

MIDDLE YEARS SCHOOL INFORMATION HANDBOOK



SCS

Steinbach
Christian
School

“QUALITY EDUCATION WITH A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE”

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO STEINBACH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

As we begin the school year together, I encourage you to make the best use of the opportunities for learning and friendship that SCS provides. Join us in developing an excellent learning community that is characterized by love and respect for God and for each other, a spirit of caring and selflessness, and a school environment that glorifies God. We want you to experience success in your studies, develop good committed friendships, participate in many school activities and – most importantly – grow as followers of Jesus Christ.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Steinbach Christian School exists to provide a quality education with a Christian perspective that emphasizes the development of the total person.

INTELLECTUAL

- To challenge each student to maximize his/her academic potential.

SPIRITUAL

- To encourage each student to a faith commitment to Christ and a vibrant Christian walk.
- To provide Biblical study courses designed to inspire a love for Scripture, promote Biblical knowledge, develop sound Bible study methods, and accept the teachings of the Bible as authoritative in faith and life.
- To help students develop a well-informed appreciation of their Christian heritage in the Evangelical-Anabaptist tradition.

PHYSICAL

- To provide students with opportunities for physical and skills development through athletic programs.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

- To encourage students to develop a personal worldview that integrates religious convictions, social values, and intellectual experiences.
- To help all students gain self-understanding and self-acceptance and then express their individuality in healthy interactions.
- To prepare young people for a productive, competent, and responsible life in the Christian community and in society.

Steinbach Christian School strives to be a nurturing community in which to achieve these goals. All staff are committed Christians who attempt to reflect this through their teaching and personal lives.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

I

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are wholly inspired by God and are the infallible and final authority in faith and life.

II

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

III

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.

IV

We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned, and thereby incurred that death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are sinful by nature and in need of redemption, which can be accomplished alone by the grace and power of God.

V

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice; and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His sacrificially shed Blood.

VI

We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God with the power to overcome sin and live a life pleasing to God.

VII

We believe that a way of life is taught by Christ and the Scriptures, which is God's plan for the human individual and for the race, and that those who espouse discipleship of Christ are bound to live in this way, thus manifesting in their personal life and social relationships the love and holiness of God. We believe that this way of life also means non-resistance to evil by carnal means, the fullest exercise of love, and the resolute abandonment of the use of violence, including warfare. We believe further that the Christian life will of necessity express itself in non-conformity to the world in life and conduct.

VIII

We believe that the Christian Church consists of believers who have repented from their sins, have accepted Christ by faith, are born again, and sincerely endeavour by the grace of God to live the Christ-life.

IX

We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His ascension into heaven, and in His present life there for us as our High Priest and Advocate. We believe in His personal, visible, bodily coming again according to the Scriptures.

X

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost.

XI

We believe that our generation is responsible for the complete evangelization of this generation and that every believer carries part of this responsibility and should make the reaching of this objective his or her life's work.

ACADEMICS

The Middle Years (5-8) operate on an annual system. A Student will study the same subjects all year.

COURSE FAILURES

The loss of two major courses will lead to a significant conversation between the principal, parents, and teachers regarding student retention or advancement. The conversation will include teacher recommendations, evidence of previous learning supports, and parental concerns and recommendations. Due consideration must be given to learning support options if retained or advanced. Each case will be treated individually.

The loss of one major course may include a review of previous learning supports and a recommendation for some kind of upgrade. Core courses (Math, English, Science, and Social Studies) are considered major courses. Supplementary courses are counted as half major courses.

GRADING AND REPORTING

Grades will be based on tests, assignments, and class participation.

Students who miss tests must make arrangements to write them the following day.

SCS has three student progress reporting periods in the Middle Years (5-8). They will occur in November, April, and June.

Parents are encouraged to track their student's progress and marks in the Student Agendas and on the CONNECT website.

HONOUR ROLL

In order to be placed on the Honour Roll, a student must achieve an overall final mark average of 80% or higher, with all final marks being 65% or higher.

PRINCIPAL'S HONOUR ROLL

In order to be placed on the Principal's Honour Roll, a student must achieve an overall final mark average of 90% or higher, with all final marks being 65% or higher.

