



Parent and Student Handbook

What to Consider When Choosing a School

One of the most important decisions you make for your child is where to send them to school. By the time your child graduates from high school, they will have spent up to 15,000 hours in class and doing homework.

When choosing a school for your student, there are three key components to examine:

1. Spiritual Foundation
2. Social Atmosphere
3. Academic Excellence.

Many schools excel in one of these areas, but only a small percent bring them all together and offer a complete package.

As you consider Spring Vale Christian School, we are confident that you will see our intentional integration of Christian morals, relational integrity, and academic excellence into every aspect of education.



Curriculum

Spring Vale teaches the classical Christian curriculum designed to lead students to competency, relational integrity, and mature Christian character. The goal of our education is for spiritual disciplines to become habits of the heart and not just rule-following; to put students on a path toward responsible, stable, and wise adulthood, that they may be responsible citizens in their communities.

Mission & Vision

Spring Vale's Mission is to prepare Christian Leaders well-versed in God's Word and ready to fulfill His calling.

Our Vision is to Cultivate Christian Excellence.



Classical Education

What is it?

Classical Christian Education is a holistic approach to education that prepares students to excel in all aspects of life, not just college.

The secular model of education adopted in public and most private schools is primarily aimed at preparing students for college. While this is an admirable goal, the Classical Christian Model is a much more expansive curriculum that understands academics as just one piece to the educational puzzle. While the secular system prepares students for tests and college entrance exams, the Classical Model focuses on preparing students for relationships, careers, and leadership. As President Theodore Roosevelt wisely said, “To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.”

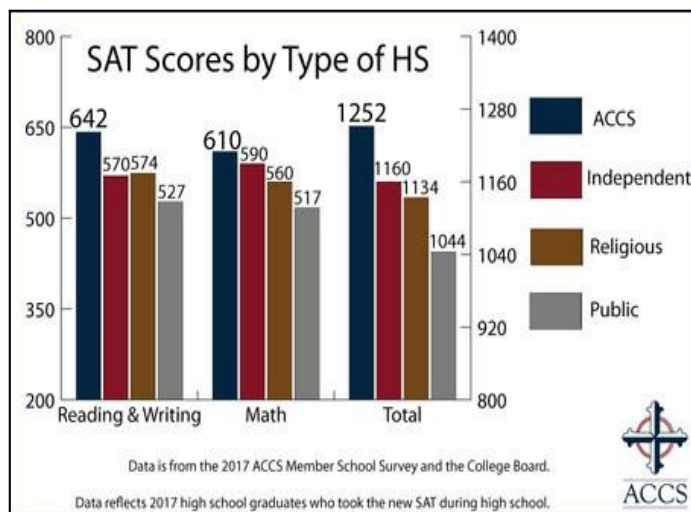
What to Expect

Classical Christian Schools are significantly different than traditional public and private schools. Where traditional schools adhere to a common core “baseline” standard, classical schools compel students to excellence.

Most traditional Christian schools will provide Bible class in addition to common core standard courses. The Classical model integrates biblical principles into every course, showing how each subject is relevant to the Christian faith.

In traditional schools, lecture is the primary means of education. In classical schools, students are taught through the Socratic method. Students are encouraged to ask lots of questions and seek to understand and appreciate others’ points of view.

Classical education focuses more on oral presentation and exposition than any other educational philosophy. Students are trained to communicate effectively, write persuasively, and adorn their knowledge with eloquent language. Skills that will help them excel in post-secondary education, in various careers, and in relationships.



Trivium

The trivium is an educational philosophy that divides learning into three stages: grammar, logic, and rhetoric.

The grammar phase consists of early childhood education, usually grades K through 5. During this phase teachers capitalize on children’s natural tendency to memorize facts. Grammar school students spend a significant amount of time studying language. One’s ability to communicate and comprehend both verbal and written communication is the foundation of all learning and relational growth.

The logic phase consists of grades 6 through 8 and focuses on reasoning and critical analysis. During this phase, students begin to make sense of facts, develop and test hypotheses, and identify logical fallacies.

The rhetoric phase consists of grades 9 through 12. Rhetoric students who have been classically trained are very articulate, excellent writers, and can spot a fallacy from a mile away. Debate, apologetics, and discussion are all important aspects of the rhetoric phase. Classically trained students consistently outperform their public and private school counterparts on standardized tests.

Educational Philosophy at SVCS

At Spring Vale Christian School, we recognize that God has given parents the privilege and responsibility of nurturing and training their children to be “fully equipped for every good work.” The role of our teachers can be described by the Latin term, *in loco parentis*, which means in the place of a parent. We seek to provide parents with support and tools to fulfill this calling. By providing an education centered on the truth of God’s Word, we reinforce the role of parents in the educational process. We believe that God's character is revealed not only in His Word but also in every facet of creation. Therefore, we teach that all knowledge is interrelated and can instruct us about God Himself. God wants us to love Him with our minds as well as with our hearts, souls, and strength (Matt. 22:37). Therefore, we seek to individually challenge children at all levels and teach them how to learn in addition to providing a common body of knowledge. We believe in providing a structured and disciplined school environment that encourages and develops love, responsibility, self-control, respect, and godliness.

Statement of Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen 1:26-27). Rejection of one’s biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, cohabitation, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10).

We believe that to preserve the function, integrity, and mission of Spring Vale Christian School, and to provide a biblical model to the SVCS community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Spring Vale Christian School in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22).

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11). We believe that every person must be treated with compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture, nor the values and doctrines of Spring Vale Christian School.

Portrait of a SVCS Graduate

At SVCS, we desire that our students will be transformed by the renewing of their minds. In order that we might strive together to this end; we submit the following as the goals of our educational and cultural endeavors. The SVCS graduate will be known for the following traits:

In their CHARACTER, graduates will...

