



PROLEGOMENA *(First Things)*

Welcome to Saint Paul's Classical School! We are a classical parochial school devoted to cultivating piety, wisdom, and virtue within the souls of our students by the grace of the Triune God. Our singular mission is that our students would depart from SPCS able to know and love what matters.

All schools and educational philosophies begin by explicitly or implicitly answering two very important questions: “what is a human being?” and “what is a human being *for*?”

Modern education that has characterized the 20th and 21st century sees man as primarily material. He is, first and foremost, a body that needs sustenance, therefore education exists to prepare him to work in order to sustain the body. While it is true that man does consist of a body and it is good for him to work to sustain his own life, when one only understands man as a material being, he becomes merely a *consumer*. He will only produce in order to consume and live a fragmented life knowing that there is more to human existence, but not how to seek or find it. The purpose of education in the modern scheme prepares students to know how to be productive but not good.

In answering these two questions differently, SPCS diverges from the modern pedagogy and returns to ancient wisdom. We understand a human being to be both body *and* soul. The soul makes all the difference because with it comes the implication that we were created in the likeness of a higher Being, and if we were created by a higher Being, then we were created *for Him*. This understanding of human being undergirds the classical model of education that seeks to *know* rather than consume. Classical education excites Reason within our students to explore God's creation with wonder and joy. Yet, the classical aspect is not enough. Our Creator has revealed Himself in history culminating in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ the perfect image of the invisible God. Knowing Christ and seeking to conform ourselves to His image adds the necessary element of Faith. Students will learn to exercise Faith and Reason for the sake of virtue and living well-ordered lives for the common good.

RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS

Saint Paul’s Classical School is a ministry of Saint Paul’s Anglican Church. We recognize the truth that God has revealed Himself to the world finally and completely in His Son Jesus Christ. At Saint Paul’s Classical School, we see the Christian faith fully integrated into every aspect of our common life at school. A full and complete education necessitates cultivating love for one’s Creator and Redeemer. Christ’s story informs and directs our own stories, thereby creating “culture”. Culture binds people together by giving us a shared vision for the future. We pass on culture by telling and retelling our common stories and singing our common songs. Christian Culture is founded on Christ. His Birth, Death, and Resurrection have restored Creation and freed us to love and serve Him here until He returns. We serve Him by cultivating virtue in our own lives and the life of our families, as well as working for the common good of where we live.

All of our school days begin and end in the chapel with the ancient services of Mattins and Evensong. Here we read Holy Scripture, recite Psalms, sing hymns, and pray prayers that the Church has prayed for millennia. Our common worship and common prayer is central to our education here at Saint Paul’s Classical School.

We also focus on cultivating moral character in all of our students. As this moral character grows and matures, our students learn how to recognize and discern what is good and right. Developing virtue in our students is the bedrock of our program and arises out of an acknowledgment that Christ is the Truth.

Saint Paul’s Church beliefs can be summed in the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds found in the Book of Common Prayer (pg. 15), and we teach our students solely from this worldview.

GENERAL POLICIES

1. *Non-Discrimination Policy* - All SPCS faculty, staff, administration, and agents shall not harass or discriminate against any student and shall make reasonable effort to assure that each student is protected from harassment or discrimination in accordance with SPCS’s *Standards of Ethical Conduct*.¹

¹ Available upon request to parents.

2. *Suspected Abuse Policy* - All employees and agents of SPCS have an affirmative duty to report all actual or suspected cases of child abuse, abandonment, or neglect. Call 1-800-96-ABUSE or report online at: <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/abuse/report/>

2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

1. *Academic Calendar* - The 2022-2023 Academic Year will commence on Monday, August 22, 2022 and finish Friday, May 26, 2023. School will meet 5 days per week (Monday through Friday) for a total of 172 school days.
 - i. **Days off** - Labor Day (9/6), Parent-Teacher Conference Day - 1st Qtr. (10/28), Fall Break (10/31), Thanksgiving Break (11/21-11/25), Christmas Break (12/19-12/30), New Year's Day (obs.) - (1/2), Parent-Teacher Conference Day - 3rd Qtr. (3/10), Spring Break (3/13-3/20), Good Friday (4/7), Easter Monday (4/10)
 - ii. **Weather days** - Two days out of the 172 academic days are reserved as weather days for hurricane season.
2. *Weekly Schedule* - School will meet Mon. - Fri. from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Attendance is taken at 7:50 AM.

