



St. John's

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Parent/Student Handbook 2024-2025

St. John's Episcopal School
1600 Sherman Drive
Abilene, Texas 79605
325-695-8870
www.stjohnsabilene.org

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St. John's Episcopal School

Contact Information

St. John's Episcopal School
1600 Sherman Drive • Abilene, Texas • 79605
Phone: 325-695-8870
Fax: 325-698-1532

EPK Building
After School Care
325-695-5153

Hours:

8:00 am – 3:00 pm
KG-5th Early drop-off: 7:30 am (Academic Building- Music Room)
EPK Early drop-off: 7:30 am (EPK Building)
After School Care: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm (EPK Building)
Office Hours: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Campus Entrance/Exit Gates Closed from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
~Use North Street Entrance

Website:

www.stjohnsabilene.org

Administration:

Katie Gloyna – *Interim Head of School*
Angie Jordan – *Chief Financial Officer*
Casey Stone – *Assistant Head of School*
Bobby Atchley - *Director of Curriculum & Instruction*
Maggye Sitzes - *School Nurse*
Brooke Bennett – *Purchasing Agent/ Student Accounts Specialist*
Vange Figueiras - *Receptionist*
Billy Jordan – *Facilities, Maintenance/ Project Manager*
Leticia Garza – *Custodian*

Revised, effective September 1, 2024

This handbook is subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of St. John's Episcopal School. During the school year, there may be revisions to the handbook that revise and supersede policy(ies) set forth herein. St. John's will maintain the updated handbook on the St. John's website and on the Family Portal and will provide notice of any change(s).

OVERVIEW

St. John's Episcopal School's Mission and Governance:

1. Mission Statement

St. John's Episcopal School ("St. John's") shall provide an enriched academic program that emphasizes the development of each child's potential within a caring and Christian environment.

2. Board of Trustees

The policies and philosophies of St. John's are directed and guided by a Board of Trustees ("Board") in accordance with the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools. The Church of the Heavenly Rest, Episcopal appoints a church member in-good-standing to serve as Vestry Representative to the Board. Regular Board meetings are held monthly and are open to parents and interested persons. We kindly ask that you notify the Secretary of the Board one week in advance if you are planning to attend or wish to be placed on the meeting agenda.

After September 1st, a list of current board members can be found at www.stjohnsabilene.org.

3. Parent Teacher Organization ("PTO")

All parents and guardians of currently enrolled students, faculty, and staff of St. John's are members of the PTO. This organization provides parent leadership and a network of volunteers to support efforts sponsored by the St. John's.

PTO meetings will generally be held the first Tuesday of every month. Written notice of these meetings will be given in advance of each meeting.

2024–2025 Co-Presidents:

Kristen Jenkins
Adam Velasquez

ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENT POLICIES

4. Admissions Policy

St. John's shall admit students of any sex, gender, race, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, or ethnicity, to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at St. John's.

Students applying for acceptance to St. John's shall provide past scholastic records and will be given an appropriate readiness or achievement test deemed necessary and administered by the St. John's staff. Each applicant will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee to determine proper grade placement.

The programs of St. John's are designed to teach the academically able student. Our staff and our facilities provide the opportunity to administer to individual needs; however, we are unable to adequately meet the needs of children who are physically, emotionally, or intellectually challenged.

St. John's observes the state-adopted cutoff date of five years of age on or before September 1st of the school year for entrance to kindergarten. All Pre-School programs adhere to this date as well. Pre-school students must be potty trained to enter, or promote to, the EPK 3 program.

5. Admissions Process

The admissions process will involve the following procedures:

Initial contact will be made by the Director of Admissions or other administrator. An interview and tour of St. John's will be scheduled.

Parent may meet with the Head of School, Assistant Head of School, Director of Admissions, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Chief Financial Officer as needed. Students entering St. John's will be assessed by a St. John's faculty member or through a day visit in an appropriate classroom. Assessment will determine academic readiness, socialization skills, and moral attitudes. Students are expected to display an attitude of respect and cooperation. Student placement is determined by a process that takes into account the student's level of achievement, chronological age, and other social physiological, and developmental considerations. St. John's Admission Committee will evaluate current and past academic achievement scores and behavioral records to determine acceptance and placement.

St. John's uses Online Application and Enrollment through RenWeb. Parents/Guardians must complete and submit all appropriate application and/or enrollment forms through the RenWeb Application and/or Enrollment Portal, provide birth certificates, student health inventory, and immunization records, sign a release for previous records, and pay the application and/or registration fees. Students entering St. John's during any part of the year will pay the full registration fee.

Parents/Guardians will be notified of acceptance or denial of admission. Acceptance for admission to St. John's will be probationary for a period of no less than four weeks and not more than nine weeks to determine whether a child's needs may be met by the academic program at St. John's.

Once the parents/guardians accept the offer of admission to St. John's, the student will be enrolled and parents/guardians are responsible for the full annual tuition.

Should there be a change in the parent/guardian acceptance of admission; the registration and application fees are non-refundable and the family is responsible for full annual tuition.

Directions for applying via FACTS SIS can be found on the St. John's Website by clicking here: [St. John's Admissions and Enrollment Process.](#)

6. Re-Enrollment and Open Enrollment

The re-enrollment registration start date for the upcoming school year will be announced in the spring semester each year. The new school year's tuition and fees will be announced at this time.

Re-enrollment registration is on a first come first serve basis at this time. Siblings and currently enrolled students may enroll at this time. See tuition and fees schedule for re-enrollment bonus information.

Open Enrollment registration will be open to the public after the period of re-enrollment registration has ended. New students will follow the online admissions process.

7. Grade Level Placement, Advancement, and Retention

Student placement is determined by a staffing process that takes into account the student's level of achievement, his/her chronological age, and other social, physiological, and developmental considerations. On occasion, it may be the professional assessment of St. John's that it is in the best interest of a student to repeat a grade. Before such a decision is made, the following steps will be taken to ensure that the student's best interest is being served:

When the classroom teacher becomes aware that a student is having difficulty performing, the teacher will inform School administration and schedule a parent conference.

St. John's administration and the parents shall be informed on a continuing basis as to the ongoing progress of the student. Parent conferences will be called as needed; however, parents are encouraged to contact the teacher or administration at any time. Records of these conferences will be kept by the teacher and relayed to the administration.

If progress has remained limited and the classroom teacher recommends retention, the teacher will inform administration of that decision. At that time, the Head of School, the teacher, and the parents will discuss the decision in a called conference. A Letter of Retention will be signed by the Head of School and parents.

8. Financial Policies and Payment Procedures

All students are enrolled for the entire year unless it is expressly agreed in writing to the contrary. Completion of the enrollment forms, completion of admission process, and payment of registration fee (and new student application fee if applicable) will secure student's enrollment for the school year.

Student's annual tuition is charged on a per student basis and is **non-refundable**. The annual tuition will be prorated for students enrolled after the school year has begun. Payment plans are available.

Annual tuition is due on the 5th, 15th, or 25th of August each year. Parents/Guardians choosing a payment plan (semester or monthly) must pay according to published plan's schedule. All other fees are due upon receipt of the monthly family statement.

Unpaid accounts are considered past due on the 20th of each month.

