



2020-2021 Academic Year

**Handbook for Parents and Students
PK-3 & PK-4
Transitional Kindergarten**

9703 FM 1489
PO Box 490
Simonton, TX 77476
281-346-2303

www.simontonchristian.org

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Mission Statement

Simonton Christian Academy is dedicated to providing a biblically based, quality education for its students by emphasizing traditional studies and the teaching of the Bible and a Christian worldview.

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What to bring on the 1st day of school



Here is a quick reference list of everything you will need to bring for your child on the first day of school. Nap items will go home at the end of every week to be washed and will need to be brought back to school the following week. A lightweight jacket to leave in the classroom is recommended in case your child gets cold in the classroom. Please label all items with your child's name.

**Please do not send a roll-up mat for nap time. There is a limited amount of space to store nap items.*

What to bring everyday

- backpack
- two snacks
- lunch
- reusable water bottle

What to bring at the beginning of each week

- travel size pillow*
- small blanket*
- stuffed animal (optional)

What will stay at school

- full change of clothes (shirt, shorts, underwear, socks)
- lightweight jacket

Mission Statement

Simonton Christian Academy is dedicated to providing a biblically based, quality education for its students by emphasizing traditional studies and the teaching of the Bible and a Christian worldview.

Philosophy of Christian Education

Simonton Christian Academy starts with the premise that the only true education is a Christian education. This premise is based on the fact that only Christian education deals with all the dimensions of life as viewed from a Biblical perspective.

1. **Reality.** God is the personal and purposeful Creator and represents the guiding force of the universe. Reality in life involves the understanding that God is real and is active in the lives of men and women today.
2. **Truth.** All truth is God's truth. Truth is consistent throughout the universe. Truth exists and is an absolute. God has shown Himself through His scriptures, and man's understanding of truth comes through a study of the inspired Word of God and an understanding of His creation.
3. **Knowledge.** All knowledge must be put in the context of Bible truth. Any knowledge or personal conviction that serves as a guiding principle in an individual's life must be based on truth as revealed in God's inspired Word.
4. **Man.** Man is created in the spiritual and moral image, or likeness, of God. Man's essential nature is his freedom to choose or decide for himself what his behavior will be and what he will think, become, and do. His inherent nature and his environment of both good and evil affect man's essential freedom of choice. Therefore, he is in need of special help to choose good and to find fulfillment in a reconciled life made possible by Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God.

In order for an educational program to be academically sound and instructionally effective, it must be founded upon Christian educational principles that recognize the true nature of God, of truth, of knowledge, and of man. Implicit in Christian education are these basic truths:

1. Man does possess a spiritual dimension (Genesis 1:26-27).
2. Education involves the total being – spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social (Proverbs 9:9).
3. Each person possesses unique individual potential, traits, and needs (Romans 12: 3-8).
4. The educational experience must involve (as a primary emphasis) the development of Christian beliefs, attitudes, and skills toward application (Titus 2:1, 7-8).
5. An integration of Bible truth will be an inseparable and primary part of the total educational process. Christian concepts will be unified with, inseparable from, and central to the academic offerings.
6. Youth needs a steady influence while preparing to live in a complex society. Only the Bible has the answers to man's needs and longings, and therefore, will serve as our final authority on all questions.

Admissions Policy

Simonton Christian Academy exists to assist parents as they attempt to provide a Christian education for their children. ***The primary basis for admission to the school is parental commitment (from both parents) to be substantially involved in the education of their children.*** SCA does not discriminate. The school will admit students of both sexes, regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, provided that, in the opinion of the school, the student can profit from our program of studies using a Bible-based curriculum.

Enrollment Policy

The Simonton Community Church Board of Trustees will make all decisions concerning the admission and enrollment of a family into the school. The school administrator develops details of the enrollment procedure. The enrollment procedure includes:

1. Parents and students carefully reading the Handbook for Parents and Students and signing a Statement of Agreement to comply with the standards set forth in the Parent/Student Handbook.
2. Attending an initial parent orientation designed to communicate to parents what is expected if accepted into the school.

3. Scheduling an interview with a school official. The student should also attend the interview.
4. Completing all forms necessary for enrollment.
5. Making the necessary financial arrangements required by the school.

