



Seacoast Christian School

Student Handbook 2022-2023

"That in all things Christ might have the
preeminence." Colossians I: 18

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INTRODUCTION

School Mission

Seacoast Christian School exists to equip students to become lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ in all areas of life.

The Two Greatest Commandments

Several times throughout the Gospels, Jesus teaches the greatest of all God's commandments. In Mark 12:31-23, Jesus recites part of Deuteronomy 6, explaining that the greatest commandment is to **love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength**. And next to this, the most important thing is to **love our neighbors as ourselves**. This handbook is presented to honor God's most important commandments, as we learn to love God and live in Christian care for each other daily.

Christ's Preeminence

Our school motto, "That in all things, Christ may have the preeminence" is taken from Colossians 1:18. This verse follows a very clear line of thought that we may have grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and that we may prayerfully seek to be filled with knowledge, wisdom, and spiritual understanding. We are also reminded to walk worthy of God and in a manner pleasing to Him, as the precious sacrifice of Christ on the cross has provided full redemption for our sins. We seek to live out this passage fully each day.

Private School Recognition

Seacoast Christian School is recognized by the State of Maine as a non-approved private school meeting the Guidelines for Equivalent Instruction. As such, we are free to teach a distinctly Christian worldview, unhindered by secular curriculum requirements. Our staff and students represent many different churches in the Seacoast area. All students are encouraged to develop the mind, body, and soul given to them by God, growing in strength as followers of Jesus Christ.

Statement of Faith

The doctrinal basis of SCS shall be the Word of God. It will structure itself on the teachings of the Holy Bible and not on the doctrines of any particular denomination. Each member of the Board of Directors of SCS (hereafter referred to as the Board) and each member of the staff of SCS must have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior, and shall agree in writing with the following statement of Faith. We believe the following statements are essential doctrines of the faith "once delivered unto the saints" for which we must earnestly contend as sound doctrine (Jude 3).

- 1.) We believe in the verbal, plenary, infallible inspiration of both Old and New Testaments in their original texts as the final authority for the church in matters of faith and conduct. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:21)
- 2.) We believe that there is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who created all things and is infinitely perfect in all His attributes. (Gen. 1:1; Mat. 28:19)
- 3.) We believe in the full deity and full humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to Heaven, His present mediatorial work, and His future personal coming again. (John 1:1; Phil. 2:5-11; 1 Pet. 2:22; 1 Cor. 15:3,4; Heb. 4:14-16; John 14:3; Acts 1:11)
- 4.) We believe in the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit and in His regenerating, sanctifying, empowering, and comforting work in all believers. (Acts 5:3,4; John 3:5-8; John 16:7-14)
- 5.) We believe that God created the heavens and the earth, light and darkness, the sky and waters, the sea and land, vegetation according to its various kinds, the day and night, the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, the creatures of the earth according to their kinds. (Gen. 1:1-25)
- 6.) We believe in the divine creation of man in the image of God, and that man fell into sin in Adam, is now a sinner by nature and by choice, and is thereby under the just condemnation of God. (Gen. 1:26,27; 2:7; Rom. 5:12-21; John 3:18,36)
- 7.) We believe that man is saved by grace through faith being redeemed by the blood of Christ and justified by faith in Christ apart from any human merit. (Eph. 2:8,9; Rom. 3:24-26; 1 Tim. 3:5,6)
- 8.) We believe that the church is the universal company of the redeemed, the body of Christ, of which Christ is the Head. (Eph. 1:22,23; 2:19-22)
- 9.) We believe that every true believer has eternal security in Christ being kept by the power of God. (1 Pet. 1:1-3; John 10:27,28; John 5:24; John 6:39-40; Jude 24)
- 10.) We believe in the bodily resurrection of all mankind: the saved into the everlasting blessedness of their glorified state in Heaven, and the unsaved into the eternal punishment of hell separated from the presence of God. (1 Thess. 4:16-17; 1 Cor. 15:51-55; 2 Thess. 1:8,9; Rev. 20:11-21:5)
- 11.) We believe that marriage has been instituted by God. It is defined as the exclusive covenantal union of one man and one woman in which such union is a lifetime commitment. A civil government's sanction of a union will be recognized as a legitimate marriage by the school only to the extent that it is consistent with the definition of "marriage" found in these Articles. Gen. 2:24; Mt. 19:4-6; Eph. 5:33; Heb. 13:4
- 12.) We believe that legitimate sexual relations are exercised solely within marriage. Hence, sexual activities outside of marriage including but not limited to, adultery, premarital sex, homosexuality, and pedophilia are inconsistent with the teachings of the Bible. Further, lascivious conduct, transgender behavior, and the creation and/or distribution and/or viewing of pornography, are incompatible with the biblical witness. 1 Thess. 4:3-8; Ex. 20:14; 1 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 5:3; 1 Cor. 6:9; Rom. 1:24-27; Heb. 13:4