St. John's duties and obligations under this contract may be suspended indefinitely without notice during all periods in which it is closed due to any *force majeure* events, including, but not limited to, any earthquake, fire, flooding, act of God, war, governmental action, act of terrorism, epidemic, pandemic, state of emergency, or any other event beyond St. John's control. The school has developed a contingency instruction plan to deliver remote instruction as soon as it is reasonably practicable and safe under the circumstances. If such a force majeure event occurs, St. John's duties and obligations in this contract may be postponed for a period of time until the St. John's can deliver its contingency course instruction or until such a time as St. John's, in its sole discretion, may safely reopen. In the event the St. John's is closed for a period of time or must deliver course work remotely due to an event under this clause, St. John's is under no obligation to cancel, waive, or refund, any portion of tuition that is owed or paid to the St. John's.

No reduction of obligation to pay full year's tuition and fees can be made for absence, voluntary or involuntary withdrawal, or expulsion except by discretion of the Board of Trustees.

The St. John's has the right to terminate the enrollment of any student for reasons set forth, but not limited to the Parent/Student Handbook. The failure of parents to pay part or all of their financial obligations could also lead to termination of enrollment.

Payment Procedures and Delinquent Accounts:

St. John's Finance Department uses FACTS to collect tuition, fees, and incidental expenses.

Monthly family statements will be emailed from FACTS to the financially responsible parents/guardians on or before the 10th of each month.

Payments made via FACTS may be made in the form of bank draft, debit cards, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or Visa. All tuition and fees on debit or credit card payments will be charged a 2.85% convenience fee at the time of payment.

Payments made in the business office may be made in the form of cash, check, debit cards, MasterCard, American Express, or Visa. All tuition and fees on credit card payments will be charged a 3% convenience fee at the time of payment.

Unpaid accounts are considered past due after the 20th of each month. If accounts are not paid within 30 days, a \$25 late fee will be incurred.

Any account that becomes sixty (60) days past due will cause forfeiture of enrollment and thereby forfeiture of all financial aid and/or scholarships; all tuition and fees will be become due immediately and forwarded to collection agency **with associated collection and legal fees charged to the account, this additional amount could be up to 50% of the balance owed.** Future enrollment will not be allowed.

There will be a \$25 NSF fee for all returned checks.

You can access FACTS to make payment via [Family Portal](#). The District Code for St. John's is: STJOH-TX. This link is also available on our website under Parents, then [Parent/Student Resources](#).

9. Tuition Remission, Discounts, and Scholarships

St. John's offers several tuition remission and discount opportunities to students entering Kindergarten through 5th grades for purposes of diversification within the student population, commitment to ongoing enrollment, and the recognition of student character and academic achievement. The maximum combined remission and St. John's discounts allowed is (50%) of tuition.

Application for Tuition Remission is available annually online through FACTS on a first come first served basis. The opening date and Tuition Remission website are published each Spring Semester for the upcoming school year. You can access the FACTS Financial Aid on the FACTS website: Parent Login- [Payment Plans/Financial Aid](#), or through your ParentsWeb Account.

To receive the Re-Enrollment Bonus Discount, the re-enrollment forms must be completed and registration fees paid on or before the **first day** of April each year. The Re-Enrollment Bonus Discount will be applied to qualifying families' account in the same schedule as the tuition payment plan chosen (annual, semester, or monthly). The Re-Enrollment Bonus Discount is for students entering grades **KG-5th** only.

The HSU Discount of ten percent (10%) is awarded to eligible students whose parents are Hardin Simmons University Full-Time Employees. The HSU Discount is for students entering grades **KG-5th** only.

The Military Tuition Discount of twenty percent (20%) is awarded to active duty military for students entering grades **KG-5th** only.

Definition for "Active Military" for Military Discount:

The child has a parent or official guardian that is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces, **who is ordered to active duty** by proper authority. This includes uniformed service members who are Missing in Action (MIA).

The child has a parent or official guardian that is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserved component of the armed forces is serving on active duty. The term "member of the armed forces" includes:• active duty uniformed members (parents or official guardians) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard who are assigned to duty stations in Texas or who are Texans who have eligible children residing in Texas; activated/ mobilized uniformed members of the Texas National Guard (Army or Air Guard), or activated/mobilized members of the Reserve components of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard who are Texas residents regardless of the location of the reserve unit; and uniformed service members who are Missing In Action (MIA).

Active duty military participation will require the following documents: Department of Defense Identification and a Statement of Service from the Adjutant General/ Director of Human Resources or an official letter from a commander that he/she is active and/or mobilized.

Scholarship nominations are based on the student's academic performance, character, or financial need. Only St. John's students promoting to grades K-5th who have completed all re-enrollment obligations are eligible for nomination of scholarships.

Students are nominated by St. John's faculty and selected through a scholarship committee. Scholarships awarded will be funded the following school year.

Parents/Guardians are notified of scholarship award(s). Scholarships are announced each May during a

Student Awards Day.

List of Scholarships:

The Rob Smart Memorial Scholarship
The Norwood-Liken Scholarship
The Morris Denny Memorial Scholarship
The John B. and Dorothy B. Pope Scholarship
The Carr P. Collins Scholarship
The Eric Otto Scholarship
The Hallie Taylor Memorial Scholarship

10. Withdrawal Procedures and Policies

Notwithstanding permissive exceptions of military or job transfers (with proof of transfer) in accordance with the tuition agreement, there will be no reduction of obligation to pay a full year's tuition and fees for absence, voluntary or involuntary withdrawal, or expulsion, except at the discretion of Board of Trustees.

The St. John's has the right to terminate the enrollment of any student for reasons set forth in the parent/student handbook, including, but not limited to, the failure of parents/guardians to pay part of their financial obligations.

All textbooks, library books, and class assignments must be returned to St. John's prior to the student's last day of attendance.

A student withdrawal request must be submitted in writing to the Head of School for consideration. The Chief Financial Officer will conduct an exit interview which will include resolution of any unpaid balances. Payment in full will be required to receive student reports and report cards.

ST. JOHN'S DAILY OPERATIONS

11. School Hours

8:00 am – 3:00 pm

School begins at 8:00 am. **Students will be counted tardy after 8:05 am.** Please make every effort to have your child to school on time. Late arrivals disrupt the flow of teaching and instructional quality for all students in the classroom. Students arriving after 8:05 am must be accompanied by a Parent to the Administration Office to complete a tardy slip. Administration staff will then escort the students to class. Please do not drop your child off in the drive-thru lane after 8:05 am., as the doors to all school buildings will be locked. If you are going to be late either dropping off or picking up your child, please call the office at **(325-695-8870)**. Campus Entrance and Exit Gates close from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm, and then from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm, the North Street Entrance Gate must be used.

Early Morning Care 7:30 am- 7:45 am

Early morning care begins at 7:30 am in the Academic Building and 7:30 am in the EPK building. All students arriving before 7:45 am are to report to Early Morning Care where they will be signed in on the daily log. Beginning at 7:45, students will be escorted by St. John's Staff to their classrooms.

After School Care 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

After School Care ("ASC") is held between the hours of 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Students enrolled in ASC will assemble in a designated area of the Academic Building at school dismissal and will be escorted to the ASC facility by an ASC employee. The ASC program is open to all students enrolled in

the St. John's. The schedule includes a snack time, outdoor play time (weather permitting), study hall, and activities. ASC fees will be billed to the individual family account at the end of each month. Any questions may be directed to the ASC Director at 325-695-5153 (after 2:30 pm) or the St. John's office at 325-695-8870.