Financial Policy

Tuition will be emailed out the 1st of each month and due on the 15th. Invoices paid after the 15th of each month are considered late. A \$25 late fee will be assessed on the 16th of each month. There will be a \$35 fee for all returned checks. Please email tandersen@simontonchristian.org with any questions regarding invoices.

Parent Involvement

Parents are requested to support the school with their time and talents. Sometimes parents think that paying tuition is all that is needed to support the school. This is not true. Tuition is used to pay teacher salaries, but does not even begin to cover other expenses. Parents who are able and willing to support our school with their time and talents will not only assist the classroom teachers, but will enhance the scope of their child's educational experience.

SCAPO (Simonton Christian Academy Parent Organization) is the core of all volunteering and fundraising activity for SCA. SCAPO meeting dates and times TBA.

Thank you! We love our school parents!

Dress Code Policy

Where to purchase uniforms

Monogramms for PK-3 and PK-4 are optional. The only requirement is that the students wear uniforms in the proper colors as outlined below. SCA monogrammed uniforms may be purchased from www.landsend.com. Go to the website, click school, and search by our school name and location.

Regular Uniforms (Monday - Thursday)

Boys

- White, navy, light blue, grey, or forest green collar shirt
- Khaki or navy shorts or pants

Girls

- White, navy, light blue, grey, or forest green collar shirt
- Khaki or navy shorts, capris, skort, jumper, or pants
- Jumpers and skirts must be worn with shorts, leggings, or tights underneath.

Belts: No belts.

Shoes: Tennis shoes with Velcro or slip-on shoes only. No shoes with laces, flip flops, or crocs. Please ensure your child wears appropriate shoes for P.E. every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Free Dress Friday

Please follow the standard dress code rules on Free Dress Fridays.

- Velcro or slip-on, closed-toed shoes. No flip flops or crocs.
- Shorts, pants, or skirts (*with elastic waistbands if possible*)
- Please be mindful that any t-shirt graphics and wording are appropriate for our school setting.

PK-3 Curriculum



Children love to learn new things! It is our job to make learning as fun and exciting as possible. The Abeka curriculum is used throughout, with supplemental materials and centers created to enhance the students' whole-learning experience. We look forward to teaching our students and watching them grow and learn!

-Mrs. Doyle

Bible

The Bible curriculum will focus on God's love and teach the children that God is caring and mighty through stories of ordinary heroes and incredible miracles in the Bible. Throughout the school year, the children will develop an appreciation of God's creation as they learn about the world around them.

Language Development

Children will develop their language skills as they learn new vocabulary words and increase their listening skills as they learn and answer questions in a group setting.

Alphabet/Phonics

Children will be introduced to the name, sound, and picture of the upper and lower case alphabet, as well as letter formation. Each new letter is introduced by an animal alphabet friend or what our class calls our “Animal Alphabet Mascot”. While learning new letters, the children will also have a blast discovering new fun facts about animals.

Math

Children will sharpen their listening and reasoning skills, learn to follow directions, and practice hand-eye coordination as they learn with fun, hands-on lessons and centers.

Some of the main concepts taught include:

- Counting out loud from 1 to 30
- Number recognition from 1 to 15
- Colors and shapes
- Sequencing
- Pairs
- Opposites
- Same and Different
- Positional Words

Science

We will have monthly science themes in our classroom. Our class will also participate in the SCA annual Science Fair through a class project.

Art

We love creating art in our class! From painting and Play-Doh to puppet making and pipe cleaner animals, we stretch our imaginations and have fun! Children will start off the year learning to cut and paste, and we will continually work on our drawing and coloring skills throughout the year. All of these will improve the children’s fine motor skills, which will in turn, aid in early hand writing skills.

Music/Computer/P.E.

Student involvement in enrichment classes is based on scheduling and which days your child is on campus. P.E. class is every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please ensure that your child wears tennis shoes on M-W-F.

PK-4 Curriculum



The Abeka curriculum is used all year long with a few supplemental materials. These materials enrich the learning experience of the students. It is our ultimate goal to help all of our students learn and have fun doing so. I look forward to teaching your child and watching them grow.