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Two parent-teacher interview days are planned each year in the fall and spring. Please see the school calendar for the exact dates. Parents are encouraged to make appointments for interviews. Parents are encouraged to bring the Student Agenda with them to each parent-teacher meeting.

COUNSELLING & GUIDANCE

SCS encourages all students who are struggling with school-related or personal issues to speak with the school counselor. All information is treated sensitively and in confidence.

STUDENT LIFE

SCHOOL HOURS

The first morning bell rings at 8:55 am, and a second bell, indicating the start of classes, rings at 9:00 am.

Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. The office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and some PD or Admin Days.

School Buildings Open:

Sept - April: 8:00 am - 10:00 pm Monday to Friday

May - June: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday to Friday

SCS students are not to arrive on the school property before 8:00 am.

SCS students are encouraged to leave the school grounds by 4:00 pm unless they are involved in a school-sponsored event (music, sports, etc.).

DAILY ROUTINES

Middle Years students have three significant breaks in the day – a morning and afternoon break, and a lunch break. During the morning and afternoon breaks and the latter half of the lunch break, grades 5 - 8 students are required to leave the school building for some fresh air. When the temperature outside reaches 30 degrees Celsius below 0 (with wind chill), recess will be indoors. A judgment call will be made when temperatures approach this threshold. The decision will be based on Steinbachonline.com weather data.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

SCS abides by the same school cancellation policy as Hanover School Division. SCS will be closed on days when the Hanover School Division cancels school.

1. Category 1 Days – school is partially closed.
 - 1.1. Days when it is too cold to ask students to walk to school or wait for a bus (-35 or -45 wind chill).
 - 1.2. School will be closed to students.
 - 1.3. All staff are expected to attend regularly.
2. Category 2 Days - schools closed to all
 - 2.1. Days when weather and road conditions make driving too hazardous to operate vehicles.
 - 2.2. School will be closed to students and staff.

FLAMES ATHLETICS

INTRAMURALS

The Middle Years Physical Education Department organizes the intramural program for the Middle Years (5-8). All students and staff are invited to take part in the intramural program. This takes place during lunch. Some examples of activities that may be organized are volleyball, dodgeball, basketball, badminton, indoor soccer, pig treasure, kickball, and floor hockey.

MIDDLE YEARS ATHLETICS

Grades 5 and 6 are given opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities such as Cross Country Running and Track and Field. Participation will take place within Hanover or other Christian schools' competition events. Grades 7 and 8 compete in the Hanover School Division Athletics Association. They generally field teams in cross-country running, volleyball, basketball, badminton, and track and field.

GYM DRESS

Acceptable gym wear is to be worn to all Physical Education classes. Change rooms are available for changing into and out of gym wear. Shorts should be mid-thigh length (no spunks), and t-shirts should cover the shoulder. Only clean, non-marking gym shoes are allowed in the gym for any sports activity.

GYM EQUIPMENT AND USAGE

Most gym equipment is stored in the equipment room. Breakages do occur, and students will not be charged for such if they had permission to use the equipment, if it was broken within the range of normal use, and if the breakage was promptly reported to the Physical Education instructor. Students may supply their own equipment for some activities as outlined by your PE teacher. Students may use the gymnasium before the start of the school day when available.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

There are two athletic awards for Middle Years students. The Academic Athlete Award is for students who have participated in at least two different sports during the school year and are on the Honour Roll. The second award is the Endurance Athlete Award, which is given to students who have participated in at least four sports during the school year.

MUSIC

MUSIC PROGRAMS

SCS offers the opportunity for all Middle Years students to experience music education. Choir is mandatory for all Middle Years students, and the Band program is available to all Grade 7 and 8 students. Music ensembles perform

numerous times throughout the year, including Choralfest, the Southeastern Manitoba Festival, as well as school Christmas and Spring Concerts.

THE LIBRARY

CIRCULATION PROCEDURES

All materials borrowed from the library must be signed out at the circulation desk. The library reserves the right to recall any borrowed item before it is due if a special request is made by a teacher.

If you wish to keep your library materials longer than their due date, you may renew them at the circulation desk if no one else has requested them. You don't need to have the items with you to renew them. Items may be renewed once only.