- Seek to bear the image of Christ nobly.
- Seek to serve God and the community humbly with his/her God-given resources.
- Demonstrate discipline, honor and integrity in a well-balanced life.
- Respect proper authority yet be capable and willing to lead.
- Pursue passionately the kingdom of God, not the kingdom of the world.
- Authentically live out their faith in practice.

In their KNOWLEDGE, graduates will...

- Understand that God is the author and fount of all truth, goodness, and beauty.
- Recognize that all humans are created in God's image and bear that image in the following ways: by ruling, serving, and caretaking our "gardens" of responsibility.
- Acknowledge that our work is modeled after God's work as we create with truth, goodness, and beauty in community with others.
- Understand that the gospel is the answer to all of life.
- Master the primary academic disciplines, including a thorough grasp of the history, the literature, and the philosophy of Western civilization.
- Engage in the "great conversation" and in a lifelong pursuit of learning.
- Understand the fundamentals of each of the liberal arts and intuitively recognize how to integrate these disciplines in work and thought.

In their DISCERNMENT, graduates will...

- Recognize, appreciate, and pursue beauty and truth through both logical and poetic thought and observation.
- Seek understanding of God's redemptive plan in the intricacies of history, current events and the natural world.
- Listen, evaluate, and reason through the filter of a coherent and Biblical worldview.
- View every story as a reflection or a distortion of the True Story.
- Choose leisure activities that are creative and restorative.
- Desire and exercise wisdom for wisdom's sake above any pragmatic ends.

In their COMMUNICATION, graduates will...

- Engage and redeem culture, being recognized for their eloquence and grace as they do so.
- Employ clarity, logic and style in both speech and composition.
- Articulate respectfully and defend winsomely their positions with confidence and intelligence.
- Submit to listen and to understand before passing judgment.
- Present the truth of the gospel of Christ graciously through word and deed.

Grammar and Logic School

The grammar school consists of grades pre-K through 6 and the logic school is composed of grades 7 and 8. These are traditionally referred to as the elementary and middle school years.

Grammar School

Grammar school students are guided through a rich and challenging curriculum that focuses on reading, writing, and arithmetic. Since communication is foundational to all learning, classical education prioritizes language and comprehension. One's ability to read, write, communicate needs and questions, and comprehend language will determine a student's level of academic success.

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Kindergarten and 1st grade students spend most of their school day learning to read, write and speak effectively. Students also learn to quickly solve simple mathematical equations to set the table for success in upper-level math courses such as algebra, trigonometry, and calculus.

2nd Through 4th Grade

In grades 2 through 4, students continue to build upon their language skills and begin learning Latin. Latin vocabulary and grammar prepare students to master the English language, read historical documents, and excel in professions that are steeped in Latin such as law, medicine, science, music, theology, philosophy and literature.

5th and 6th Grade

By the time a student reaches 5th grade, they have developed a love for learning and are very gifted communicators. Communication and comprehension skills are now applied to the humanities, science, and more advanced arithmetic.

Students learn to reason, test hypotheses, and see the beauty of God in creation and His work throughout history.

Grammar School

Begins: 8:30 A.M. Ends: 3:00 P.M.

Middle and High School

Begins: 8:00 A.M. Ends: 3:00 P.M.



7th and 8th Grade

Seventh and eighth grade students begin to use their elite communication and comprehension skills to craft arguments and persuade. Students enter a journey of scientific discovery, civility, philosophy, and morality. The Socratic method plays a large role during these years

Grammar School

Academic Overview

The Grammar school puts students' minds to work, guiding them to develop their learning capabilities, and leading them to understand themselves and the world around them. Teachers seek to foster independent thinkers; people who have a deep sense of community but still think for themselves. We develop young people who seek to enrich their lives and the lives of others.

Our Classical Curriculum helps tie all subjects together for our students. Our Grammar School classes include Grammar, Math, Cursive Writing, Science, History, Bible, Phonics, Reading, and Latin. Students also attend weekly enrichment classes of Art, Music, and Physical Education.

Curriculum

While a variety of curriculum is used to enhance daily learning, SVCS predominately uses curriculum from the following publishers:

- *Saxon Math
- *Shurley English
- *Apologia
- *Memoria Press
- *Veritas Press



Grading Guidelines

A	100-92.5
A-	92-89.5
B+	89-86.5
B	86-82.5
B-	82-79.5
C+	79-76.5
C	76-72.5
C-	72-69.5
D+	69-66.5
D	66-62.5
D-	62-59.5
F	59-0

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.” - Martin Luther King Jr.

High School

Academic Overview

Spring Vale offers core, honors, and elective classes.

Spring Vale's diplomas are recognized by colleges
and universities across the United States.

Spring Vale Christian High School Graduation Requirements (25 Credits)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	4 Credits
MATHEMATICS	4 Credits
Three must be Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. Students MUST have a senior year math experience.	
SCIENCE	3 Credits
One must be Chemistry or Physics	
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 Credits
U.S. History (1 Credit), World History (1 credit), Government (.5 credit) Economics (.5 credit)	
WORLD LANGUAGE	2 Credits
Greek, Latin, Spanish, French, German, etc. (1) Optional visual, performing, and applied arts credit (1)	
VISUAL, PERFORMING, AND APPLIED ARTS	1 Credit
ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE	1 Credit
Course or Integrated Learning Experience	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH	1 Credit
Includes Health (1/2 credit) and P.E. (1/2 credit) Playing a sport does not count for P.E. credit	
BIBLE/THEOLOGY	4 Credits
LOGIC	1 Credit
RHETORIC	1 Credit

<u>GRADING GUIDELINES</u>		<u>GPA</u>
A	100-92.5	4.0
A-	92-89.5	3.66
B+	89-86.5	3.33
B	86-82.5	3.0
B-	82-79.5	2.66
C+	79-76.5	2.33
C	76-72.5	2.0
C-	72-69.5	1.66
D+	69-66.5	1.33
D	66-62.5	1.0
D-	62-59.5	0.67
F	59-0	0.00

**College 3-Credit Course = 1 HS Honors Credit*



Qualified Teachers

The majority of teachers at Spring Vale are state certified or permitted. Spring Vale teachers and administrators take the safety of your child very seriously, receiving training in CPR, medication administration, and other health and safety related courses in addition to their academic qualifications.