SCHOOL RULES

Rector's Discretion Notice - All of SPCS's rules and policies have been generated from experience; however, the Rector reserves the right to amend or add any rule or policy.

1. *Reverence* - The most important rule; Students are expected to treat all church and school property with dignity, reverence, and care. Even more, they are expected to cheerfully obey all those in authority over them and treat other students according to the "golden rule."
2. *Gum* - Gum is never allowed on campus for any reason.

3. *Electronics* - Students are not allowed personal electronic devices. Phones, tablets, etc. distract from the classroom environment. Parents who need to contact their student should call the school office or communicate directly with their teachers via phone call or text message.
4. *Water* - Water is the only allowed drink on campus for students. Juices, sodas, and other sugary drinks hinder a student's ability to focus in class. The school has a water bottle filling station available. Students need bring their own reusable water bottle.
5. *Lunch* - All lunches should be packed and sent from home. The school will provide a refrigerator and microwave for any quick heating. We ask that parents do not send snacks with high sugar or carbohydrate content with their students.
6. *Dress & Hygiene* - Students must maintain their uniforms carefully and come to school looking sharp and ready for the day (e.g., no wrinkled shirts, no sloppiness). All students must keep proper hygiene and cleanliness.
7. *Haircuts* - All hair must be styled neatly and not distract from the classroom environment (e.g., no mohawks).

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Rector's Discretion Notice - All of SPCS's policies and procedures have been generated from experience; however, the Rector reserves the right to amend or add any policy or procedure at any time.

1. *Documentation* - SPCS only keeps the documentation required by the state of Florida for every student. Any other information needed by SPCS ensures the smooth operation of the school day.
 - i. **Student Records** - Per the State of Florida, all private schools must maintain certain pieces of personal information for every student. All information we request will be in exact accordance with this state regulation. We only share individual student records with the student's parents or legal guardian.

ii. **Student Pickup** - SPCS requires a list of authorized persons from the student's parent or legal guardian in writing in order for anyone else other than the parent or legal guardian to pick up students from school.

iii. **Student Documents** - All students must have a birth certificate, Immunization records (or legal exemptions), health examination records, health insurance information, emergency contacts, and any previous test scores from other institutions for Grades 1-8 on file with the school.

2. *Communications* - Communications from the school will come primarily through email from school@SaintPaulsMelbourne.org.

3. *Parent-School Relations* - Parents are a vital and necessary part of making SPCS a successful school, and they can help by first and foremost praying for the students, faculty, and mission of SPCS. Secondly, they can assist our mission by ensuring that their students study, eat well, go to bed on time, and are ready each day to cheerfully perform their duty to learn and mature. We also welcome parent involvement through volunteering. Please see Fr. Oldfield if you are interested!

4. *Attendance* - Attendance is mandatory for all students at SPCS. Students are considered tardy if they arrive later than 7:50 AM. Drop-off begins at 7:40 AM.

i. **Tardies** - If a student is more than 15 minutes late to class, then he is counted absent.

ii. **Check In/Check Out** - Students must check in at the school office before going to class if they are any later than 8:00 AM. A parent or guardian may check a student out of class, but all classes missed after check out time will be counted as absences.

iii. **Absences** - SPCS allows 16 absences per class per school year and no more than 8 absences per semester without administrative action. Excused absences are only granted for sickness (with a doctor's note) or for a family emergency. Parents should notify the school when they know a student will be absent and coordinate with teachers for make-up work.

iv. **Make-Up Work** - It is the responsibility of the student and parent to find out what work was missed during an absence and to arrange for make-up work with the teacher. There is no expectation for teachers to move assessments based on a student's absence. All make-up work (including assessments) are fully at the discretion of the teacher.