If you have any overdue materials, you will not be able to sign out anything else until the item is returned. Any items lost, damaged, or unreturned will be charged to you. Fines for late materials are \$0.25 per day for Senior Year students.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Books may be borrowed for 3 weeks, and back issues of magazines for one week. Borrowed items should be returned to the "book return" at the circulation desk (near the library entrance). You are responsible for the items you sign out. The basic rules of conduct in the library are:

- Keep Quiet and considerate of others.
- Respect library property.
- Maintain an atmosphere conducive to study.
- Check out all materials taken from the library.
- When materials are used in the library only, please do not re-shelve or re-file them yourself. Please place these items on empty shelves with red tape or return them to the circulation desk.
- Return all materials on or before their due date.
- Refrain from eating in the library.
- Students must stay out of the SBC Café and Meeting Room, as well as the K-6 Room, unless permission is given by library staff.
- All books on display are available for signing out.
- Remember that all school rules apply in the library.

Library privileges may be revoked by library staff for:

- Repeated failure to return items or to respond to overdue notices
- Failure to comply with the basic rules of conduct

LIBRARY HOURS

September - June

Monday – Friday

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

July – August

CLOSED

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

MIDDLE YEARS

Grades 5-8 will study the Provincial Curriculum that is taught with a Christian perspective. Subjects will include English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health, and Bible. Grade 7,8's will have the choice of Band or Art. Chapel and Music are also an important part of their schedule

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MANITOBA STUDENTS

Tuition rates are available online at SteinbachChristian.ca

PAYMENT OF TUITION FEES

New applications must be accompanied by the non-refundable application fee as well as a 10% tuition deposit. The Tuition Deposit will be refunded *ONLY* if an application is rejected by SCS or space is not available in the appropriate grade.

Tuition payment or arrangements for tuition payment must be submitted to SCS on or before the first day of classes to fully complete the enrolment process.

We have 3 tuition payment installment options:

- **Full tuition payment** – due September 1st
- **Semester payments** – due September 1st and February 1st
- **Monthly pre-authorized bank withdrawals** September – June
 - Must enroll in the Rotessa Payment Plan
 - Forms available at the SCS office or from our website, SteinbachChristian.ca

Payment Options:

- Cheque (*Returned cheques will be subject to a \$35.00 charge*)
- Debit
- e-transfer
- Cash
- Pre-authorized bank withdrawal by enrolling in the Rotessa Payment Plan.

DISCOUNTS

Family Rate Subsidy: Steinbach Christian School has a tuition subsidy program. The Family Rate Subsidy will apply automatically to tuition amounts over the stated family rate for any particular year. The Family Rate Subsidy is limited to a specified amount per year per family. This amount will be reviewed by the Board each year along with annual tuition rates. Please refer to the SCS website, SteinbachChristian.ca, for current amounts. Families requiring additional assistance are encouraged to apply for Financial Assistance.

Early Application Discount: A \$150 Early Application Credit is granted to first-time Manitoba applicants if the application form, application fee, and tuition deposit reach SCS on or before March 31st - the discount will be applied at the beginning of the school term

Early Payment Incentive: Tuition payments received by the office on or before July 31st qualify for an early payment incentive of 2%. For example, \$1,000.00 received by the deadline qualifies for a \$20.00 early payment incentive, which will be applied to the student's account. ($\$1,000.00 \times 2\% = \20.00)

Financial Assistance: SCS offers Tuition Assistance on a needs basis to all eligible students. Awards depend on demonstrated financial need and may be up to a maximum of 50% of tuition. Assistance is applied on credit to the student's account balance. A copy of both parents' previous year's Notice of Assessment from CRA is required with the Financial Assistance application form. Application forms are available at SteinbachChristian.ca or from the SCS office.

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPTS:

Donation receipts are issued for a percentage of tuition paid during the calendar year. The percentage varies year to year and is calculated according to Canada Revenue Agency guidelines. Receipts are issued to the individual/s paying the tuition, not necessarily to the family whose student is enrolled.

ACCOUNT BALANCES OR CREDITS

All accounts with a credit balance at the end of May will either have the balance refunded or applied toward the next year's tuition/school costs.

REFUND POLICY

In the case of early withdrawal, tuition fees will be refunded equal to every full month remaining in the school year. Special fees or charges are not refundable.