Student-to-Teacher Ratio

With an average student-to-teacher ratio of 10:1, your child will get the attention he or she needs when working on difficult subjects or trying to tackle a school project. Most students who attend Spring Vale see their academic performance improve because of the extra help they receive.

Standardized Testing

Standardized testing using the Iowa Test takes place in first through ninth grades. In addition, the SAT is given on campus each year for juniors and seniors. While our teachers will never “teach to a test,” standardized testing is one tool to use to identify students’ academic strengths and to track academic progress from year to year.

Academic Lab

Spring Vale teachers make themselves available to help students in the morning and during Academic Lab after school. Academic Lab is an opportunity for your child to get that one-on-one help that he or she may need. Grade reports are run on Mondays, and any 7th-12th grade student who has a D or F in a class will be required to attend that class's Academic Lab that week.

Dual Enrollment

Spring Vale works with Baker College to offer Dual Enrollment classes for our students. Spring Vale makes class time available for Dual Enrollment students to work on their college classes during the school day. Most dual enrollment classes are available at no extra cost to Spring Vale students.

Special Education

Spring Vale attempts to provide appropriate educational programs for children who are identified with disabilities and who have an approved Individual Educational Plan (IEP). Spring Vale embraces the instructional practice known as inclusion. When an IEP calls for pullout services, the student will be permitted to leave the classroom to work with a properly trained educator. The goal is to provide students with an educational plan that best meets their individual needs in the least restrictive environment. That means that, to the extent appropriate, students will be provided services within the regular education classroom with the necessary support.

Spring Vale enjoys an excellent working relationship with Shiawassee County RESD.

Emergency Protocol

Fire, tornado, and lockdown drills are conducted routinely throughout the school year.

Athletics

Spring Vale provides both varsity and junior varsity sports for students grades 6 through 12 as well as other extracurricular activities that promote character development, self-discipline, and spiritual awareness. Spring Vale coaches and volunteers are committed Christians who are specially gifted and trained to provide a safe, accountable, and fun learning environment for students. Spring Vale athletes compete against other Christian schools and home-school teams across the state of Michigan.

Girls Volleyball

During the fall, female students may compete with the Lady Flames Varsity and Junior Varsity Volleyball Teams. The Lady Flames host the Flames Classic Tournament. current students compete Vs. Spring Vale Soccer Alumni.

Girls Basketball

During the winter, female students may compete with the Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity Basketball Teams.

Additional Opportunities

Other sports, including Clay Shooting, Baseball, etc. may be offered during relevant seasons according to availability and student interest.

Boys Soccer

During the fall, male students may compete with the Varsity Boys Soccer Team. Each season culminates in the annual Super Sports Sunday soccer game, in which

Boys Basketball

During the winter, male athletes may compete with the Boys Varsity or Junior Varsity Basketball Teams. The Boys Basketball Flames Classic Tournament is one of Spring Vale's longest standing athletic traditions.

Extra-Curricular

Saturday Night Activity

A variety of activities are planned for Spring Vale students on Saturday nights. Students are welcomed and encouraged to participate in Saturday night activities. Some of these activities may take students off campus and require payment.

Chapel

SVCS has chapel Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. Parents and family members are encouraged to join us for student-led worship and a time of encouragement.

SOUND

Sound is a vocal and drama team that performs during special events throughout the school year and also tours the United States during one month of the summer. Students must try out to participate in Sound and have personal and parental commitment to participate in a one month summer tour. Participation in Sound is a privilege and only students who excel in music and have mature character will be selected for participation in the group. There may be additional expenses associated with participation in Sound including but not limited to the purchase of uniforms and travel expenses.



SVCS House

The SVCS House system was established to further the school's mission in grades 7 - 12 through the formation of small communities within the Upper School student body. Within these Houses, students have opportunities for **F**ellowship, **L**eadership, **A**chievement, **M**entoring, **E**ncouragement, and **S**ervice; ensuring that students know each other and build relationships across grade levels in the regular life of the Upper School community. Each year, rising seventh graders and new SVCS students are inducted into Houses, where they will remain members throughout their House experience.

The House system provides the basic structure for the formal student leadership of the Upper School. Each House has a House Captain who leads the House and works together with their House Governors (adult volunteers) and leaders from other Houses, faculty, and administrators to oversee many Upper School activities. Teams of additional student leaders from the Houses collaborate to organize and execute inter-House activities including socials, service projects, and competitions, and intra-House mentorship and fellowship opportunities.

By providing this structure, the House System encourages students to bring their desires, ideas, and talents into the life of the school to shape the identity of the Upper School and leave their mark on it. The Houses allow for real responsibilities, actual participation, and the possibility of failure. Students learn to work together through healthy competition, shared goals, solving problems, initiating new ideas, and participation in meaningful traditions.

Much of the impetus behind the system is ongoing friendly competition. Houses earn Character Points for Initiative, Community, and Hard Work and points from House competitions (academic and athletic). Each quarter the House with the most points gets to go on a "House Trip." At the end of each year, one House will win the "House Cup."

