Cargo shorts and pants are not permitted.</p> <p>*Shorts and pants must be worn at the natural waist.</p>	<p>SHOES/SOCKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only permissible socks are CREW socks (not no-show, ankle, athletic, quarter, etc.) • Socks should be solid navy, hunter green, black, or white (any type of logo may not be visible) • Knee socks and footed tights should be black, white, hunter green, or navy • Shoes must be SOLID white, black, brown, tan, navy, or natural leather colors • Multi-colored shoes are not permitted • Shoes with graphics, stripes, or colored soles are not permitted • Traditional saddle shoes may be worn • Boots and high-top shoes are not permitted • Sandals, Crocs, light-up, open back, or open-toed shoes are strictly forbidden 	<p>GENERAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair accessories such as ribbons, bows, clips, headbands, scrunchies, and barrettes must be simple and keep to uniform colors (hunter green, navy, black, white, or plaid). Any hair accessory deemed inappropriate will need to be removed. • Make-up, nail polish, fake fingernails or French manicures, excessive jewelry, and any other unauthorized accessories are not allowed. • A necklace with a cross or religious medal may be worn. • Holes or faded clothes must be repaired/replaced • Baggy styles are not permitted

C. BOYS' UNIFORMS

<p>HAIR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boys' hair must be kept neat. Hair should not touch the top of the shirt collar. Hair must not hang in the face or eyes. Bangs must be above the eyebrows. 	<p>SHIRTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collared white or hunter green knit shirt with school monogram Knit shirts may be short or long-sleeve White Oxford, button-down shirt with monogram is acceptable Solid white turtlenecks under the required uniform are appropriate during cooler weather Undershirts must be white with no prints or logos if you choose to wear one 	<p>SHORTS/PANTS/BELTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plain navy uniform shorts or slacks with belt loops Belts must be solid black, brown, navy, or plaid and must be visible <p>*Shorts and pants should be straight-leg, flat front, and uniform style.</p> <p>*Shorts must be knee-length</p> <p>*Cargo shorts and pants are not permitted.</p> <p>*Shorts and pants must be worn at the natural waist.</p>
<p>SHOES/SOCKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The only permissible socks are CREW socks (not no-show, ankle, athletic, quarter, etc.) Socks should be solid navy, hunter green, black, or white (any type of logo may not be visible) Shoes must be SOLID white, black, brown, tan, navy, or natural leather colors Multi-colored shoes are not permitted Shoes with graphics, stripes, or colored soles are not permitted Boots and high-top shoes are not permitted Sandals, Crocs, light-up, open back, or open-toed shoes are strictly forbidden 	<p>GENERAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holes or faded clothes must be repaired/replaced Baggy styles are not permitted 	

D. MASS DAY UNIFORM

In an effort to come to the Table of the Lord in our “Sunday Best,” we will be implementing a Mass Day uniform this year.

- Girls are asked to wear a plaid skirt or jumper with a hunter green knit shirt and follow all other dress code requirements.
- Boys are asked to wear navy blue slacks with a hunter green knit shirt and follow all other dress code requirements.
- Again, only white or navy sweaters may be worn—absolutely no sweatshirts.

E. DRESS CODE / PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

PE uniforms must be purchased through the school office, directed to the attention of Ms. Fox.

- **Grades K- through 4** may wear their PE shirt to school on their PE day, along with their uniform. Students in these grades are not required to change for PE. Sneakers/tennis shoes (with plain laces or Velcro) must also be worn for PE.
- **Grades 5 through 8** must wear a white, **Summerville Catholic School PE shirt** in place of their uniform shirt or blouse on their assigned PE day. They must also wear navy gym shorts purchased through the school. Sneakers/tennis shoes (with plain laces or Velcro) must also be worn for PE.
- **Tennis shoes that do not follow the uniform guidelines may be worn for PE time ONLY. Students must change into their uniform shoes when PE is over.**
- During cold weather, navy blue sweatpants may be worn during PE time **only**. Fun Run/Field Day shirts from the current year may be worn in the place of the PE uniform shirt. SCS Seahawk sports team shirts are not permitted as PE shirts. **PE shirts are to only be worn on the scheduled PE day.**

F. TAG DAY

On the first Friday of each month, students are allowed to wear non-uniform clothing in place of their uniform for a fee of 50 cents or \$5.00 for the entire year. All monies collected for Tag Day are donated to a charitable organization. As a Catholic community, our attire should reflect modesty.

If students wear clothing deemed inappropriate, they will be told to call home for a change of clothing.

Students having to change will lose their Tag Day privilege for the following month. A second TAG Day infraction will cause students to lose this privilege for the remainder of the year.

Examples of inappropriate clothing are, but are not limited to:

- Tops which are sleeveless, which do not cover the entire shoulder, or which have spaghetti straps
- Backless shirts/dresses that cover less than a uniform shirt
- Pajama tops or bottoms
- Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants
- Pants, shorts, and tops that are too tight; clothing should be loose fitting.
- Skinny jeans
- Baggy styles are not permitted
- Shirts with a low scooped neckline
- Shirts not long enough to cover the waist and hips; when the shirt is tucked in and arms are raised above the head, the shirt should not come untucked
- Shirts with inappropriate logos/pictures

- Skirts or shorts not knee length. ***Knee length is defined by the hem of the skirt touching the CREASE AT THE BACK OF THE KNEE**
- Shoes with high heels, open backs or toes, sandals, Crocs
- Nail polish, makeup, or excessive jewelry

Tag Day clothes may not be worn on Mass or field trip days.

XXXVIII. VISITORS

Visitors must use the front entrance when entering and exiting.

Visitors must sign in AND out with office staff.

Visitors **MUST** obtain a visitor tag that is visible at all times.

Visitors, such as out-of-town grandparents, are welcome to attend special events such as a class celebration, Grandparent's Day, or Mass; however, per Diocesan standard, regular visitors with access to our children must complete the Safe Haven training and Diocesan background screening. This informational packet can be obtained from the front office.

XXXIX. WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS OBJECTS

According to Diocesan policy, there are two specific situations that may call for immediate expulsion:

- a. When the moral or physical well-being of the student body or faculty is endangered (such as by bringing any firearm or other weapon to school)
- b. When there is any positive promotion against religion or faith.

To ensure the physical safety of SCS, faculty, staff, parents, volunteers, and students are not to bring toys, materials, or weapons to school that appear to be or are dangerous to themselves or others. Should an incident occur that involves the above-mentioned items, the following directives will be followed.

1. The principal will be notified.
2. **The principal or teacher will remove the toy, material, or weapon from the child's possession.**
3. The child's parents will be notified.
4. An incident report will be filed in the child's school record.
5. The child will receive an in-school suspension until a conference is held include the child, parent(s), teacher, and principal.
6. If the weapon is a firearm, the police will be called (as firearms must be legally licensed), and the student will be placed in immediate suspension pending expulsion.
7. Administration reserves the right to search lockers or desks at any time without notice.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

My signature verifies that I have received a copy of the Summerville Catholic School Handbook.

I have read the handbook and discussed it with my child(ren).

We agree to be governed by the policies outlined in this handbook.

Family Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student signature 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Date: _____