PRIVACY:

All information collected in the application process or through the agreement entered into with SCS for the payment of all charges is held in the strictest confidence and will only be used for the purpose of providing a quality education for the student. No information will be distributed to any other parties. All personal information is held on file until SCS receives a written request to destroy the files, no earlier than two years after the student graduates or departs from SCS.

STUDENT REGULATIONS

A hallmark of Steinbach Christian School is our commitment to a safe and healthy school environment that encourages students to develop to their full potential. With this in mind, we focus our student behaviour policies on three areas: Respect the School, Respect Others, and Respect Yourself.

RESPECT YOURSELF

AGENDAS

The Student Agenda is designed especially for the student. It contains school guidelines, dates of school activities, helpful study hints, daily planning pages, and much more.

We provide Student Agendas for four reasons:

- to help students become better organized
- to improve home and school communication
- to help students become more accountable for their homework and marks
- to provide students and parents with regular access to our Student Handbook (located at the front of this agenda)

Our expectations of students are:

- Each Middle Years student in Grades 5-8 is required to carry the agenda to each class. Students who do not have the agenda with them at the start of class will be expected to obtain a photocopied page from the secretary. If this makes them late, they will be marked late for class. Students are expected to replace lost agendas at their own expense.
- Each student is to record all homework in their agendas
- Each student is to record all marks in their agendas (note the goal-setting pages)

We invite parents and guardians:

- To familiarize themselves with the Student Agenda
- To examine it regularly throughout the school year (the agenda is not intended as a student's private diary)
- To bring it to all parent/teacher meetings

The main purpose of the agenda is to improve student achievement.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is compulsory in all classes. To encourage this, the following policy will be applied.

- If a student is absent and the school has not been contacted, a phone call home will be made to verify the location of the student.

- If a student is absent, an email, note, or phone call must be received by the office within three (3) school days for the absence to be excused. After this time, the absence cannot be excused.
- Students caught skipping or having an unexcused absence will serve a noon-hour detention working on the material that was missed.
- This detention will fall under the Discipline Policy.
- In the event of serious illness, family vacation, or a mission assignment, please make arrangements with the Vice Principal in advance.
- The Vice Principal will deal with unexcused Chapel absences.

Lates

- Students are expected to arrive in class on time and prepared. A student is considered late if he/she arrives after the bell for that class has rung. Homeroom teachers will deal with students who are habitually late.
- Students will be considered absent if they arrive after the first half of class.

CHAPEL & SMALL GROUPS

CHAPELS

The chapel experience is an important aspect of the school's spiritual life shared by students and staff. Typically, chapels feature faculty members, guest speakers, students, and praise and worship. Middle Years Chapel is held for Grades 5-8 once a week. An All-School Chapel is held once a month for Grades 5-12. Chapel services are part of the school day, and therefore, students are expected to attend all chapel services.

SMALL GROUPS

At the beginning of the year, Middle Years (5-8) students are divided into small groups of approximately ten students and one staff or youth pastor leader. These groups meet once a week for sharing, prayer, and often snacks. Small groups are part of the school day, and therefore, students are expected to attend all small group meetings.

HOMEWORK

Completing and handing in the assigned homework is vital to achieving a good academic standing. Students who persistently fail to do assigned homework will be dealt with according to our discipline policy. As a general rule, a student can expect to have five to ten minutes of homework multiplied by the grade they are in, per day. (*ie. A grade 7 student can expect 35 – 70 minutes of homework*). The student's agenda contains a calendar on which homework assignments should be recorded.

INTERNET USE

The Internet is intended to provide students with access to technology and research tools that enhance the learning environment. With this goal in mind, Internet access is being made available. The Internet should be seen as an educational tool, not a recreational tool. Internet access is a privilege, and as such requires responsible use. Before a student may use the Internet, the student and parent(s) must sign the Student Acceptable Internet Use Agreement & Parent Permission Form. See the policy in Appendix 1.

LOCKERS, LOCKS, AND BICYCLES

All students will be provided with a locker and are to keep their lockers locked at all times. Teachers or administration will lock unlocked lockers with a padlock. A small fee will be charged to have these lockers unlocked. The school will provide each student with a combination lock for the school year. Locks that are not returned at the end of the school year will be charged to the student's account. The school is not responsible for any articles lost from lockers. Students are cautioned not to leave wallets, money, or any other valuables in lockers.