The Four Houses:

- **Bonum** = Goodness
- **Pulchra** = Beauty
- **Veritas** = Truth
- **Virtus** = Virtue



School Policies

Athletic Eligibility

Academic achievement is a high priority at Spring Vale and determines eligibility for participation in athletics. Any student earning an F grade in any one class or having a combined grade average below a C- will be restricted from participating in certain extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports. Ineligible students may still attend practices but may not play in games. Assigned academic labs take precedence over practices and games.

Students are required to attend at least a half day (4 classes) of school on the day of a game to be eligible to play in the game. If extenuating circumstances exist which prevent a half day of attendance, the principal may, at his/her discretion, allow participation.

Boarding Student Arrival and Departure

At the start and close of each semester, boarding students will be provided transportation to and from the Lansing, Flint, and Detroit airports. If the student arrives within the first two days that the dorms are open for a semester, the parent/legal guardian will not be charged travel expenses. If a student departs within the last two days of a semester, the parent/legal guardian will not be charged travel expenses.

If a student and his or her parent/legal guardian chooses to arrive or depart from Spring Vale during a day outside of the parameters listed above, they will be charged \$50 (Lansing or Flint airports) or \$100 (Detroit airport) to cover transportation fees for the school.

If a student and his or her parent/legal guardian choose to fly into or depart from an airport other than Lansing, Flint, or Detroit, they may be charged up to \$300 dollars to cover traveling expenses accrued by Spring Vale.

Cell Phone/Tablet Policy

In an attempt to eliminate distractions while learning, students are not allowed to have cell phones, tablets, earbuds, AirPods, smart watches, etc. during school hours. Students may use the phone in the school office if it is necessary to contact parents or for emergency purposes.

In order to provide a safe environment, Spring Vale will restrict access to certain phone and/or laptop features such as apps, music, videos, internet access, etc.



Damage to School Property

In the unlikely event that a student causes damage or destroys school property due to carelessness or willful abuse, the student and his or her parent/legal guardian are responsible for the cost of repairing or replacing that property.

Early Withdrawal

If a student withdraws from school early, they may be eligible for a refund if the parent/legal guardian has prepaid for tuition and/or board. Refunds will be made within 45 days of the student's withdrawal date.

Scholarships, tuition aid, and discounts shall be awarded according to the length of time the student attended Spring Vale and are not refundable.

If a student withdraws early or has their enrollment terminated and has an outstanding balance, monthly payments will continue to be taken until the entire account is paid off.

Students whose enrollment is terminated, voluntarily or involuntarily, within two months of the first day of school, will not receive any tuition aid.

Home-school Athletic Participation

Home-schooled students may participate in Spring Vale's athletic programs. Participants must have a current year sports physical, complete a notarized medical release form, and concussion information sheet.

Athletic participation is not guaranteed for home-school students and is dependent upon student enrollment and the anticipated needs of each athletic team as determined by coaches and school administration. A \$150 participation fee per sport is required.

Students that participate on a Spring Vale team must adhere to all Spring Vale rules and be a good representation of our Lord and school.

Student Drivers

Students who are legally licensed drivers may drive to and from school, and/or school sponsored activities and events on or off campus. Student drivers must provide the school office with a copy of their current driver's license. Students are expected to follow all campus policies while in their vehicle on campus or at an off-campus school event or activity. Policies include, but are not limited to:

- Obeying posted campus speed limits.
- PDA Policy (no public displays of affection)
- Substance Use Policy (No smoking, vaping, etc.)
- Music Policy (no vulgar language, low-volume)
- No non-sibling students in the vehicle without expressed parental permission.

All vehicle-related policy infractions are subject to SVCS Discipline Policy. Serious offenses may result in the loss of driving/parking privileges on campus.

Field Trips

Teachers work to schedule field trips that are relevant to Spring Vale's curriculum. Prior written parental or legal guardian permission is required for a student to attend any field trip off school grounds. A permission slip will be sent home before each field trip involving travel.

Part-Time Enrollment

Spring Vale allows homeschool students to attend classes on a part-time basis (Maximum 3 per semester). Classes are \$750 per class for 7th-12th grade.

Part-time students are eligible to participate in Spring Vale's athletic program and are held to the same academic eligibility requirements as full-time students for all Spring Vale courses in which they enroll.

Part-time students who have completed 4 or more classes at Spring Vale and have met all state academic requirements may participate in Spring Vale's graduation ceremony and receive a nationally recognized Spring Vale diploma.

School Breaks

Spring Vale students have three scheduled breaks during the school year: Winter Break, Thanksgiving Break, Spring Break.

During school breaks, the dormitories will be closed and students must return home or their parents must arrange for them to stay with a local family. Spring Vale can assist students who are looking for a local family to stay with during a school break. All local families that host Spring Vale students must be in compliance with Spring Vale's approved home and approved driver policies. If a student wishes to stay with a family whose home is not approved or who is not an approved driver under Spring Vale's policy, arrangements will need to be made by that student's parents.

If a student will be flying home for breaks, Spring Vale will provide free airport transportation for flights the evening before or the day that break begins. Transportation will also be provided, free of charge, the day break ends. Should the student leave or return on any other day, the fee will be \$50 (Lansing or Flint airports) or \$100 (Detroit airport).

Computer Use

Along with the educational benefits of computer use, there are also many dangers. Students at Spring Vale have access to computers during school hours and in their dormitories.

In an effort to safeguard our students, Spring Vale utilizes an internet filter and accountability program. Our filtering system blocks inappropriate content and also offers an accountability program that notifies Spring Vale faculty to any attempt to view such material.