All students attending ASC must be signed out by the person picking them up and include time of pick-up with a number I.D. Only authorized persons may pick up students. Pick-up person must have their personal ID number for students to be released.

The fees for attending ASC are included in the Tuition and Fees Schedule published each year.

ASC closes promptly at 6:00 pm, any student picked up after 6 pm will incur a \$10 late pick up fee; this fee is per occurrence. Excessive late pick-ups may result in dismissal from the ASC Program.

Early Departure

Students who leave campus during the instructional day **MUST** be signed out through the office. Adults must show a valid ID when picking up students. If a student becomes ill or is injured during the school day, the student will be examined by the school nurse. If the student is too ill to stay or is injured at school, the parents will be notified. If neither parent is available, the persons listed as emergency contact will be notified.

School Dismissal

School dismissal for all classes is 3:00 pm. Students will not be released after 2:45 pm without prior authorization. Teachers will supervise their class until all students have been picked up by a parent or other authorized person. EPK2 students are dismissed from the front gate at EPK Building. PK3 through 5th grade students will be dismissed in front of the St. John's building. **All pre-school students must be signed out by parents/person picking them up at dismissal. Only students in grades KG-5th use the drive-thru-lane.**

Any student who is not picked up within 15 minutes after school dismissal will be escorted to the ASC facility by the teacher. Parents will be charged a full day of ASC fees if their child is taken to ASC.

Visitors to Campus

Visitors to St. John's Episcopal School are required to stop by the office to obtain a visitor's Raptor Identification System name badge. This policy is for the safety of all of the students and will help the staff and faculty keep track of persons on the campus in case of any emergency. Any individual on campus without the proper badge will be asked to report to the office immediately to obtain campus identification and visitor's pass.

12. Student Attendance

In keeping with the mission of St. John's Episcopal School, prompt and regular attendance is highly valued as one component of providing an enriched academic program for all students. **The School's commitment to the development of each child's potential cannot occur if the student is chronically tardy or absent from the classroom.** Parents are strongly discouraged from taking students out of class for reasons other than illness.

Tardy

The first bell rings at 8:00 am. The tardy bell rings at 8:05 am. Students arriving at or after 8:05 will be marked tardy and **must be accompanied by a parent** to the office to sign in, pick up a tardy slip, and

be escorted to class by administration.

If and when a student is tardy three (3) times, a letter may be sent from the Head of School, reminding parents of the St. John's policy, emphasizing the importance of promptness.

If and when a student is tardy (5) times, the parents may be asked to conference with the Head of School and the student's classroom teacher.

Students arriving after 10:00 am. without a note will be counted as absent.

Absences

After three (3) unexcused absences, a letter may be sent from the Head of School reminding parents of St. John's policy, emphasizing the importance of regular attendance.

After five (5) unexcused absences, the parents may be required to conference with the Head of School and the student's classroom teacher.

After ten (10) unexcused absences have occurred, the Head of School will have discretionary power to make decisions regarding further family/student counseling and/or further action including school dismissal. **Students must attend 90% of the school days to be promoted to the next grade.**

An excused absence is a student absence that is accompanied by a written doctor's note. The note must be presented at the office upon the student's return to school.

13. Parking, School Traffic, and Carpooling

The school traffic procedures are designed for the safety of all persons on the St. John's campus. The campus speed limit is 15 mph at all times. The campus drive is one way counterclockwise during morning drop-off and afternoon pickup. Traffic may enter through either gate and must obey state traffic laws. All other times, guests must enter at North Street and request entrance through the kiosk at the gate.

The lane adjacent to the red curb starting at the EPK building and ending at the gym is a restricted fire lane for emergency vehicles only. **Do not park in the lane.**

St. John's uses this restricted lane as the carpool lane. **Please do not exit your vehicle while in this lane. Only students in grades KG-5th use the carpool lane. Crosswalks must be used at all times when crossing traffic areas.**

Parking behind all buildings is reserved for faculty and staff only. Mainstream traffic is prohibited in this area.

Student Pick-Up Policy

St. John's will only release students to individuals you have designated on the beginning of the year forms (these include enrollment, medical and ASC forms). If there is a change or someone who is not designated is picking your child up, St. John's must know in advance **in writing or by phone (325-695-8870)**, and the individual must also show a picture ID in order for your child to be released.

Pre-school Early Pick-up Policy

St. John's hours are from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm; however, if needed, early dismissal from school is from 2:30 pm. to 2:45 pm for Pre-school students only. After 2:45, parents must wait until 3:00 to

pick up their student(s). Every student must be signed out of the office if picked up before 3:00 pm.

14. Lunch and Snacks

*****St John's is a "Peanut Free" Campus*****

St. John's Lunch program will begin on the first day of classes.

St. John's offers a catered lunch option to students each school day. A monthly menu is available on Family Portal under Students, then Lunch. Weekly lunch orders must be placed on the Family Portal before noon on Thursday of the prior week. All ordered lunches will be charged to individual family accounts and billed on the next month's statement.

St. John's is a closed campus. Bringing items that have been forgotten at home is discouraged. Students who have forgotten a lunch will be given a "Brown Bag" lunch and the Family Account will be charged. This brown bag lunch is not an option to feed your child on a regular basis and is only used for emergencies.

Lunches need to be ready to eat. Students will not have microwaves available to heat up food. St. John's encourages you to send a lunch that does not require reheating.

Sodas/carbonated beverages are not allowed in lunches brought from home.

Snacks- St. John's has an approved snack list for reference; please see Appendix on the last page of this handbook for the list. If your child's teacher asks for volunteers to send snacks, the snacks must be on the approved list.

15. School Uniform Policies:

Uniforms are required for all students. St. John's uniform supplier is Lands' End and is available through catalog/internet order only at their website (<http://www.landsend.com>), select the school uniform option and enter the school code **900126152** to ensure that you purchase items that comply with the St. John's uniform policy. **Lands' End donates 3% of all purchases to St. John's Episcopal School.**

Regular Required Uniform and Formal Dress Uniform

Formal Dress uniform is worn by all students KG-5th grades on all Wednesdays for Morning Prayer, Holy Eucharist Days, and upon request for other special events and field trips. Specific Boy/Girl formal uniform requirements are listed on pages 14 & 15.

Regular required uniform apparel is worn on all other school days. Required uniform is defined as any combination of uniform items and St. John's sweatshirt and approved navy outerwear on the Lands' End website. To prevent clothing from getting lost, it is helpful to label clothing with student's name.

The navy cardigan and navy fleece, St. John's sweatshirt, and the St. John's blazer are the only indoor garments to be worn over uniforms during class time. All other t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, or light jackets are inappropriate to wear in the classroom. Heavier outerwear should remain in the lockers and be worn only during outside activities. All approved navy outerwear with school logo may also be monogrammed with student's name or initials.

Uniform shorts, skirts, and skorts must not extend more than one inch above the knee.

Accessory items such as belts, socks, and tights may be purchased from any store.

All belts for all students must be brown, navy, black, or white plaid.

Solid white or black socks for boys, and white or navy socks for girls on regular school uniform days.

Knee socks for girls may be monogrammed with Student initials. (see formal uniform options)

No sandals, boots, and shoes with “flashers” or other decorative distractions are allowed. Shoes that can mark the gym floor are not allowed for P.E. or athletics.

Make-up is not allowed during the instructional day.