*-Mrs. Ammon, Mrs. Anderson
& Ms. Munn*

Bible

Our Bible curriculum teaches that God is caring and mighty. There are stories about regular people that God used in mighty ways. We will cover miracles of Jesus. We will also be memorizing scriptures.

Language Development

The children will develop listening and speaking skills. They will be able to answer review questions to check for comprehension.

Alphabet/Phonics

We will review letter sounds, begin learning short/long vowel sounds, simple consonant sounds, blending of consonant/vowel sounds, and reinforce sounds taught at each step of the way. The students will also learn to write each letter in lower and upper case.

Math

A few of the concepts taught include:

- Counting out loud from 1 to 50
- Number recognition from 1 to 20
- Colors and shapes
- Pairs
- Same and different
- Classify and compare
- Opposites
- Sequencing
- Positional words

Science

We will have monthly science themes in our classroom. Our class will also participate in the SCA annual Science Fair.

Art

We will do many projects with paint, tissue paper, pipe cleaners, feathers, and other fun media. All of these will improve the children's fine motor skills, which will in turn further develop their hand writing skills.

Music/Computer/P.E.

Student involvement in enrichment classes is based on scheduling and which days your child is on campus. P.E. class is every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Please ensure that your child wears tennis shoes on M-W-F.

Visitors Policy

All visitors to the SCA campus must enter through the front office and receive a visitor's pass to wear at all times. Parents may visit the classroom during class time only if prior arrangement has been made with the school administration and the teacher has approved the in-class visit. Parent visitation during recess will not be permitted. Visitors will not be allowed in the dismissal carline areas. Parents must stay in their cars. All late arrival students will be taken to class by SCA staff. All students leaving early will need to be signed out in the front office.



Birthdays & Class Parties



We love to celebrate birthdays and enjoy class parties! When your child has a birthday coming up, parents will need to let the teacher know in advance if you plan on bringing in a treat for your child to share with the class.

Please do not distribute birthday party invitations in our classroom unless every child in class will be invited. This ensures that students will not be placed in an uncomfortable situation or get their feelings hurt.

Throughout the school year classes will celebrate holidays and classroom achievements with parties and celebrations. Our Room Mom(s) will help in coordinating these celebrations and will let you know how you can help your child and their classmates enjoy these special occasions.

Snack and Lunch

Snack

You will need to pack two snacks each day for your child. One snack is for the morning and one is for when they wake up from their nap. Keep the snacks simple and easy. We have a strict NO SWEETS policy for our school snack time. Please pack a healthy snack. No candy, cookies, or sugary food items are allowed during snack time. Sodas and drinks with red or blue dye are prohibited. Please ensure that all reusable water bottles are labeled with your child's name.

**Please be aware that students will not have a place to refrigerate their snack or lunch items.*

Snack Suggestions

- fresh fruit or veggies
- cheese cubes or sticks
- cereal bars, fruit bars, granola bars
- crackers (goldfish, animal crackers, graham crackers, pretzels)
- fruit cups or dried fruit
- applesauce
- yogurt
- drinks: milk, 100% fruit juice, water

Lunch

Please pack a simple and healthy lunch for your child in a lunch box labeled with your child's name. All food that requires warm-up needs to be prepared and ready to pop in the microwave. No sodas or drinks with red or blue dye are allowed. Students will have approximately 25 minutes to eat their lunch in the lunchroom.

Drop-off & Pick-up

Drop-off (7:30 – 8:00)

Drop-off is in the school parking lot. Each morning there will be at least one staff member to greet your child in car line and take them safely to the door. You are also welcome to park your car and walk your child to their classroom. The earliest drop-off time is at 7:30. Parents usually arrive between 7:30 and 7:50.

The student body will meet for assembly at 8:00 in the chapel. Teachers will lead the students to the assembly area, where we will have pledges, prayer, and school announcements.

Pick-up (3:00)

Dismissal for PK-3 and PK-4 is 3:00. We really love seeing your face at the end of the day! This allows us to communicate with you further and update you on your child's day. Parents are to park in the lot next to the gym and come inside to the classrooms to pick-up their child. The gym doors will be unlocked at 3:00. If your child comes for half-days, come in through the SCA front office entrance to pick up your child.