Students who attempt to use proxy servers or other websites to get around the accountability program, and students who abuse their internet use by viewing or searching for material deemed inappropriate by Spring Vale faculty, may have their computer and/or internet use restricted or suspended.

School Closings

Due to inclement weather, Spring Vale may cancel school. When school is canceled parents will receive a cancellation notification via email and text message by 6:30 A.M.

Do not assume Spring Vale has cancelled school because other local schools are closed.

Illness Policy

For the protection of your child as well as for the safety of others, you are asked to keep your child at home if they show any signs of illness. Sample indicators include:

- Fever (to return-must be fever-free without medication for a full 24 hours). SVCS considers 100 degrees to be a fever.
- Vomiting or diarrhea (to return-must be free of symptoms without medication for a full 24 hours)
- Excessive runny nose, headache, sore throat, coughing, sneezing, or earaches related to the common cold. (To return, must be free of deep barking cough.)
- Croup or Croupy Cough (to return-must be free of croupy cough)
- When symptoms that are not typical for your child are present, please err on the side of caution and monitor your child's symptoms from home.

For the health and safety of all students, a child obviously ill or with a temperature of 100 degrees or more will not be allowed to remain at school. If a student becomes ill at school, the parent/guardian will be notified. The parent/guardian needs to make the necessary arrangements to have their child picked up within one hour of the notification.

PLEASE NOTE: If a child is sent home from school, they must be free of symptoms and untreated fever for twenty-four (24) hours before returning to school. If a child has experienced vomiting or diarrhea, they may not return to school until they are symptom free without medication for 24 hours.

Other Medical Concerns

- Any unexplained rash, skin infection-boils, ringworm, impetigo, etc. (to return, a doctor's release is required)
- Pink eye or other infection (must have received prescribed antibiotics for at least 24 hours)
- Head Lice: students must be free of all live lice and nits (eggs) before being allowed to return to school. Students who contract head lice will be sent home from school, and the parents of other students in that grade level will be contacted.

Medication

Any prescription medication that must be administered to a student during the school day must be stored in the school office. A signed medication consent form and a copy of the physician's instructions for the medication must be on file for these students. A separate consent form is required for each medicine. New consent forms are required every year at the beginning of school, whenever the dose or directions change, or when a new medicine is prescribed. It is the parent's responsibility to provide all medicines to be given at school. Each medicine must be in an appropriately labeled, original container from the pharmacy or healthcare provider's office. The student may come to the office to obtain his/her medication. A record will be maintained of the date and time the medicine was taken.

Discipline

The main purpose of all discipline is to foster a student's desire to be morally and intellectually virtuous. Where that desire does not exist, self-discipline will not arise and a student will falter when laws and rules are silent. The secondary purpose is to foster an orderly and disciplined environment in which all students can learn and present their ideas in a respectful way.

We expect our students to behave responsibly and ethically at school to help create an environment that nurtures learning and achievement. A safe, orderly school and a culture of respect benefit every student and family. Spring Vale is committed to our students' success both now and in the future. Spring Vale's discipline is designed to help cultivate and direct a lifestyle of integrity, respectfulness, and morality that will lead to relational and financial success in the life of its students.

When a student violates school policy or puts another person in danger, disciplinary action may be necessary. Disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, counseling, detention, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, community service, loss of school privileges, and/or restricted activity. Students who show little regard for others or the school's values, or who are disrupting the spiritual, relational, or educational growth of the school, may be suspended or expelled from school at the discretion of the Principal and Executive Director.

The school discipline policy applies to all Spring Vale Christian School students at all times before, during, and after school hours when they are on the school campus, in a school vehicle, or involved in a school-related or school sponsored event, function, field trip, or activity. The teacher is the first line of discipline, and a teacher has authority over every student anywhere on school grounds and at all school functions.

Informal Disciplinary Techniques

Teachers may use informal disciplinary techniques to maintain discipline in their classroom. Teachers may use techniques such as redirecting, giving a verbal reprimand, moving a student to another seat, giving a lunch detention, separating a student from other students for up to one class period, having a student walk laps at recess, or conducting a phone call or conference with a student's parent/guardian.

School Disciplinary Process

The school disciplinary process is initiated when a staff member issues a detention slip, confiscates a prohibited item and/or sends a student directly to an administrator.

Students will receive a detention for (not an exclusive list):

- Refusing to participate in class (Ephesians 6:1-3)
- Disrupting class (1 Corinthians 14:40)
- Disrespecting a staff member (Romans 12:10)
- Dishonestly or cheating (Proverbs 6:16-19)
- Harassing another student (Ephesians 4:31-32)
- Using profane language/gestures (Eph. 4:29, 5:4)
- Dress code infractions (Hebrews 13:17)
- Unexcused tardies (3)
- Destruction of property (Matthew 7:12)
- Theft (Exodus 20:15)
- Repeated infractions
- Sexual harassment

Students who commit serious offenses that are criminal in nature and may be punishable under Michigan law, such as:

- Possession of a firearm or other weapon
- Possession of a destructive device
- Possession or distribution of a controlled substance
- Sexual assault

Will be sent immediately to an administrator, who will investigate the event and initiate the appropriate response. The student's parent/guardian will be contacted, and the student may be removed from school. If the administrator has reason to believe that a crime has occurred, he will contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Other Disciplinary Responses

The following list contains other options that may be used by the administration to respond to student violations.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.

- Parent contract
- Written warning
- Mediation
- Loss of driving/parking privileges
- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Restitution

Participation in an Infraction

A student who participates in, conspires with, or encourages another student to violate a rule may be found in violation and will be subject to the same disciplinary response.