Modest jewelry is permitted (i.e. simple stud earrings, tasteful necklaces & bracelets) as long as it does not distract from the learning environment or pose a safety hazard.

No hair of distracting color, cut, or style. Boy’s hair may not be longer than their shirt collar.

All hairbows and headbands must be within St. John’s school uniform colors: white, navy, red, or plaid. Hairbows may be monogrammed with student’s initials.

Cold Wear: Appropriate cold wear apparel includes jackets, sweaters and pullovers with school LOGOS. Only navy outerwear allowed in classroom or chapel.

Exceptions

Boy/Girl Scout uniforms may be worn to school on days when the student goes directly from school to the Scout meeting.

A St. John’s spirit shirt may be worn with blue jeans or regular uniform bottoms on Friday for “Spirit Day,” or for any special events. No cut-off shorts or jeans with holes.

Uniform Non-Compliance Rule

When a student is not in uniform, the parent will be called/note sent home and asked to bring appropriate attire. The student will receive a uniform policy reminder. After 2 uniform policy reminders have been sent home, a conference with the Head of School will be scheduled. All uniform policy reminders will be kept on file. **Student’s citizenship grades may be affected by uniform non-compliance. A student will not be withheld from class instruction, but may be separated from the class when appropriate (i.e. chapel service, class/group performance, field trip, etc.)**

16. School Uniform Specifications

Please remember that **Lands’ End** is our only approved uniform supplier!

EPK, Pre-K Transition and Pre-K Uniform

Red, navy or white short-sleeve or long-sleeve knit/mesh/dry fit poly polo shirt with school LOGO

Red, navy or white short-sleeve or long-sleeve uniform t-shirt sold through the school online store

Khaki or navy short/skort/pant/skirt (no ruffles)

Navy mesh polo dress with school LOGO for girls (must not extend more than one inch above the knee and from Lands’ End)

All skorts/skirts and shorts (Boys or Girls) may not extend more than one (1) inch above the knee. Navy or white tights, or socks, no leggings

St. John’s sweatshirt

Tennis shoes (without flashers)

No boots or sandals

Shorts must be worn under skirts and navy polo dresses

Fridays (Part-Time students may wear Friday attire on Thursdays)

Spirit t-shirt purchased through school online store

Blue jeans or uniform bottoms

Tennis shoes (without flashers)

No boots or sandals

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade: (Must be from Lands' End)

Regular Uniform (Mon. Tues. Thurs.)

Red, navy or white short-sleeve or long-sleeve knit/mesh/dry fit poly polo shirt with school LOGO
Khaki or navy short/skort/pleated skirt/pants. Khaki shorts may be classic, "athletic", or golf fit as offered by Lands' End. No cargo shorts. Pants may be classic or golf fit.

Navy mesh polo dress with school LOGO for girls (must not extend more than (1) inch above the knee)

All skorts/skirts and shorts, boys or girls, may not extend more than one (1) inch above the knee

Navy or white tights, or socks

St. John's sweatshirt

Tennis shoes (without flashers)

No boots or sandals

Shorts must be worn under skirts and navy polo dresses

Formal Uniform (Wednesday and other specific dates)

Boys:

Oxford blue dress shirt (short or long sleeve) with LOGO

Navy pants for boys – Not Cargo Style – Classic Cut or Golf fit Only (plain or pleated front)

Belt that matches shoe color

Brown, navy or black dress shoes

Tennis shoes in bag for gym (without flashers)

No boots

Optional: Long-sleeve sweater with LOGO from Land's End, name/initial monogram

Formal Uniform (Wednesday and other specific dates)

Girls:

Navy jumper with LOGO

Oxford blue dress shirt **without** LOGO

Navy tights or knee socks for girls - no leggings

Brown, navy, or black dress shoes

Tennis shoes in bag for gym (without flashers)

No boots or sandals

Shorts must be worn under skirts and dresses

Friday (optional)

Spirit t-shirt purchased through school online store

Blue Jeans or uniform bottoms
Tennis shoes (without flashers)
No boots or sandals

3rd Grade-5th Grade: (must be from Lands' End) Regular Uniform (Mon, Tues, Thurs):

Red, navy, or white short-sleeve or long sleeve knit/mesh/dry fit poly polo shirt with school LOGO
Khaki or navy short/pleated skirt/skort/pant/Khaki shorts may be classic, "athletic", or golf fit as offered by Lands' End. No cargo shorts. Pants may be classic or golf fit.
Lands' End white plaid skirt for girls
White tights or socks for girls- no leggings
Black, navy, or brown belts with any pant or shorts
St. John's sweatshirt
Tennis shoes (without flashers)
No boots or sandals
No navy polo dress for girls (K-2 girls only)

Formal Uniform (Wednesday and other specific dates)

Boys:

Blue dress shirt (short or long sleeve) with LOGO
Khaki Pants Classic Cut or Golf fit only- no cargo
Navy blazer with school LOGO
White plaid tie
Brown, navy or black dress shoes with matching belt (no boots)
Tennis shoes in bag for gym
No boots or sandals

Formal Uniform (Wednesday and other specific dates)

Girls:

White plaid jumper with LOGO
Oxford white dress shirt (long-sleeve or short-sleeve without LOGO)
White tights or white knee socks - no leggings
Navy cardigan with school LOGO, name/initial monogram optional
Brown, navy or black dress shoes (no boots)
Tennis shoes in bag for gym
No boots or sandals
Shorts must be worn under skirts and dresses

Friday (optional)

Spirit t-shirt sold through school online store
Blue Jeans or uniform bottoms
Tennis shoes (without flashers)
No boots or sandals

Gym Wear (3rd grade – 5th grade)

Navy Shorts from Land's End or school online store
Grey cotton/dry fit t-shirt purchased through school online store
Tennis shoes
Please mark gym wear with student's name

Students attend PE Monday-Friday and must suit-out with appropriate gym wear.

Optional Wear (K – 5th grade):

White plaid headband

White plaid belt

Navy crew sweater with LOGO from Land’s End

Hair bows in school uniform colors: white, red, navy, or plaid. Bows may be monogrammed with student’s initials. Plaid bows available in school’s resale store.

All outerwear must be navy!

17. Lost and Found

All items brought to school should be marked with your child’s name. “Lost and Found” is located in the office. Items not claimed by semester break in December, and the last day of school are donated to charity.

18. Personal Possessions

Students are not to bring anything to school that will distract them or other students from learning. This includes toys, computer devices, gaming devices, music devices, smart phones, smart watches, and all communication and recording devices.

St. John’s reserves the right to restrict items that a student may bring into the classroom. St. John’s Episcopal School, its employees, or agents will not be held responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. **Students may not bring a cell phone to school.**

19. Chapel Services

St. John’s is an independent day school affiliated with the Episcopal Church. Chapel services are held three times a week for all students Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade. EPK Classes will attend when deemed appropriate. Bible instruction and devotionals are conducted at all grade levels. *The Bible* is used as the basic text as well as the *Book of Common Prayer*. Students are encouraged to follow the religious beliefs and practices of their homes. St. John’s and The Church of the Heavenly Rest, Episcopal provides a chaplain for St. John’s.

The Chapel Schedule is:

Tuesday

Morning Prayer

Wednesday

Formal Chapel: Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist

Thursday

Morning Prayer

Chapel service will begin promptly at 8:10 am. for our Kindergarten through 5th grade students and lasts approximately 30 minutes. Chapel Services for all PK 3, Transition and PK4 students will begin at 9:00 am. EPK2 students will attend chapel the second semester at 9:00 am.