School Hours & Contact Information

PK-3 and PK-4: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Students should arrive in the classroom by 7:50 a.m. Assembly starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. Students should be picked up no later than 3:00 p.m. Parents who are habitually late (more than two times in a semester) in picking up their children may be assessed fees beginning at \$15 a day per child. Late fees will be charged to their account.

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P.O. Box 490

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Telephone: 281-346-2303

Website: <http://www.simontonchristian.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/simontonchristian>

General

1. Damage to School Property: It is expected that all damage, even if accidental, will be acknowledged by the person involved and a plan for reimbursement will be made.

2. Closed Campus: We follow a closed campus policy. Students must stay on the school grounds from the arrival time until dismissal. Students must bring a written parental request to the office to leave the campus for any reason.

3. Communicable Diseases: Please call the school if your child has been diagnosed with a contagious condition such as pink eye, strep throat, chicken pox, head lice, impetigo, ringworm, flu or has vomiting and/or diarrhea. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. No student will be permitted back in the classroom until he/she has been free of fever for 24 hours.

4. Illness During School Hours: If a student becomes ill during the day, the school office will contact a parent. The student may then be excused by the administrator to go home with the authorized adult. **A student that vomits, has diarrhea, or with a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher will need to go home as soon as possible.**

If your child is sick: Children must be free of fever (less than 100.0 degrees) for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications (such as Tylenol or Advil/Motrin) before returning to school. Children must be free of diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school and need to be eating and drinking without any problem. If a child vomits two or more times within 24 hours, they will need to stay home for at least 24 hours to ensure they are not contagious.

Please call the school if your child has been diagnosed with a contagious condition such as pink eye, strep throat, chicken pox, head lice, impetigo, ringworm, flu or has vomiting and/or diarrhea.

5. Health Records: Simonton Christian Academy requires vaccinations in accordance with the Texas Department of State Health Services. Students entering school are to present a certificate of immunization.

6. Medications: No medications, including over-the-counter medications, will be administered without the written request of a parent and /or directive of a physician. All medications, including over-the-counter medications, must be in their original containers, and must be stored in the office. The only exception is prescription inhalers. Prescription inhalers can be kept in the classroom in the custody of the teacher.

7. Emergency School Closing: Occasionally, emergency conditions make it necessary to close school. In most cases this will be due to inclement weather, which makes the roads impassable or unsafe. In case of emergency closing the administration will attempt to notify parents through "Parent Alert" via text message. The decision to close school will rest with the administration.

8. Field Trips: Field trips are planned for their educational value. Notes giving details of trips will be sent home with a permission slip. It is essential that parents sign the permission slip and return it to the school. **NO** student will be permitted to go on a trip without this permission slip being on file in the office.

9. Emergency Procedures: When the emergency alarm sounds, all persons in the school building will file out in a quiet, orderly fashion. All doors must be shut, lights turned off, and absolutely no talking will take place. Each student is to remain with their classmates at all times and follow all staff directives. All classes will have an assigned exit. A signal will be given when it is safe to return to the classroom. We will have regular emergency drills throughout the year for events such as fire, tornado, and emergencies in the community. Information will always go home regarding all drills as well as any actual emergencies.

10. Lost and Found: Please label all clothing, lunch boxes, and supplies. This expedites the search for the rightful owner. All items found should be turned in to the office. Lost items that are not claimed by the end of each month will be given away. **PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHES ESPECIALLY JACKETS.**

Ending Remarks

Many institutions take the position that their responsibility to the student does not go beyond the academic work of school hours. We at Simonton Christian Academy do not take such a position. We believe it is our responsibility to set full behavior standards for our students and we will take a firm stand in doing so. Each student and parent makes the decision to attend the Simonton Christian Academy. Those who decide to do so thereby agree to model the Academy's standards, principles, and requirements. For us to pursue any other course would be to abandon the responsibility of a Christian school. We appreciate the confidence shown in placing your children in Simonton Christian Academy to guide and teach them socially, academically, and spiritually.

Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6