Search

If deemed necessary, administration maintains the right to search lockers and backpacks at any time.

Substance Use

The school campus and all school functions are substance free. A student shall not possess, use, purchase, sell, solicit, distribute or be under the influence of any kind of alcoholic beverage, tobacco, nicotine, controlled substance (as defined by state law), herbal alternative, illegal or counterfeit substance. SVCS has the right to administer drug tests to students when reasonable suspicion of use exists.

Amnesty Provision

A student who inadvertently possesses or finds a prohibited object shall immediately notify a school staff member and surrender the object. A student who voluntarily surrenders a prohibited object will not be subject to discipline. The amnesty provision may not apply if an investigation or search is ongoing at the school. The surrendered object may only be picked up by the student's parent/guardian. Objects that cannot be legally possessed off school grounds will be turned over to the proper authority.

Exclusion from Activities

Any student who is assigned an In-School Suspension is prohibited from participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular activities on the day(s) that the In-School Suspension occurs.

Public Displays of Affection

Public displays of affection (i.e. holding hands, hugs, kissing, etc.) in the context of romantic relationships are not permitted at school. Students who do not refrain from showing PDA will be separated from each other for a period of time in classes, at lunch, after school activities, etc. as set by administration.

Detention

Detentions are typically 30 minutes, served as a Silent Lunch (separated from other students) on the day following the infraction. Repeat and/or severe offenses may result in additional time served before or after school and may require written Reflection Assignments and/or Community Service time on campus.

Complaint or Problem Resolution

Interaction between teachers and students, teachers and parents, parents and office staff, parents and coaches, or even two families within the school can result in conflict situations which require resolution. This is often the result of lack of communication between those parties involved. School personnel at every level are committed to resolving problems one-on-one and in a spirit of Christian love and respect. SVCS' policy for dealing with such situations is consistent with the biblical teaching found in Matthew 18:15-22 and Matthew 5:21-24. The following step should be followed:

If an issue should arise regarding an individual teacher's behavior, course work, rules or procedures, the parents and/or student should speak directly to the teacher, coach, or other staff member. The exception would be when there is a serious issue of safety or morality in which it may be appropriate to immediately contact an administrator. A respectful demeanor is required at all times. Beginning a conversation with the phrase "Help me understand why" is far preferable to "Why did you...?" If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved, the parent may bring the concern to the Principal.

Visitors on Campus

All visitors must go directly to the main school campus building. Visitors must ring the doorbell and the office secretary will grant access to enter the building. All visitors and parents on campus during the school day must check in through the main school office. Parents or family members should not go directly to the student's classroom. Visitors outside on the campus without permission will be asked to go to the office to obtain approval.

Photography Policy

Students may be photographed. The photographs may be used in SVCS social media, promotional materials, and other publications unless parents communicate otherwise in writing. Parents may update permissions at any time by contacting the Office Administrator.

Safety and Security

Spring Vale Christian School cares deeply about the safety and security of its students and employees. Safety and emergency policies and procedures are reviewed and updated regularly in response to the changing needs of our community. These policies and procedures are communicated and reviewed regularly with faculty, staff, and students. Spring Vale Christian School abides by the Child Abuse Prevention, Adoption, and Family Services Act. This law mandates that all cases of suspected abuse and/or neglect be reported to Child Protective Services.

Attendance

Attendance in school and participation in class are integral parts of academic achievement. Regular attendance develops patterns that are essential to professional and personal success in life. The Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law requires continuous school attendance for all children between the ages of six (younger if enrolled) and sixteen.

Parents/guardians are legally responsible for their child's attendance and are required to notify the school of the reason for each known absence of the child.

If a parent does not contact the school office regarding an absence, it will be deemed an unexcused absence.

Spring Vale recognizes the authority of parents over their children and understands that parents may decide it is in the best interest of their child not to attend school on a particular day. Parents should recognize that when a pattern or excess of absence occurs, the school is placed in a position to decide whether a specific amount of education has taken place and reserves the right to determine passing a student to the next grade or retaining a student in a current grade.

Attendance Records

Teachers maintain attendance records for each class. A student who misses one class period will be counted absent for that class.

Completing Missed Work

Students are required to complete all the class work that they missed during an absence. It is the student's responsibility to gather all the missed work from their teacher(s). For each day absent a student will be given two school days to complete and turn in missed work. Teachers will begin assessing a late penalty for any work that is not turned in by the end of the make-up period.

Pre-Arranged Absences

Upper school students who know in advance that they will miss school or class are required to obtain a Prearranged Absence Request form from the office. Completed forms should be submitted to the office for approval at least 2 days in advance. Grammar School parents should communicate directly with their Grammar school teacher(s) in the event of any prearranged absence.

Excessive Absence

For excessive absences the administration shall notify parents and take all other steps required by the Michigan Compulsory Attendance Law.

The administration will notify the parent/guardian when a student has accumulated three unexcused absences in a school year. After ten, accumulated unexcused absences in a school year, the administration will mail a letter to parents and meet with the student and the student's parent/guardian to discuss the absences and help put a plan in place to minimize absences. If a 7th-12th grade student misses 10 class periods in a quarter, in the same subject, the student will automatically receive a full letter grade deduction for that class at the end of the grading period.

Detention for Late Arrivals

School begins at 8:00 a.m. for 7th-12th grade.

Students need to be in their first period class when the bell rings at 8:00 A.M. or will receive a tardy. Students will be required to serve a 30-minute detention each time they accumulate three unexcused tardies.

Early Pick-Up/Check-Out

Students dismissed from school early, for any reason, must be signed-out by a parent in the front office of the upper school or in the main entry of the Grammar school. Early dismissals are a disruption to the classroom that requires teachers to stop their teaching to prepare a student to leave. We ask parents to limit early dismissals as much as possible. Students may not sign themselves out during the school day.