Parents and guests are welcome to attend birthday blessing chapel services for your child’s birthday, and when invited by your child’s teacher, e.g., to watch your child’s class perform a song. The back pews are reserved for parents and guests. ***There is no video or photography allowed during the chapel service. Photos may be taken after service is completed.***

Teachers will conduct a devotional service in the classroom in addition to morning chapel services.

Holy Eucharist will be offered on the third Wednesday of each month through the school year and will begin at 8:15 am. St. John’s requests parental permission (found on the Enrollment Form) for each child to participate in Chapel service, receive Holy Communion, blessings, and participate in special Chapel activities. Birthday Blessing and Eucharist dates will be posted on the St. John’s website under the “Parent and Student Resources” section.

20. Extracurricular Activities

Spirit Team

Spirit Team is open to all 1st – 5th grade students in good standing academically and exhibit Eagle Behavior. Students will be selected through an application process. Membership fee and uniform required. Spirit Team meets once a month after school.

Student Council (STUCO)

Students in grades 1st – 5th who are in good standing academically and exhibit Eagle behavior will be eligible to apply for Student Council through an essay selection process. Students must re-apply each school year.

Student Council members will help plan leadership events and leadership opportunities throughout the school year. STUCO meets once a month after school.

To be eligible for selection of Student Body President, students must be a current member of Student Council or a Student Ambassador and must be re-enrolled for the following school year. The Student Council President is an upcoming 5th grader with good academic and Eagle behavior standing. The President is chosen by a committee consisting of teachers and administrators.

Wing Span Differentiated Learning Program

The Wing Span Differentiated Learning Program is designed for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade.

Students who participate in Wingspan Tutorial demonstrate an academic need to master grade level material. These students will be recommended for the program by the teacher. St. John's will notify the parents and obtain permission before any services start. Documentation will be kept of progress and a conference with teacher, administrator, and parent will be held every 9 weeks or at parent or teacher request to review the student's individual progress. Goals will be set and progress monitoring will occur including data collection.

St. John's Wingspan Gifted and Talented Program is for students who are intellectually gifted learners; Wingspan offers small group instruction designed to foster critical thinking through project-based learning and problem based learning. Parents and/or teachers may nominate students for the gifted program through Wingspan. While any student is eligible to be nominated, not all nominated students will meet the requirements for admission into the program. Please be aware that if your child is nominated, he or she will be required to take qualifying screening tests in order to complete the identification process.

21. Class Parties

A parent volunteer signup sheet for class parties is located in each classroom. St. John's is mindful of the fact that our students consume a large portion of their daily food intake during school hours. Our goal for class parties is to provide a fun celebration for students with snacks that hold a nutritional value. Therefore, we ask that you follow the guidelines on the party signup sheet. Food for class parties must be prepared from a licensed kitchen and not be homemade. No balloons allowed.

22. Field Trips

Advance notice will be given to parents concerning each scheduled field trip throughout the year.
Only enrolled students may attend field trips.

Parents will be asked to help in transporting students to and from field trips. **Siblings may not attend field trips.** A Driver Information Form will be signed by each person transporting students. Drivers will adhere to the following guidelines:

Driver's proof of insurance must be provided, and drivers must have a valid driver's license.
DPS background checks on field trip volunteers may be performed.
All students must wear seatbelts.
Only one child per belt and booster seat
Booster seats are required for students 1st grade and younger.
No children are allowed in the front seat of any car.
Car doors need to be locked while traveling.
Drivers must strictly adhere to speed limits.
Convertibles or other soft-top cars SHALL NOT be used to transport students.
Parents should arrive early to the school when picking up students for field trips.
Do not stop for drinks, food, or other errands while transporting students on a field trip.
Movie viewing by students is not allowed while being transported on a field trip.
No texting, talking, or any other form of cell phone usage while transporting students.
Count to make sure that all students have exited car.
Siblings may not attend field trips.
NEVER LEAVE STUDENTS IN A CAR UNATTENDED.

A separate permission form will be sent home if child is attending a field trip that includes swimming or water play and must be completed and signed before the student may attend. A paid lifeguard will be present at all swim events. This lifeguard will not be employed by St. John's.

Student Supervision

Students shall never be in the lunchroom, on the playground, in the gymnasium, or any other area of the St. John's unsupervised. At times, depending on age, two (2) adults shall supervise. Student guidelines for behavior are stated in the Student Discipline Section of this handbook. Parents should be familiar with these guidelines.

23. Homework

The purpose of homework is to develop independent study habits and to use class time for instruction rather than study. Homework may be assigned to students in Pre-K 3 through 5th grade, and, in some cases, unfinished class work will be sent home. Homework not returned by stated deadline will have an automatic reduction in grade.

24. Student Online Safety

Each student who will have access to the internet and school owned iPads and Chromebooks will take the online safety pledge and sign to adhere to the pledge below:

While on the ST. JOHN'S campus and using ST. JOHN'S school equipment, each St. John's student shall:

Use computers only while a St. John's teacher is present.
Use only the software programs authorized by a St. John's teacher.
Navigate only to the site(s) authorized by a St. John's teacher. No "surfing" the network or "searching" is allowed.
Protect the name, age, address, phone number, email address, school information, and family information pertaining to themselves and fellow students. St. John's does not subscribe to social networking for pre-school or elementary aged students.
Edit or change only the computer files that were created by the student.
Not delete any file or program from any St. John's computer.
Not purposefully damage any St. John's computer equipment.
Report to a teacher or the Head of School any time the Guidelines for Student Online Safety are not being followed.

A separate technology policy form will be provided to participating students. All forms must be signed and returned before a device will be assigned.

25. Incontinence

It is our policy that students who are enrolled in PK 3 or a higher grade must be toilet trained and must be able to take care of all personal bathroom needs (including wiping) independently. We are not able to meet the needs of children who are not fully toilet trained. If a problem persists, we will need to review the appropriateness of the student's placement. **This policy does not include EPK 2 year-old students.**

26. Student Behavior

Rules have been established for the behavior of students in the School and are discussed thoroughly in each class. All students will learn and promise to practice the Eagle Creed:

Eagle Creed

I show Eagle character by promising that:

I will take responsibility for listening and learning.

I will follow school rules.

I will be polite and courteous.

I will follow all adult directions.

I will not keep any other student from learning.

I will respect myself and others, and I will be a good citizen.

27. Student Discipline

If a student endangers himself/herself or another student or exhibits an extreme lack of self-control, the student will remain in the office for a period of time or could be sent home. A parent-teacher-administrator meeting will follow.

Consequences are:

- 1) Verbal conference
- 2) Written Warning
- 3) Suspension for a day or more
- 4) Expulsion

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IS PROHIBITED ON ST. JOHN'S CAMPUS.

28. Behaviors Not Tolerated

The following is a list of behavior offenses that may lead to loss of privileges, detention, suspension, or expulsion at the discretion of the Head of School and the administrative team.