Bicycle stands are provided outside both school entrances. For safety and security, all students are encouraged to lock their bicycles to a bicycle stand.

OFF-CAMPUS PRIVILEGES

Middle Years (Grades 5-8) students do not have off-campus privileges unless a phone call or email from parent/s **is received by the office in advance.**

PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Students are encouraged to attend church on Sunday and set aside regular time each day for Bible reading and prayer in order to grow spiritually.

RELATIONSHIPS

The cultivation of positive social relationships is important, and we encourage the development of healthy friendships. Although mixed group activities are part of our social life program, all students are to use mature discretion as to when, where, and how much time is spent with an exclusive "clique" or single person. Normal and natural relationships are encouraged, which manifest a lifestyle pure and above reproach, and in which students are comfortable in the presence of others. Public displays of romantic affection are not appropriate on campus.

STUDENT SUPPLIES

Students are expected to provide their own school supplies. Teachers may provide a list of required supplies.

TELEPHONES

We want to encourage students to limit their phone use to outside of class time (before 9:00 am, during lunch break, and after 4:00 pm). During non-class time, students may use the student phone at the office. Only those students with permission from their teacher will be allowed to use the phone during class time.

RESPECT OTHERS

CONSIDERATION

Students are expected to show respect and consideration to one another. Students should refrain from causing disturbances in the hallways, blocking stairways, or disturbing others who wish to study. Unreasonable discrimination based on any characteristics as set out in The Human Rights Code is unacceptable.

Any bullying or physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, either verbal or written, of any person (students, staff, or visitors) is unacceptable.

DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES

Gang involvement or the possession of weapons will not be tolerated.

DRESS CODE

The SCS dress code is intended to promote a positive, respectful learning environment and to reflect the school's Christian character.

Students are expected to dress appropriately at ALL SCHOOL FUNCTIONS. Their appearance should reflect modesty, neatness, and cleanliness. The following guidelines apply:

- Attire that is modest, not revealing, and appropriate is the rule at school:
 - Shirts with no cleavage or midriff shown. Tank tops must have three finger-width straps. Racer-back tanks, transparent shirts, muscle shirts, and spaghetti straps do not follow our dress code.
 - All undergarments must be covered at all times
 - Shorts (both for males and females) and skirts should be mid-thigh length.
 - Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, or fitted sweats must be worn with a t-shirt or shirt that covers the buttocks at all times.
 - Clothing – t-shirts, hoodies, hats, & jackets must have school school-appropriate logos, messages, and pictures
 - Jeans that were purchased with style-related holes must have leggings underneath. No skin should be showing.
 - Head coverings are not to be worn in the classrooms, cafeteria, or Chapel.

- Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times. This is for safety and health purposes.

Inappropriate dress:

- A staff member may use their discretion at any time to either warn a student that they are out of the dress code or ask them to change before coming back to class.
- If they do not have appropriate clothing at school, they will be asked to call home.
- Parents will be notified when a student has been spoken to about a dress code infraction.
- Students who display a pattern of violation of the school standard will be required to have a formal meeting with the principal or vice principal, and at that time, it will no longer be addressed as a dress code issue but rather a respect issue, which may include further disciplinary action.

LOST AND FOUND

Students are expected to keep track of their belongings. Each classroom has a lost and found bin. These bins will be brought to the office once a month. Students who find articles that do not belong to them should place them in a classroom bin. Students who have lost items should check the lost and found area or the School Office. Unclaimed items will be taken to the MCC Thrift Store.

MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Mobile Communication Devices

The following are the expectations for mobile communication devices:

- All devices must be turned off and stored either in gym bags, backpacks, or lockers during the school day.
- Devices may be confiscated if a student is found using them during the day.
- If students need to be contacted during the school day, the school secretary should be contacted, and a message can be left for the student.
- School staff do not use or permit the use of cell phones in the classroom.
- Laptops/iPads/computer labs are used to teach specific digital literacy skills.
- Exceptions to the policy may be made to support medical and diverse learning needs under the direction of the principal.

VISITORS

Visitors must check in at the office when they arrive and obtain a visitor's pass. Students are expected to treat all visitors with consideration and respect. If a student would like to have a friend experience life at SCS, advanced permission must be received from the principal. Unless previously arranged, it is not appropriate for students to invite visitors during the school day.