GRADING

A+ = 99-100

A = 96-98

A- = 94-95

C+ = 84-85

C = 80-83

C- = 78-79

B+ = 92-93

B = 88-91

B- = 86-87

D+ = 76-77

D = 72-75

D- = 70-71

All grades below 70 are failing.

Conduct and Effort grades are assigned by each teacher using the following scale:

1= Excellent

2= Good

3= Fair

4= Poor

HONOR ROLL (Grades 7-12)

Honor roll is achieved in the Secondary grades, using grades earned in SCS classes each quarter.

Honors: Overall average of B (88), earning 84 or higher in every class

High Honors: Overall average of A- (94), earning 90 or higher in every class

Grade Point Average Scale

Seacoast Christian School's high school transcripts will acknowledge the rigor of our most challenging courses using a weighted Grade Point Average, using the guide shown below.

Letter Grade	Traditional	Higher Challenge	Advanced Placement
A+	4.3	4.8	5.3
A	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	2.7	3.3	3.7
C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	1.0	1.5	2.0
D-	0.7	1.2	1.7
F	0	0	0

High School Graduation Requirements (courses in bold are required courses)

The minimum requirement for graduation from Seacoast Christian School is 20 credits, as shown below. For students considering a more competitive college, 22-24 credits are recommended.

Bible - 4 credits (one per year of attendance)

English- 4 credits

History-3 ½ credits

Geography (Grade 9)- ½ credit

Maine History (Grade 9)- ½ credit

World History (Grade 10)- 1 credit

U.S. History (Grade 11)-1credit

Government (Grade 12)- ½ credit

Math, Science, and Technology - 5 credits

Physical Science (Grade 9) -1 credit

Biology (Grade 10) - 1 credit

Algebra (Basic Algebra or Algebra I) - 1 credit

Additional Math, Science, or Technology - 2 credits

AP Computer** -1 credit

Anatomy* - ½ credit

Chemistry* - 1 credit

Physics* - 1 credit

Record-keeping- 1 credit

Geometry- 1 credit

Algebra II- 1 credit

Pre-calculus* - 1 credit

Calculus*- 1 credit

AP Calculus**-1 credit

Consumer Math- 1 credit

Personal Finance-½ credit

Accounting I- 1 credit

Accounting II* - 1 credit

*Higher Challenge, weighted with a +0.5 scale. **Advanced Placement, weighted with a +1 scale.

Physical education- 1 credit Students may earn 0.5 credits for successful completion of a season of Seacoast athletics, or a similar athletic endeavor in another setting. A maximum of 1 credit may be earned.

Health-½ credit

At least 2 additional credits are required for a diploma. 2 or more years of study of a world language are generally recommended for students considering college admission.

Promotion to the next grade

In grades seven and eight a student will be promoted at the end of the year, unless failing two or more academic subjects for the year. Conditional promotion may be considered by the administrator.

High school students are classified by total accumulated credits:

Sophomores: 5 credits

Juniors: 10 credits

Seniors: 15 credits

Full-time and Part-time Enrollment

Full-time Students: Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must take at least 5 credits each year regardless of their accumulated credits. Seniors who have earned 16 or more credits may pursue 4 credits in the senior year. Full-time juniors and seniors in good academic standing may pursue dual enrollment (subject to administrative approval) through courses taken online, in a technical/vocational program, or a college setting. Only 2 dual-enrollment credits may count toward full-time status each year.