- Extortion (obtained by force or threat of force)
- False Alarms (setting off of a fire alarm or extinguisher)
- Fighting (physical contact between two or more students)
- Forgery or Cheating
- Verbal Assault (includes swearing, racial comments)
- Physical Assault (hitting another person, pushing or shoving)
- Insubordination (refusing to comply with a reasonable request)
- Stealing
- Truancy
- Vandalism
- Dress Code Violations
- Bullying/Cyber Bullying (an act that exploits an imbalance of power)

Sexual Harassment/Abuse
Weapons (see Weapon Free Zone below)

Physical assault is defined as hitting, pushing, shoving, biting, or physically injuring another person with malicious intent which includes the act of extortion that is either obtained by force or threat of force.

Violence-Free Campus -Weapon-Free Zone

It is forbidden to possess a gun, knife, or any other weapon on school property, school transportation or at school-related activities. Possession of illegal items is both removable conduct and a violation of the school policy. Weapon-free zones include the premises of a school, the safety perimeter of a school's premises, and school events. A student who brings a firearm to school will be expelled.

Illegal Knives: An "illegal knife" is a knife with a blade over five and one-half inches long or a hand instrument that, when thrown, can cut or stab someone. Other illegal knives include daggers, Bowie knives, swords, spears, and throwing stars. A switchblade knife is any knife that has a blade that folds, retracts or closes into the handle or sheath and opens automatically by pressing a button or other device on the handle or by centrifugal force with the flick of a wrist. St. John's prohibits students from bringing other knives or cutting instruments to school in addition to the prohibited knives described above.

29. Bullying Policy, including Cyberbullying

Bullying is defined as a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, through electronic means, threats, or physical acts.

Bullying includes cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is defined as bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an Internet website, or any other Internet-based communication tool.

Bullying of any kind by student, staff, Board member, or parent is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at St. John's. If bullying does occur the following steps will be taken:

- Warning with loss of privileges
- Conference with administration
- In-School-Suspension/Suspension for one or more days
- Restrictions on involvement
- Expelled from school

30. Sexual Harassment/Abuse

Sexual harassment of students by other students, staff or volunteers or parents of the School is unlawful under both Texas and Federal law. This behavior will not be tolerated.

Any student or St. John's employee who feels that they have been harassed or has witnessed or becomes aware of harassment in violation of this handbook, must immediately report the matter to the Head of School or to the Compliance Officer of the Board of Trustees, if the conduct involves the Head of School. The Compliance Officer is acting Chair of the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees.

If a parent believes that a child has been, or is being subjected to sexual misconduct or any other forms of harassment, then he or she should report the matter on behalf of the child to CPS. Reports to Child Protective Services can be made Online at:

<https://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/Default.aspx> or to the Texas Abuse Hotline (800-252-5400).

Alleged abuse or neglect involving a person responsible for the care, custody, or welfare of the child (including a teacher) must be reported to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), and CPS, a division of DFPS will conduct investigations.

Employees with reasonable cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect, as defined by Texas Family Code §261.001, are required by state law to make a report to a law enforcement agency, Child Protective Services (CPS), or appropriate state agency (e.g., state agency operating, licensing, certifying, or registering the facility) within 48 hours of the event that led to the suspicion.

Additional information about child abuse and neglect is available at:

https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Child_Safety/report_abuse.asp.

State law specifies that an employee may not delegate to or rely on another person or administrator to make the report.

An employee's failure to make a required report may result in criminal penalties.

Under state law, any person reporting or assisting in the investigation of reported child abuse or neglect is immune from liability unless the report is made in bad faith or with malicious intent. In addition, ST. JOHN'S is prohibited from taking an adverse employment action against a certified or licensed professional who, in good faith, reports child abuse or neglect or who participates in an investigation regarding an allegation of child abuse or neglect.

Employees who suspect that a student has been or may be abused or neglected shall also report their concerns to Head of School. Employees are not required to report their concern to the Head of School before making a report to the appropriate agency.

Reporting the concern to the Head of School does not relieve the employee of the requirement to report it to the appropriate state agency. In addition, employees must cooperate with investigators of child abuse and neglect. If an officer from CPS or another law enforcement or state agency arrives on our campus, the employee must direct the visitor to the Head of School's office.

Employees are also required to make a report if they have reasonable cause to believe that an adult was a victim of abuse or neglect as a child and they determine in good faith that the disclosure of the information is necessary to protect the health and safety of another child, elderly person, or person with a disability.

31. School/ Family Cooperation Clause

A positive and constructive relationship between the school and the Students' Family is essential to the School's educational purpose and responsibilities to its students. If any Family Member engages in behavior, communications or interactions on or off campus, that is disruptive, intimidating, overly aggressive or reflects a loss of confidence in or disagreement with the Schools' policies, methods of instruction or discipline, or otherwise interferes with the School's safety procedures, responsibilities or accomplishment of its educational purpose or program, the School reserves the right to dismiss the Family or Family Member from the school.

The School may also place restrictions on a Family Member's involvement or activity at School for other reasons that the School deems appropriate. Any determination under this Paragraph shall be at the Head

of School's sole discretion. There will be no refund of tuition where such dismissal occurs, and any unpaid balance is payable in full according to the terms of the enrollment contract. The School also reserves the right to withdraw an offer of enrollment or re-enrollment at any time and to void an executed Enrollment Contract.

Behaviors Not Tolerated:

- Inappropriate or Disruptive behavior which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper on school property or while representing the school on off campus field trips, community events or other events.
- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including Social Media) to anyone within the school community.
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or any of the pupils/parents/staff/Board members at the school on Facebook or other Social Media sights.
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Smoking, taking illegal drugs or the consumption of alcohol on school premises. (Alcohol may only be consumed during authorized events)
- Dogs being brought on to the school premises (other than guide dogs), except for Blessing of the Animals.

Online Activity Considered Inappropriate:

- Identifying or posting images/videos of children
- Abusive or personal comments about staff, children or other parents
- Bringing the school in disrepute
- Posting defamatory or libelous comments
- Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff, Board members, children
- Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children, Board members, or staff members
- Threatening behavior, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language
- Breaching school security procedures

St. John's Episcopal School is committed to maintaining orderly educational and administrative processes in keeping the school free from disruptions. The School seeks to maintain a safe, harassment free environment for students and staff. St. John's staff will treat parents with respect and expect the same in return.

ST. JOHN'S COMMUNICATIONS

32. Change of Contact Information

To ensure prompt communication between home and school, be certain to inform the administration office when there is a change of home, business or cell phone numbers as well as changes in address. If you call our office during the summer months, please leave a voicemail message at (325) 695-8870.

33. Lifestyle Changes

Please inform the classroom teacher of lifestyle changes. These changes could include (but are not limited to) changes to work status, change of residence, illness, individuals on emergency contact list, and relationship changes. These changes may affect children in different ways and it is helpful for the School and classroom teacher to be aware of these situations.

34. Communications and Parent Alert

The School provides consistent communication to parents and students through weekly newsletters, backpack reminders, emails, the School marquee, and St. John's website (www.stjohnsabilene.org) announcements and calendars pages, as well as communication sent via email and through Parent Web and Class Dojo.

Teachers will return parent messages during planning periods and not classroom time. Please do not interrupt teaching with personal texts to teachers. Call the office and a message will be sent to your child's teacher for them to contact.

Written Communication

The Head of School and/or the administration team, must approve **ALL** memos, letters, information sheets, field trip announcements, etc. prior to the release to parents – this includes memos written by parents and PTO. Memos and all other correspondence to parents are kept on file in the School office.