5. *Grades & Progress Reporting*

i. Grading Scale

- a. 1st - 8th Grade - A (90-100; Excellent), B (80-89.99; Good), C (70-79.99; Average), D (60-69.99; Poor), F (<60; Failing)
- b. Kindergarten - E (Excellent), S (Satisfactory), N (Needs Improvement)

ii. **Academic Terms** - There are four academic terms at the end of which report cards will be issued: Michaelmas (ends Oct. 21), Christmas (ends Dec. 16), Lent (ends Mar. 10), and Easter (ends May 26).

iii. **Standardized Testing** - Will be offered at the end of the school year in accordance with the statutes of the State of Florida.

iv. **Homework** - We do not plan to give daily homework for younger elementary students, but all homework will be given at the teacher's discretion, and expected to be completed with effort.

v. **Academic Probation** - Academic probation is defined as any student who, in any academic term, receives a D or below in any class. If a student is placed on academic probation, Administration will call a meeting with parents and teacher(s) to discuss an academic plan for the student to get back on track. If the grade is not pulled up by the end of the probationary period, this may be used as grounds for dismissal from SPCS.

6. *Financials* - Tuition, books, and fees are set at \$7,500 for the 2022-2023 school year payable monthly between August 2022 to May 2023. SPCS will never let cost and significant financial pressure prevent a student from attending school. A 5% discount is available to those who pay tuition in full by the first day of school. A 3% discount is available for all those who pay their balance by December 31, 2021.

If you think that you qualify, please apply for the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship or the Family Empowerment Scholarship at www.stepupforstudents.org.

- *Application* - \$50 (*Maximum of \$75 per family*)
- *Enrollment* - \$100
- *Tuition* - \$6,875 (*After Enrollment is paid*)
- *Materials* - \$475
- Total:** \$7,500

7. *Discipline* - SPCS takes behavior and discipline seriously as our school strives to cultivate virtue within all students. **SPCS does not spank.** If a student continually demonstrates that he does not want to be at school through poor behavior, then he will be sent home.

i. **Definitions:**

a. Rector's Discretion - All discipline and school policy falls under the Rector's discretion and authority.

b. Expulsion - An expelled student will not be allowed to attend classes at SPCS.

c. Suspension - Suspension results from conduct warranting the student being sent home for a period of time determined by the administration for SPCS.

d. Withdrawal - Withdrawal occurs when a parent voluntarily withdraws their student out of SPCS.

ii. **Bullying** - Maliciousness or cruelty from students in any form will not be tolerated. Students who engage in bullying in any form will be expelled.

8. *Medical* - Parents should notify the school about any allergies or medications a student takes. **SPCS will not distribute medication to students.** Any student who becomes sick at school will need to be picked up by a parent. All students are required to have immunization documentation or exemptions on file with the school. The school will also need to have a copy of the student's health insurance on file to bring on things like field trips. **Please do not come to school with fever or other signs of sickness (e.g., runny nose, congestion, cough, etc.) If your student become sick, your student may return to school only when he or she has been fever free for 24 hours without medication.**

9. *School Visitations* - Parents may visit the school, but we ask that appointments be made rather than drop in visits as to not disrupt class time. Appointments must be made with the school office. All visitors must check in at the office and wait to be received.

10. *Uniforms* - In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, SPCS will have uniforms. **These uniforms are required to attend the school.** SPCS reserves the right to adjust the uniform requirements. Please see our Land's End store here: <https://www.landsend.com/>. Our school number is 900195389.
11. *Emergency Procedures* - In the case of a weather emergency, SPCS will follow public school closures. We will communicate these closures by email. In case of fire students will be guided by teachers to pre-approved fire zones.
12. *Drop Off / Pick Up* - Drop Off begins at 7:40 AM and attendance will taken at 7:50 AM by teachers. Pick Up will be from 3:00 PM to 3:20 PM. Students may only be picked up by someone other than a parent or legal guardian with written communication to the school.
13. *Field-Trip Guidelines* - For field trips involving a small number of students or for local events, parent drivers will be sufficient. Students leaving campus for a school function must have a note from their parent giving permission for their child to ride in another parent vehicle. SPCS behavioral standards apply to field-trips. All field trip drivers and chaperones must have on file with the teacher an updated copy of their automobile liability insurance and a background check two days prior to the trip. **All adults serving as chaperones must have a background check on file in the school office.** Parents/Chaperones may not dispense medication to any child other than their own. An absence from a field trip will be counted as an absence from school.