Should a parent be unable to pick up a student driver, the parent must first contact the office via phone or email with permission for a student to leave. Students who are signed out of school must immediately leave the school campus. Students who check out for a portion of the day must be signed back into school when they return. STUDENTS MAY NOT BE CHECKED OUT AFTER 2:45. If your child needs to be picked up for an appointment before 3:00, please come pick them up before 2:45, so the car pickup line is not disrupted. If you would like to stay after school and visit with other parents, or have your child play on the playground, please park your car and stay until the car rider line pickup is completed.

Tuition and Fees

The cost of tuition covers the usual schooling charges associated with academic, dietary, and athletic participation as well as room and board for boarding students. Some costs, including but not limited to, extra-curricular expenses such as dual enrollment, state and national testing, and online course material, are not covered by tuition. These additional charges will be communicated on monthly statements sent to financially responsible parties. Returning students must have all tuition and fees from previous years paid in full prior to returning to Spring Vale.

If a student leaves or graduates from Spring Vale with an unpaid balance, transcripts and/or diplomas will not be released until satisfactory arrangements have been made. Parents of seniors should plan to take care of all tuition and fees before graduation to ensure their child's participation in graduation ceremonies.

TUITION	ANNUAL	SEMESTER	MONTHLY
JK (5 Full Days)	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$450
JK (5 Half-Days)	\$3,500	\$1,750	\$350
JK (3 Full Days)	\$3,500	\$1,750	\$350
JK (3 Half-Days)	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$250
K-6 Grammar School	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$500
7–12 Upper School	\$6,000	\$3,000	\$600
Boarding 9–12	\$13,000	\$6,500	\$1,300
Homeschool (7-12)	\$750/Class		
Dual Enrollment	(Via Baker College)	FREE	

Tuition Can be Paid in Three Ways:

1) Annual

For parents who choose to pay for their student's tuition before the start of the school year.

2) Semester

For parents who choose to make two payments, one at the beginning of each school semester.

3) Monthly Payments:

Scheduled as a 10-month payment plan. Credit/debit card or automatic withdrawal from a bank account only. Checks are not accepted for monthly payment plans.

Spring Vale may cease enrollment for students whose account has one or more missed payment.

Notice: If a student withdraws early, has their enrollment terminated, or has an outstanding balance at the end of a school year, monthly payments will continue to be taken until the entire account balance is paid in full.

Registration & Fees

Registration: \$100 (*Online after application*)

Curriculum Fee: \$200 (*Due July 1st*)

Sports Fee: \$150

Iowa Assessment: \$50 (*1st– 9th, billed March 1st*)

SAT: \$35 (*11th & 12th Grade, billed April 1st*)

After-School Care: \$50/Wk (\$175/Mo)

SVCS offers after-school care. After-school care is from 3:00-5:30 p.m. and includes a snack, homework time, outdoor/gym time each day and a craft time at least once a week. After school care is \$50 for the week/ \$175 per month. There is an after-school discount for multiple children. Students not picked up by 3:15 pm or students in after-care not picked up by 5:30 pm will be charged a \$10 late fee per day if the student is picked up late.

Financial Opportunities

To help families in need and to award outstanding student achievements: scholarships, sponsorship, and tuition aid are available. Occasionally, scholarship or grant qualifications are not met or sponsors do not maintain their pledges. When this occurs, the financial responsibility belongs to the parent/guardian.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available to Upper School students only (grades 7-12). Some Scholarships may require participation in a contest or submission of an essay or other assignment. Please note that applying for a scholarship does not guarantee acceptance.

Academic Scholarship: Academic scholarships may be awarded to students with a history of academic excellence and a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Leadership Scholarship: Leadership scholarships may be awarded to students who take an active role in community service, student governance, and promoting the academic, social, and spiritual health of their peers. Leadership Scholarships are reserved for returning students only.

Athletic Scholarship: Athletic scholarships are reserved for students who excel in sports and provide the greatest chance of helping improve Spring Vale's athletic reputation.

Music Scholarship: Music scholarships may be awarded to students who excel in vocal and/or instrumental performance and use their gifts to edify their peers and promote Spring Vale.

John and Addie Brann Scholarship - The John and Addie Brann Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship that may be awarded to students who would otherwise not be able to attend Spring Vale.

Tuition Aid

Financial assistance is available to full-time SVCS students attending classes on campus. Families requesting tuition aid must apply on our website at springvale.us/financialaid.

Student Sponsorship

Relatives, friends, churches, and businesses may help fund a student's tuition. Spring Vale has resources available to help families find and solicit potential sponsors. Contact Spring Vale to learn more about student sponsorship.

Payment Plan Discount

<i>Annual Payment</i>	<i>5% Discount</i>
<i>Semester Payment</i>	<i>2.5% Discount</i>

Ministerial Discount

To show appreciation for those who serve our churches, Spring Vale offers a Ministerial Discount.

<i>Full-Time Ministry</i>	<i>25% Discount</i>
<i>Part-Time Ministry</i>	<i>15% Discount</i>



Admissions

Non-Discrimination Policy

Spring Vale Christian School admits students of any race, color, gender, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, athletic, and other school administered programs. As a Christian school, the majority of Spring Vale students have a Christian background and adhere to biblical principles; this is not, however, a requirement for admission. Acceptance is subject to available space, academic and character requirements, as well as commitment to adhere to school standards. Admission to Spring Vale Christian School is a privilege, and as such, may be withheld at the discretion of the school administration.

Becoming a Student

Step 1: Schedule a school tour and meeting with the principal.