RESPECT YOUR SCHOOL

LUNCHES

Middle Years (Grades 5 – 8) students are expected to eat their lunches in the assigned space (either classroom or cafeteria). No food or drink is to be taken into the College building, the gym, the chapel, or the computer labs. Please make every effort to deposit garbage into the garbage containers provided, and please recycle.

POSTERS AND NOTICES

A teacher must initial any posters or notices posted in the school. Any material not approved by a teacher will be removed.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Students are expected to treat school property with respect and consideration for the continued enjoyment of the facilities by both students and the general public. In the event of damage to school property, the person responsible will be expected to make restitution. In the event of deliberate damage, further disciplinary action will be taken.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

DETAINMENT

Any teacher may require a student to complete unfinished homework or assignments during lunch, a spare, or after school.

Students skipping a detainment will receive a detention.

Once a student has completed the unfinished work, they are free to leave.

DETENTION

Any teacher may issue a detention to a student at lunch, during spare, or after school for corrective enforcement.

- Students must clearly understand the reason for the detention.
- Parents should be notified a day in advance if a student is to sit after school hours.
- All detainees must be appropriately supervised for the duration of the detention.

Students skipping a noon-hour detention will receive an after-school detention.

Upon receiving three noon-hour detentions, a student will automatically earn an after-school detention of one hour.

Upon receiving three after-school detentions, a student will serve a one-day in-school suspension. The student is also placed on probation, subject to faculty review.

Students refusing to comply with probationary terms may be asked to leave the school.

PROBATION

A student with chronic behaviour problems or repeated detentions may be subject to a probationary contract.

- Probationary guidelines will be established by the Principal in consultation with the Administrative team.
- Violation of the guidelines will be punishable by suspension or expulsion.

SUSPENSION

In the case of probationary violation or severe misbehaviour, a student may be suspended by the school.

There are two classifications of suspension:

- In-School Suspension
 - After three detentions, the student will serve an in-school suspension.
 - The student will be detained in the office area for the duration of the suspension.
 - After three in-school suspensions, the student and parent must attend an intake meeting with the Vice Principal and sign a probationary contract to clarify what behaviors are expected.
- Out-of-School Suspension
 - The student will remain at home, unable to attend any school functions during the duration of the suspension
 - The Principal will present the student to the Administration Team with a recommendation.
 - The Principal will inform the SCS Cabinet of the suspension.

EXPULSION

In the case of severe misbehaviour or probationary violation, a student may be asked to leave the school.

- The Principal will present the student to the Administration Team for review.
- The Board will be informed of the situation.
- Parents may make a request to the Board for a review of an expulsion.

SMOKING

When a student is caught smoking during school hours or on school property, they will be given a three-day suspension.

The second time a student is caught smoking, they will be given a five-day suspension, placed on probationary contract, and expected to discuss stop-smoking strategies with a doctor. (A doctor's note will be expected to return to school following the suspension.)

The third time a student is caught smoking, they will be expelled from Steinbach Christian School.

DRINKING AND DRUGS

For all SCS students (including students age 18 or older), the following are unacceptable:

- Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis (marijuana), or illicit drugs at school
- Cannabis consumption, possession, or sale on school property **is illegal, regardless of age.**

The first time a student is caught in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or drugs during school hours or on school property, they will be given a five-day suspension, placed on probationary contract, and expected to discuss the dangers of alcohol and drugs with a doctor. (A doctor's note will be expected to return to school following the suspension.)

The second time a student is caught in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they will be expelled from Steinbach Christian School.

APPENDIX 1 INTERNET USAGE POLICY

GENERAL USE

The Internet is to be used for educational purposes only. Inappropriate use or misuse will result in suspension as outlined below. SCS Internet usage will take place in a teacher-supervised setting.

PERSONAL SAFETY

The Internet can provide access to many groups and people. Most of these are well-meaning and positive, but some are dangerous. It is sometimes difficult to tell one from the other. Students should:

- Not post personal contact information about themselves or other people anywhere on the Internet. Personal contact information includes your address, telephone, school address, work address, etc.
- Not agree to meet with someone met online.
- Disclose to a teacher or other school employee any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

- SCS will not provide individual e-mail accounts for students.
- Students accessing web-based email accounts should do so responsibly, following the guidelines contained in this document.
- Internet "chat" has been disabled.