Part-time Students: Christian homeschool students who meet our standards of admission may take classes part-time to supplement their homeschool curriculum. **This does not satisfy state requirements for compulsory school attendance.** Students and parents are cautioned that, due to league regulations, part-time students are prohibited from taking part in some athletic teams.

External Credits: With approval from the Administrator, students may apply external credits (those earned in programs offered outside of our school) to fulfill some graduation requirements. However, because grading standards vary widely among other schools, these grades cannot be considered in calculating the student's overall GPA or class rank. A transcript cover letter will be provided for any such student to reflect the GPA and the credits completed externally.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Athletic eligibility requires that students maintain standards in **academic achievement** and **personal conduct**.

Academic Achievement is reviewed twice each quarter (in the middle and at the end).

- Students must have a passing quarter grade (70 or higher) in every class.
- A student who becomes academically ineligible will remain so for 1 week. Ineligibility means the student may not play in games. Grades will be checked weekly and until the student becomes eligible by passing all courses.

Personal Conduct describes the way in which a student interacts with others, including those within our school, home, church, and the world. As Christians, we are to think of others as equal to (or better than) ourselves. Students may be declared ineligible by the administration for reasons of personal conduct, for a length of time to be determined by the administration. The purpose of ineligibility due to personal conduct is to allow for reflection, repentance, and ultimately restoration.

ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE POLICIES

Students are expected to be at school for all classes and class trips unless they have an excused absence. An absent student must bring a parent's note explaining the reason for the absence. Absences are excused for reasons of illness, appointments, family crisis, etc. No student should miss school for recreational purposes, excursions, or for catch-up work on assignments or projects. Such absences are considered unapproved, and no credit will be given for work that is missed on those days.

When absent, secondary students are responsible for checking with all their teachers to plan to complete all missed assignments. Absent students will have one day for each day of illness to turn in their assignments. When a quiz or test is missed for a 1-day absence, a student should complete the quiz or test on the day of return.

Because consistent attendance is necessary for learning the material appropriate for academic credit, we have established a minimum attendance requirement of 155 days. When absences exceed 20 days, special arrangements for outside tutoring should be arranged, or the student may forfeit promotion to the next grade. A student who attends class remotely is considered "present" for these purposes.

Students may not cut class. A student who becomes ill during the day must report to the office for permission to rest or leave. If a student must leave early for an appointment, etc., he should give a parent's note to his homeroom teacher to be turned into the office with the morning attendance. Students may **never** leave the school grounds during school hours for without permission from parents and office approval.

Pre-Planned Absences

Pre-planned absences are **strongly discouraged**. Students who attempt to take a family vacation or long trip while school is in session will be very challenged to keep up with their classmates. It is also inconvenient for teachers to find time to cover missed material when a student returns. Please plan family trips accordingly.

Parents are asked to notify the office as soon as feasible regarding a planned absence so that teachers may prepare assignments or other work that may be missed. It is the student's responsibility to contact his/her teachers to discuss what work will be missed. It is left to the teacher's discretion regarding what work should be completed before the absence and those things that will be made up after the student's return. Students learn better when they get an early start on catching up, and keeping up, rather than waiting until they return (when they will otherwise feel very behind the pace of their classes).

This policy also pertains to classes missed because of school athletic events. It is the student's responsibility to meet with his/her teachers before leaving for any game or event to determine what work needs to be completed before leaving and what will be done after the game or event.

TARDY POLICY

Students who are tardy to school or class fall short of fulfilling their educational potential. Tardiness of a student also interrupts the learning of other students.

Tardy-At the start of a school day students are considered tardy if they are not in homeroom at 8:30. In the secondary, students are on time when seated and ready when the bell rings at the start of class.

Excused Tardy -Tardiness due to exceptional circumstances, such as medical appointments, death in the family, court notices, extreme weather, or sickness would be considered excused. Documentation (parent notes, doctor notes, etc.) is required for a tardy to be considered excused.