Step 2: Fill out an Enrollment Application found at www.springvale.us and submit it to Spring Vale Christian School.

Step 3: If accepted, new students will need to complete the following forms and send them to Spring Vale Christian School:

- Medical Release
- Physical Exam
- Immunization Waiver
- Photo Release
- School Records Release

Step 4: Apply for scholarship

Step 5: (boarding students only): Make travel arrangements to Spring Vale with the Office Administrator

Registration:

\$100 enrollment fee per student.

All forms should be mailed, emailed, or faxed to Spring Vale Christian School.

Address: Spring Vale Christian School
4150 S M 52
Owosso, MI 48867

Email: office@springvale.us

Fax: (989) 729 - 6408

**Spring Vale has an open enrollment policy and can accept new students at any point during the school year.*



Boarding Students

What Should I Bring?

- Bible
- Bedding
- Toiletries
- Dress Clothes
- Laptop
- Athletic Apparel
- Musical Instruments
- Backpack
- Towel
- Uniforms
- Flashlight
- Winter Clothing
- Alarm Clock (battery operated)

Personal Property Notice

Spring Vale does its best to provide a safe and secure environment; however, the school cannot assume responsibility for personal items. Students may bring a locking trunk to protect personal items. The student must be willing to have his or her trunk randomly searched by Spring Vale administration to ensure that no potentially harmful personal items are being stored on Spring Vale's campus.

Room searches or searches of a student's personal property may be conducted when there is reason to believe a student has items that are prohibited by law or Spring Vale policy. If a prohibited item is found during a search, the item(s) will be confiscated by the school and either destroyed, sent to the student's parents, or returned to the student at the end of the school year.

What NOT to Bring

- Fireworks
- Candles
- iPad/Tablet
- Television
- Heating Devices
- Weapons (firearms airsoft, knives, or blades of any sort)
- Controlled substances or intoxicants

Dress Code Policy

All students must wear modest clothing that aligns with biblical standards. While some of Spring Vale's policies regarding dress code are directly found in scripture, others specifically address trends of modern culture. The purpose of the Dress Code Policy is to help protect students both physically and spiritually, limit distractions, and encourage neatness and self-respect. A student's heart-attitude typically dictates the success or failure of the dress code policy. All dress, including but not limited to all clothing, piercings, jewelry, and any other wearable item, must be permitted by the Spring Vale administration. A detailed dress code is available. Enforcement of all dress code guidelines are subject to staff interpretation and is never open to debate. Daily uniforms must be worn during the school day.

School uniforms can be purchased at

www.frenchtoast.com/schoolbox/schools/spring-vale-christian-school

Dress Code Policy-Girls

School Dress

School uniforms are required during school hours.

Hair must be out of eyes. Designs shaved into the hair are not allowed. Natural hair colors only.

Jewelry-Girls' earrings (*no more than 3 per ear*) can be no larger than 1 inch in diameter. Body piercings and gauges are not allowed.

Fingernail length must be no more than ½ inch from the fingertip.

Uniform pants need to be modest, not tight-fitting, and not have any tears or holes.

Skirts must not be shorter than 2 inches from the knees.

Leggings or tights worn with skirts must be blue, white, or nude.

Shoes for 7th-12th grade must be closed toe and be black or brown leather or leather-like. No canvas, suede, or tennis shoes. Grammar school students may wear any type of closed toe shoes. A separate pair of tennis shoes must be brought to leave at school to wear indoors and in the gym.

Hooded sweatshirts, jackets, or coats must be placed in lockers and may not be worn in class. Approved uniform jackets are available to be purchased at Frenchtoast.com.

On dress down days or on some field trips, jeans with NO rips or holes may be worn.

Recreational Dress

All students should attend Spring Vale with the proper attire for recreational and athletic activities including swimming and seasonal sports.

P.E. Class during the day: Athletic shorts should have a minimum of a 5-inch inseam and can be purchased at Frenchtoast.com

Girls are expected to have shorts and t-shirts for recreational activities. Sleeveless shirts must be loose fitting and modest. Sports bras are appropriate underneath a shirt only.

For swimming, girls must wear non-form-fitting swim shorts and a top that completely covers the stomach and bust. Bikinis are not permitted.



Dress Code Policy-Boys

School Dress

Hair must be off the collar and out of the eyes. Tails and designs shaved into the hair are not allowed. Natural colors only.

Students must be clean shaven at all times. No facial hair.

No finger nail polish or decorated nails of any kind.

School uniforms are required.

Students must wear a belt to prevent their pants from sagging.

Pants should not have holes, tears and must be uniform pants as referenced above.

Shoes must enclose the entire foot and be black or brown leather or leather-like material. Canvas or tennis shoes are not allowed.

Hooded sweatshirts, jackets, or coats must be put in lockers upon entering school and may not be worn in class. No hats are allowed in the school building during school hours. Approved uniform jackets are available to be purchased at Frenchtoast.com.

Recreational Dress

All students should attend Spring Vale with the proper attire for recreational and athletic activities including swimming and seasonal sports.

P.E. Class during the day: Athletic shorts should have a minimum of a 5-inch inseam and can be purchased at Frenchtoast.com

Boys are expected to have shorts and t-shirts for recreational activities.

For swimming, boys must wear shorts. Speedo style swimwear is not permitted.



CONTACT INFORMATION

School Address:

Spring Vale Christian School
4150 S. M-52
Owosso, MI 48867

Office Telephone: (989) 725-2391

Fax: (989) 729-6408

Email: office@springvale.us

Website: www.springvale.us

Facebook: Spring Vale Christian Grammar School (for parents of Grammar School students)
Spring Vale Christian School (for all families)