Parent Alert

St. John's utilizes Parent Alert via the RenWeb Student Information System to contact parents and guardians via email and texting in case of an emergency. A test text will be conducted within the first 30 days after the beginning of each school year.

Texts from Parent Alert will come from the number 317065. The system does not allow responses to the Parent Alerts. You may want to save this number as a contact in your phone so that you will remember that it is from St. John's Parent Alert should you receive Parent Alert texts in the future.

In case of a true emergency, St. John's will provide instructions in the text/or email. ***Please note: Communications during an emergency only comes from St. John's administration; please do not contact the classroom teacher.***

As this system utilizes email and texts, please make sure that all contact information is kept current by notifying administration office of any changes. Parents/guardians may update this information via [Family Portal](#) also!

35. Parent – Teacher Conferences

One parent-teacher conference will be scheduled each semester. Student performance will be reported at other times through progress reports and report cards. Conferences are encouraged at any time throughout the year when either the parent or the teacher deems it necessary.

36. Reporting Student Progress and Grading Policy

EPK, Transition, PK4 and Kindergarten Grading Method

Students in EPK, Transition, PK3, PK4, and Kindergarten are not reported using number grades. However, progress reports and report cards indicating developmental and academic accomplishments are sent to parents to inform them of their child's progress using a letter scale.

Progress Reports (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

Student progress reports will be sent home in accordance with the School calendar.

Report cards (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

Student report cards will be sent home every nine weeks in accordance with the School calendar.

Grading Periods (see schedule online)

Classroom teachers will issue grades according to the following schedule:

Academic Grading Scale EPK2, PK3, PKTrans, PK4

- E** = Excellent (mastered task/objective)
- S** = Satisfactory Progress
- PH** = Progressing with help
- N** = Seldom demonstrates

Kindergarten Grading Scale (Academic Subjects)

- E** = Consistently demonstrates
- S+** = Regularly demonstrates
- S** = Generally demonstrates
- S -** = Occasionally demonstrates
- N** = Seldom demonstrate
- NA** = Not Applicable

1st-5th grade Grading Scale (Academic subjects)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A 90-100 | C 70-79 |
| B 80-89 | D 60-69 |

1st– 5th grades will receive number grades for academic progress in core academic subjects.

Guidelines for Enrichment Grading Scale (PK2 – 5th grade)

Participation: Student participates in class discussion, group work, partner activities, attention and focus during activities, appropriate responses to student/teacher interactions, and completes homework.

Quality of work produced: Student’s work demonstrates neatness, attention to detail, completeness, correct grammar, and spelling.

Perseverance: Student exhibits task initiation, task follow-through, consistency, and academic endurance.

Receptive to feedback: Student expresses appropriate response to suggestions or redirection.

Enrichment Grading Scale (PK2-5th)

- E** = Consistently demonstrates
- S+** = Regularly demonstrates
- S** = Generally demonstrates
- S -** = Occasionally demonstrates
- N** = Seldom demonstrates

Citizenship Grading Policy and Guidelines (Kindergarten - 5th grade) Conduct/Obedience

Student takes responsibility for actions by: apologizing, recognizing faults, using manners, and demonstrates sportsmanship.

Student follows directions by: following both written and oral directions in an appropriate amount of time, and requires only an appropriate amount of redirection based on grade level.

Student follows established routine; bringing appropriate materials for different school settings.
Student follows school dress code.

Shows Respect

Student shows respect for self, others, and property.
Student shares ideas in a respectful manner.
Student communicates appropriately.
Student understands and demonstrates personal space.

Listens/Attentively

Student faces speaker.
Student makes eye contact.
Student participates and responds appropriately in different settings.
Student does not interrupt when someone is speaking.
Student sits still and quietly during lessons and chapel.

On Task/Independence

Student works effectively in a group or individually.
Student takes responsibility for assigned tasks.
Student uses time constructively.

Completes Work/Effort

Student completes and turns in assignments.
Student consistently gives best effort on assignments.
Student initiates, works on and completes task in an appropriate amount of time.

Handwriting

Student completes and turns in assignments.
Student consistently gives best effort on all assignments

Citizenship Grading Scale (Kindergarten - 5th grade)

E = Consistently demonstrates
S+ = Regularly demonstrates
S = Generally demonstrates
S - = Occasionally demonstrates
N = Seldom demonstrates

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

37. Fire/Weather Safety and Emergency Plan

PARENT ALERT

As stated in the Communications and Parent Alert paragraph, St. John's utilizes Parent Alert to contact parents and guardians via email and texting without having to access a computer in the case of an emergency.

Fire, Severe Weather Drills, and Intruder Drills

Fire and severe weather drills are conducted on a regular basis and may be announced or unannounced. Announced drills will be posted on St. John's website calendar. Schedules and records of completed drills are maintained in the administration office, and a copy is provided to the City of Abilene Fire Department.

All classrooms have emergency evacuation routes posted.

Fire drills will be signaled by **three short bells**. One long bell will signal the "all clear" to return to the classroom.

Severe weather drills will be signaled by **one long bell**. Three short bells will signal the "all clear" to return to the classroom.

In the event of a severe weather emergency, students will not be allowed to leave campus once they have been sequestered to their assigned safety area.

Intruder drills announced to staff and are conducted up to 3 times per school year. A code word is used to alert the classrooms and to give the all-clear.

If the School must be evacuated due to fire, severe weather, or any other emergency, the parent reunification center is located at Casey's Carpet One at 1402 S Clack Street.

Inclement Weather

The Head of School will determine when travel and/or weather conditions for students and staff are considered hazardous, and therefore necessitate cancellation of classes. **St. John's will follow the decisions made by the Abilene ISD on most occasions.** When classes are canceled, the School will request local TV stations make an announcement, along with social media. A Parent Alert will be sent to all families and staff.

38. Illnesses

Parents should call the School by 8:30 am to report illness or absence. Students should not attend class if they:

- Have or have had a fever greater than 100 degrees within the past 24 hours.
- Have been diagnosed with a contagious illness, such as strep throat, tonsillitis, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, influenza or COVID within the past 24 hours. (Even with prescribed medicine)
- Have experienced vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours.
- Are experiencing uncontrolled coughing or an asthmatic episode.

Students may return to class:

- Upon the student's temperature remaining below 100 degrees without medication for 24 hours.
- 24 hours after beginning antibiotic treatment, provided the student is able to participate in regular class activity.
- 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- Once coughing or asthmatic episode has subsided.
- With written permission from a physician, if applicable.

Students should provide a note from home if they are not to participate in daily recess, P.E., or Athletics. If a child cannot participate in recess, P.E., or Athletics for longer than two consecutive days a physician's note will be required.

If a student becomes ill during the day, the student should obtain permission from the teacher to go to the Nurse's Office to be examined. If the student is ill or is injured at school, the student's parents will be notified. If neither parent is available, the persons listed as emergency contacts will be notified. **Emergency contact information should be kept current at all times.** Please call the office with any changes during the year.

Students who leave campus during the instructional day MUST be signed out through the office and return after 24 hours symptom free and/or with a doctor's note.

39. Student Health Guidelines, Medications, and Immunizations

Health Guidelines

The office employees will oversee illness, accidents, and dispensing of medication for students. All student medication will be kept in a cabinet in the Nurse's office. **No medications will be kept in the classroom or student's backpack.**

Current Student Health Inventory, immunization records, and Food Allergy Action Plans (for any child with a diagnosed food allergy) **MUST** be kept on file in the office as required by the Texas Department of Health. Failure to comply in a timely manner may interrupt attendance.