Unexcused Tardy - Tardiness due to over-sleeping or other issues within a student's ability to control will not be excused.

Consequences for unexcused tardiness:

- 1st tardy verbal warning
- 2nd tardy warning with parent notification
- 3rd tardy lunch detention

4th tardy and each subsequent tardy will result in a lunch detention and may result in grade reduction in the class (or classes) affected by the tardiness.

The recording and consequences for unexcused tardiness will begin at the start of each grading quarter.

LATE WORK

Daily homework is expected to be passed in when class meets. Teachers may deduct points for lateness.

ADD/DROP POLICY

Students may not **add** a course to their schedule after the course has been in session for two weeks. Parental permission must be given to **add** a course.

A student may drop a course within four weeks with parental permission without it being recorded on their transcript. After four weeks a course may still be dropped with parental permission, however it will appear on the student's transcript with a designation of WP (withdrawn passing) or WF (withdrawn failing). No partial credit will be awarded for dropped courses. Courses with a WP or WF will not be computed in the G.P.A.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to submit academic work as an expression of their own thoughts. *Plagiarism* is taking someone else's words or thoughts and using them as one's own, even if they are re-worded. When the work submitted references a resource that is found either on paper or a technology platform, that resource should be cited and/or approved by the teacher. Students, please see your teacher if you have questions.

GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

In an effort to promote education with minimal distractions, classrooms are now considered "No Phone Zones." Students will place phones in a designated bin or basket when entering classes and retrieve them at the end of class. Students with smartwatches will be asked to place them on their desk during tests/quizzes. Any areas of the building not utilized by the school are expressly prohibited from student access.

After school, students should not be wandering around the school, in classrooms, or in staff offices without permission or a staff member present.

Under no circumstances should students bring any dangerous items to school, including alcohol, drugs, knives, or weapons.

Students are expected to clean up after themselves - including, but not limited to - tables in the cafeteria at the end of lunch.

STUDENT DRIVERS

Students wishing to drive to school **must follow these rules:**

1. Students are allowed to drive a vehicle to school with permission from the administrator and parents. A permission form must be filled out and returned to the office.
2. Students must use good judgment and exercise great caution when entering and leaving school grounds being alert to children in the parking lot.
3. No student may transport another student at any time without prior permission and authorization
4. Students are not permitted to sit in or congregate around parked cars.
5. When arriving on campus, students should exit their vehicles and join the rest of the students.
6. Once students arrive at school they are not allowed to leave school grounds unless they have parental permission and have notified the staff duty person of their leaving.



Seacoast Christian School Dress Code 2022-2023

"That in all things Christ might have the preeminence."

Philosophy

Seacoast Christian School aspires to promote confidence and preparation for life in every student that walks through our doors. Our dress code is an extension of this preparation. Through all ages we hope to implement a "Business Casual" dress code policy. At Seacoast our goal is not to mandate but to guide students in a positive self image and preparation in our dress. We recognize that "Business Casual" has some ambiguity. Please see our Quick Guide to dress code for a quick look at what that entails. All final decisions regarding modesty will be made by the Administrator and Dean of Students in support of teachers.

Quick Guide

No	Yes
sweatpants* pajamas jeans/jean shorts athletic joggers* leggings crop tops low cut/revealing/see through tops exercise/sports shorts* tank tops (spaghetti strap/cami tops) hats/hoods on (in the building/class) graphic t's (slogans, pictures, etc.)	khaki pants (of any style/color) dress pants (of any style/color) plain t's/pocket t's button down shirts polos short or long sleeve shirts tank tops (3 finger width strap) sweaters khaki shorts (length close to the knee) dresses/skirts (length to the knee)

*except for PE class or athletics

Casual Friday

Each Friday students are allowed and encouraged to participate in our "Casual Friday Program." For **\$1** students can wear jeans. Each Friday teachers will collect the dollar from students who choose to participate. However, failure to pay results in a \$5 fine with compounding interest. All other aspects of dress code will still be enforced for both those who participate and those who do not.