NETWORK SECURITY

- No student should use the SCS Internet access to attempt to disrupt or gain unauthorized access to another computer system or network.
- No student may attempt to illegally download or upload any copyrighted material (i.e., games, music, etc.)

PLAGIARISM

- No one may take information from the Internet and attempt to present it as their own. Proper citations of information found on the Internet must be done in research papers.

INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL

With the large amount of inappropriate and offensive content on the Internet, SCS has installed a content filter. Requests can be made to have particular websites allowed. Recreational websites will not be considered.

- No student will attempt to access material that is profane or obscene, that advocates illegal acts, or that advocates violence or discrimination towards other people.
- If you mistakenly access inappropriate information:
 - Back out using your browser's back button

- Notify your teacher or system administrator so that steps can be taken to prevent others from stumbling onto this page.

SUSPENSION

- Students found in violation of this usage policy will be suspended from Internet usage.
 - First Offence: 10 days.
 - Second Offence: Remainder of the school year.

APPENDIX 2 SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

1. PURPOSE

Our school is committed to providing a caring, respectful environment for students, staff, families, and community members. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for behaviour, and the processes for intervention and response.

2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our approach is grounded in the following principles:

- **Safety:** Every member of the school community has the right to be physically and emotionally safe.
- **Respect & Responsibility:** All individuals are expected to treat others with dignity and demonstrate responsible citizenship.
- **Student-Centred & Strengths-Based:** Behaviour interventions focus on understanding student needs, building skills, and supporting positive growth.
- **Collaboration:** Students, staff, families, and community partners share responsibility for maintaining a positive school climate.

3. EXPECTED BEHAVIOUR

All members of the school community are expected to:

3.1 Respect Self and Others

- Demonstrate courtesy, kindness, and empathy.
- Use language and actions that contribute to a healthy school environment.
- Respect boundaries set by the school.

3.2 Contribute to a Safe Environment

- Follow school and classroom rules.
- Act in ways that promote physical and emotional safety.
- Report unsafe behaviours or situations to a trusted adult.

3.3 Demonstrate Responsibility

- Attend school regularly and arrive prepared to learn.
- Engage in learning activities and complete assignments to the best of one's ability.
- Use technology, equipment, and school property appropriately.

3.4 Respect Property

- Care for school facilities, materials, and the belongings of others.

- Use digital tools responsibly.

4. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

The following behaviours are unacceptable and will result in intervention:

- Any behaviour that disrupts learning or compromises safety.
- Bullying, cyberbullying, harassment.
- Threats, intimidation, or acts of violence.
- Possession or use of weapons.
- Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, cannabis, or illegal substances.
- Vandalism or theft.
- Abusing another person

5. INTERVENTION AND RESPONSE

Our school uses a student-centred, strengths-based, and restorative approach to behaviour intervention.

5.1 Principles of Response

- Responses are fair, consistent, and developmentally appropriate.
- Students are supported to understand the impact of their actions and make positive changes.

5.2 Possible Interventions

Interventions may include, but are not limited to:

- Problem-solving conversations
- Restorative practices like apologizing
- Behaviour support plans
- Parent/guardian meetings
- Increased supervision or support
- Loss of privileges
- Detentions or in-school consequences
- Suspension or expulsion

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 Students

- Follow the Code of Conduct.
- Treat others with respect and contribute to a safe school environment.
- Seek help when needed and report unsafe behaviour.

6.2 Staff

- Model respectful and responsible behaviour.
- Teach, reinforce, and consistently apply behavioural expectations.
- Use student-centred and strengths-based approaches to intervention.

6.3 Parents/Guardians

- Support their child's learning and behaviour expectations.
- Communicate with the school regarding concerns or needs.
- Work collaboratively with staff to support positive behaviour.

6.4 School Administration

- Ensure the Code of Conduct is implemented consistently.
- Provide leadership in creating a positive school environment.
- Communicate expectations and procedures to students, staff, and families.

7. COMMUNICATION

This Code of Conduct will be:

- Shared annually with students, staff, and families.
- Reviewed regularly to ensure alignment with provincial requirements and school needs.

8. REVIEW AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The school will review this policy annually, incorporating changes to improve our ability to fulfill the purposes of the school.

NOTES