St. John's provides in-service education and training in first aid, CPR, AED, diabetes, Food Allergies/Anaphylaxis/Epi-Pen, and Universal Precautions Blood-borne Pathogens to its faculty and staff on an annual basis and will adhere to all current policies and regulations on these issues.

Dispensing of Medication

In order for any medication, either prescription or over-the-counter, to be administered to a student by the St. John's Episcopal School nurse or designee, the following procedures will be followed:

Both **prescription** and **non-prescription** medication must be brought by a parent, legal guardian, or other person having legal control of the student to the School office in the **original container**. No student shall be in possession of, or transport medication on campus, with the exception of authorized Epi-Pens and rescue inhalers.

A Medication Authorization Form must be completed prior to the first scheduled school dose. Prescription containers must be clearly labeled with:

- Student's name
- Medication name and strength
- Instructions for use
- Prescription number and date
- Prescribing physician or practitioner
- Name and address of pharmacy

Schedule II Medications (Ritalin, Adderall, Concerta, etc.) require counting and co-signature with school staff with each new prescription.

CBD Oil may not be administered by St. John's staff and is prohibited on St. John's campus.

In the event that a parent/student violates this policy and brings medication from home to the School office, the parent will be contacted to complete a Medication Authorization Form in person or by fax.

If the parent is unable to complete the Medication Form before the first scheduled school dose, the School **will not** administer the dose. The parent may choose to either administer the dose themselves or hold the dose until after school.

Sunscreen and Insect Repellent

St. John's will provide and apply sunscreen and insect repellent on an as needed basis, according to the following guidelines:

The sunscreen that St. John's supplies will be PABA-free, water resistant, and have an SPF of at least 30.

St. John's will only use those insect repellents with less than 10% DEET. Children 2 years and older may have insect repellent applied sparingly to the back of their necks, legs, and arms. Spraying of hands will be avoided, so that the repellent does not get rubbed in children's eyes. All insect repellent is stored in the nurse's office.

Immunization Requirements

Immunizations records must be in compliance with Texas State Law. A current copy of the immunization record with the student's name and birthday must be remitted to the office when you register for enrollment each year. If your student is unable to receive an immunization due to medical condition, exemption must be validated by a physician's written statement. Records must be available for inspection by representatives of the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Department of Health, or local health departments/districts at all reasonable times.

Any Affidavit of Exemptions from Immunizations for Reasons of Conscience submitted must be notarized, signed, and updated every two years.

Food Allergy Action Plans/Allergy Action Plans/Emergency Action Plans (FAAP/AAP/EAP)

A current Food Allergy Action Plan/Allergy Action Plan/Emergency Action Plan for any child with a diagnosed food allergy **MUST** be kept on file in the office. The FAAP/AAP/EAP provides information about the child's food allergy, outlines the care that the child will need in managing the food allergy, and outlines the actions to be taken in the case of an allergic reaction. The FAAP/AAP/EAP should be developed by the child's healthcare provider in collaboration with the parents or legal guardians.

GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

40. Development, Public Relations, and Fundraising

The core of public relations for St. John's Episcopal School is effective communication and cooperation between the Board, administration, faculty, PTO, and parents. In order to provide coordination, prevent duplication or conflict, and to present a consistent and positive image of the School within the community and with the parents, faculty, and students, the following guidelines apply concerning all fundraising and advertising activities:

All requests for advertisement **must be approved by the Head of School.**

All requests for fundraising (to include donations, projects, sales, and events) must be approved by the Head of School.

The Director of Development or other administrator and the Chief Financial Officer will consult with the Head of School concerning all fundraising activities before granting any request.

The Development and IA Committee of the Board of Trustees shall work with the Director of Admission & Marketing, the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of School to create a positive image of the School and to coordinate development and fundraising.

41. School Building and Grounds

Use of Building and Equipment

St. John's Episcopal School will develop the use of the physical building and equipment to support the strongest academic program possible through ongoing review of utilization and future planning. The following guidelines must be adhered to by staff, parents, and others using the property of the School:

No alteration may be made to the facilities or equipment without approval of the Head of School.

Equipment and supplies may not be removed from the facilities without permission of the Head of School.

Requests for the use of facilities and/or grounds must be made through the School office and approved by the Head of School.

The use of facilities and/or grounds may not conflict with regular or previously scheduled activities.

Certificates of insurance may be required to use school facilities.

The School may not be used for partisan political purposes.

The School reserves the right to cancel activities deemed inappropriate by the Head of School.

The Head of School, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, will set reasonable and appropriate fees for facility use.

The Church of the Heavenly Rest, Episcopal and St. Mark's Episcopal Church may use the facilities and/or grounds without charge.

No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on school property without Board approval.

The School reserves the right to search the facilities at any time, including all lockers and desks.

Telephone

Students may use the School's telephone in case of emergency with permission from faculty or office personnel. **Students may not bring a cell phone on campus.**

Lounge Workroom

Students are not allowed in the teacher lounge/administration workroom.

Smoking

Smoking or tobacco products **ARE NOT PERMITTED** in the School buildings or on the School grounds at any time.

Asbestos Containing Materials

All persons must be aware of the potential health hazard presented by the existence of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM). The School is currently in compliance with all State and Federal regulations for the control and management of ACM. The School will continue to perform all necessary actions to comply with these regulations under the guidance of the ACM consultant for St. John's Episcopal School: Enprotec Hibbs & Todd.

ACM is present in the following areas of the School: Ceilings in the administration and academic buildings, and thermal insulation in the mechanical rooms of the chapel, administration, academic, and gymnasium buildings

All personnel must avoid disturbance of any and all ACM. Please DO NOT ALLOW ANY MATERIALS, STUDENTS, OR ANYTHING ELSE TO TOUCH THE CEILINGS in the above-described areas. DO NOT NAIL OR THUMB TACK ITEMS ON THE CEILINGS.

Day Care Inspection

A copy of the most recent Day Care Licensing Inspection report can be found on the Parents' Board in the EPK Building.

42. Security, Campus Entrance and Exit Gates

The School is in an isolated area. Employees, parents, students, and anyone using the School should always be aware of their surroundings when on campus. Activity after school hours and on weekends is discouraged. Academic building doors are locked at all times and all visitors must sign in in the Office to be allowed access to the building.

Campus gates will be open from 7:30 am to 9:30 am and then from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm. At those times you may enter from either gate and follow the counter clockwise flow of traffic flow.

Between 9:30 am and 2:30 pm campus gates will be closed. Visitors coming to campus while gates are closed must use the North Street entrance and notify the office by use of the kiosk at the North Gate. The will be opened with confirmation of identification. Please allow extra time for this process, we appreciate your patience in ensuring the safety of our students and staff.

THIS SCHOOL IS A



APPENDIX A: St. John's Episcopal School Approved Snack List

Pretzels

Goldfish

Graham Crackers

Mini Saltines

Teddy Grahams

Austin Zoo Crackers

Rice Chex

Cheerios

Lg. Bag of Veggie Chips/StrawsKix

Ritz Cheese Sandwich Crackers

Fresh Fruit**

Gogurt

Raisins

Applesauce

Fruit Cups

Snack size Ziplocs

**Parents please arrange with Classroom Teacher when bringing Fresh Fruit for snack time.