

Trailblazer Behavior Plan/Student Discipline

Updated August 2018

In order to train and support our students in the developing of Christian character and to provide opportunities for discipline and growth, SCCS follows the Trailblazer Behavior Plan. This plan outlines expectations for shared spaces and includes procedures for celebrating positive choices as well as correcting negative choices. A schoolwide behavior support plan will also guide decisions regarding behavior concerns that arise. Classroom teachers are asked to create their own behavior plan for the classroom that builds from the shared expectations and behavior support plans.

A Trailblazer...

1. Shows respect to God, others, self, and things.
2. Obeys noise levels and expectations in shared spaces.
3. Strives to give his or her best always.

Students have the responsibility to be and to do their best. They are expected to be in school when school is in session, to be in class on time, and to be prepared to learn. Dress, attitude, speech, and behavior all contribute to an atmosphere in which all can grow and live for Christ. Students are expected to show dignity and respect to all students, faculty, and staff members. To help everyone live in such an atmosphere, teachers and administrators will instruct, model, and discipline as needed.

The **purpose of discipline** at SCCS is to develop disciples (followers) of Christ. Discipline is the process of discipleship.

- The aim of discipline is to renew or re-establish relationship with God and with others. Disciplining helps one recognize the wrong, confess it, restore the situation, experience forgiveness, and make a commitment toward correction.
- God holds parents responsible for the leading (discipline) of their children. This parental responsibility is shared with our faculty and staff, to whom parents entrust their sons and daughters.
- Sometimes punishment is needed for discipline to occur. Punishment may act as a

deterrent for inappropriate behavior that shows a lack of respect for God, other people, or property.

Discipline and its application at SCCS is grounded in Scripture. From Scripture, we confess that God is the supreme authority in our lives. He is, therefore, also the source of all delegated authority. Authority over children is delegated by God to parents (Col. 3:20), and, in the school setting, this authority is further delegated to teachers and staff members.

STUDENTS

Children are made by God to reflect Him, and God calls them to be His disciples. Students are responsible under God to obey and to show respect for faculty and staff members as they should their parents, and they are responsible for helping to maintain the learning environment for themselves and others (2 Timothy 2:15). Part of the mission of SCCS is “to serve God and others as they work and play”. In order to better serve God and others, Christian character traits must be developed and demonstrated. We remember the goal of our discipleship through the use of our school mascot, the Trailblazer.

We move forward boldly because we claim the power of a risen Savior. We strive to be trailblazers for Christ, who is our Trailblazer.

“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2a

Our main goal of character education is to invite students to grow in their understanding of biblical characteristics (throughlines) that help each of us to be a part of God’s Story, moving from head knowledge to heart commitment and living actions. Together, we should all model and practice these characteristics in every situation. We seek to restore brokenness when it occurs by resolving conflict directly, protecting the dignity of all parties involved. Each situation is unique. Consequences will not be the same for every student/situation in order to foster empathy and ownership of choices.

All students are unique and have varying needs. Understanding, abiding by, and responding appropriately to classroom management structures and general behavior expectations is an important part of learning in a school environment. Some students may need additional behavior support in order to thrive in the school setting. Students will be supported by teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, the behavior specialist, and the school counselor. Parents will be contacted if behavior interventions/supports are needed.

TEACHERS

Teachers will focus on teaching responsible behavior and encouraging discipleship through caring and modeling. Teachers are God’s servants to lead children to obey Him. Disciplining them is the heart of discipleship.

Teaching: There is no special class called “Character Education” or “Discipleship”. Character

traits and related topics must be integrated into the entire curriculum. That's what Christian education is all about. Every area of the curriculum must be taught from a biblical, Christian perspective. There are ample opportunities to include character education in the established curriculum. However, it will not just happen automatically. It needs to be planned and built into daily lesson plans. There will also be opportunities in devotions, chapel, etc. to teach character education.

Caring/Modeling: Each teacher will be caring in all relationships with students and faculty and staff members and model what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ by:

1. Demonstrating love for God
2. Demonstrating love for students/families and colleagues
3. Demonstrating Christian professionalism
4. Communicating effectively according to biblical standards
5. Building Christian community within and outside the school

SUPPORT STAFF

All staff have an equal and contributing part in the teaching of responsibility and discipleship at SCCS. Our rules and guidelines include all students and all staff. Through positive interactions with students, our support staff members will encourage students to be responsible, to cooperate with others, and to treat everyone with dignity and respect as an image bearer of Christ. Each staff member should be knowledgeable of the rules and guidelines specified for school-wide areas and implement the procedures when misbehavior occurs.

HEAD OF SCHOOL and DIRECTOR OF LEARNING

The role of the head of school and director of learning in responsibility and discipline is to guide faculty, staff, and students in their efforts to achieve the school's mission.

The head of school and director of learning will provide assistance to faculty and staff in implementing the classroom management and school-wide management procedures. In this capacity, the head of school and director of learning will provide training and continued support to faculty and staff as they strive to teach students to follow the guidelines.

The head of school and director of learning will assist faculty and staff with severe misbehavior such as physically dangerous situations, illegal acts, insubordination, and any chronic or recurring problems. As indicated on a case-by-case basis, the head of school and director of learning will initiate interventions, recovery spaces, parental communication/meetings, alternate learning environments, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, contacting the appropriate authorities, or other severe consequences, such as expulsion.

PARENTS

Parents are our partners in all facets of Christian education. The school is never alone in teaching discipleship. We are partners with the home and the church in providing models

and support for students in discovering what it means to live out our part in God's Story.

Parents are encouraged to participate in the educational process. We need the support and cooperation of parents to effectively help each student better reflect God's image and live as a disciple of Jesus Christ. The major role of parents in assisting us with school discipline responsibility is to consistently demonstrate interest and support in how their children are doing in school. When there is a cooperative working of home, school, and church toward the common goal of discipleship, students will make real progress through the working of the Holy Spirit.

We will keep parents informed of student growth through conferences, report cards, phone calls, notes, and other forms of

- Please contact the behavior specialist, director of learning, and school counselor to begin the tier 2 referral process by emailing sccsreferral@siouxcenterchristian.com.

Restraint and Use of Physical Force- Please see the Iowa Department of Education Code-chapter 103.

<https://educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/Chapter%20103%2C%20Administrative%20Rules%20on%20Seclusion%20and%20Restraint.pdf>

- Students who exhibit overt and clear disrespect toward school personnel or fellow students will be removed from the classroom or school setting and escorted to the office.
- Students who create an unsafe environment for peers or school personnel will be removed from the classroom or school setting and escorted to the office.