Elementary Cold/Winter Weather

During winter and on cold days (near or below freezing), all students must have for outside recess:

- a winter coat or jacket
- snow pants
- mittens or gloves
- a hat
- boots for outside recess. Indoor shoes may be brought for classroom use.

Elementary Student Footwear: For safety, no open-back sandals or flip-flops.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Our guiding principles of conduct are found in **loving God** and **loving others as ourselves**.

Every Christian represents the Lord Jesus Christ and is enabled by the Holy Spirit to do so. Therefore, whether at home, at school, or elsewhere, students should refrain from swearing, smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, using drugs, and getting involved in unbecoming behavior. In addition, we would like to discourage activities such as dancing, worldly partying, etc., and attention to websites, music, videos, movies, books, and magazines that reflect values and standards inconsistent with godliness.

Christians are to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and avoid what does not edify or draw us closer to the Lord.

We also expect students to be courteous, respectful, kind, honest and trustworthy. Students should respect the rights and property of other students and staff. Fighting, cheating, stealing, mocking, bullying, and abuse will not be tolerated. Students are expected to respond respectfully to the direction of all adults who serve at Seacoast. Courtesy and kindness are always in order.

Remember how important it is to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Avoid arguments, criticism, and contention. Don't be guilty of sowing seeds of discord between students but be a peacemaker. Although it is normal for young men and women to become interested in dating relationships, we find it wise to limit the display of affection at school and at school functions, and we do not allow related physical contact. Students should not seek to be alone together or segregate themselves from fellowship with their classmates.

Defacing or damaging the school building will result in disciplinary measures and financial responsibility. Each student should take pride in his school that God has provided and should seek to keep it clean and orderly. Take the initiative to pick up discarded items in classrooms, lunchroom, and halls. Strive to keep the restrooms clean and sanitary for all to use.

When passing between classes, please avoid unnecessary commotion. There should be no pushing, tripping, running, or horsing around. Please keep in mind that secondary students are setting an example for good or for bad before younger students. We expect students to be kind and considerate. No younger student should ever be intimidated by an older one.

Kindness between students, especially from older students to younger students, is the Lord's expectation (Matthew 18:6) and therefore it is ours.

DISCIPLINE

The school reserves the right to dismiss a student at any time during the school year who demonstrates that he does not respect the spiritual standards or rules of the school. Acts of stealing or cheating; possession of knives or weapons at school; possession or use of cigarettes, illegal drugs, or alcohol; and instances of sexual immorality at or away from school will be grounds for dismissal. Serious disciplinary action should be unnecessary if students desire to obey and glorify the lord Jesus Christ.

SENIOR PRIVILEGES

Senior privileges are intended to help seniors develop responsibly and accountability as they prepare for life after high school. These are privileges and not rights. It is the responsibility of the seniors to turn in, on time, all class assignments and to maintain a passing grade in all their courses. Privileges may be revoked by the administration for reasons of academic standing or personal conduct.

The senior privileges are as follows:

Seniors will be allowed to leave school at the end of their last scheduled class.

During lunch and study halls, seniors will be allowed to use the student lounge or, during good weather, go outside to the picnic tables. Seniors will retain the privilege of using their cell phones and technology in the student lounge during these times, if used in accordance with our Standards of Conduct.

Seniors are allowed to leave the school campus during free periods. They must notify the office before leaving and when they return, and they must be back on time for all classes. Notification means a brief conversation with our office administrator (Mrs. Vachon or her sub) AND signing in/out.

If a senior leaves campus in his/her car, no other student may leave nor travel with them without written consent from parents of the driver and the rider.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government at Seacoast Christian School is a program designed to give the student body a voice in the culture and functions of the school. Student Government will work under the oversight of the Dean of Students.

If a student wants to partake in Student Government, they must have at minimum a C average, no disciplinary issues, be in good standing with their teachers, and have a relationship with their peers in order to communicate/promote the needs of their classmates.

Skills that students can expect to both learn and grow in by participating in Student Government: leadership, communication, teamwork, organization, public speaking, time management, and meeting facilitation.

A FINAL WORD FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

We will have a consistent and united approach in all the handbook outlines.