



St. Stephen Martyr

AFTERCARE HANDBOOK 2025-2026

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Louisville, Ky. 40217

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www.ssmartyr.org

WELCOME

This handbook is provided to all families who have children in St. Stephen Martyr School to answer questions you may have concerning school policies and regulations. Please read this handbook and be aware of content. Keep it as a reference. The handbook can also be located on-line. We ask that all parents be aware of the school's policies and procedures and support the school by helping their children to understand and follow those procedures.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY

St. Stephen Martyr School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of educational policies, scholarship and financial aid programs, or athletic and other school-administered programs.

Mission of St. Stephen Martyr School

As a Catholic School, St. Stephen Martyr, in partnership with parents and guardians, is called to nurture our students the guidance of Christ's teachings: to encourage and educate moral, independent citizens who are God's citizens who are God's face and hands in service to the world community.

Responding to the Church's call to continue the teaching ministry of Jesus Christ, St. Stephen Martyr School strives to prepare students to be educated, responsible members of the community who are also active stewards of faith. To this end, St. Stephen Martyr School...

- honors and protects the self-esteem and integrity of each child by encouraging respect and acceptance within the school environment.
- provides students with a quality academic program that prepares for the future and
- deepens the spirituality of the student body through worship, religious formation, and the daily living of Catholic living.

PHILOSOPHY

Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. We recognize parents as the first and primary educators of their children. Our work as Christian educators is to help each child fulfill God's great Commandments of love of God and love of neighbor.

Our preschool program aims to enrich the life of each child, so they experience intellectual

curiosity, become creative learners, and confident faith-filled individuals.

We will focus on the following:

- ❖ Spiritual Development
- ❖ Cognitive Development
- ❖ Social and Emotional Development
- ❖ Physical Development

2025-2026 Afterschool Care Program Rates

Afterschool Care Program

Registration Fee: \$50 per Student

Students in Grades K-5th Grade:

Monday-Friday after school until 5:30 p.m.

*Price Per Child-\$75/Week (36 Weeks)

Optional Childcare Days (October 24th, February 17th,18th, March 13th)- \$60

OUR LATE FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Any parent/guardian picking their student up after 5:30-5:45 will be charged \$10 regardless of what time they arrive. Any parent/guardian picking their student up 5:45-6:00 will be charged \$20 regardless of what time they arrive. Any parent/guardian picking their student up at 6:00 and after will be charged \$50.

Please note, if there is not any communication between the aftercare team and the parent/guardian of the student, then the aftercare team has a legal obligation to call the authorities.

Phone Number to Aftercare Program: (502) 635-3505

Email:khorlander@ssmartyr.org

We also use the Remind App for communication.

Tuition/Late Payment:

Tuition Payment are paid through our financial system, FACTS. Parents are required to sign up for FACTS at the beginning of the school year and pick what plan is best for their family.

Tuition not paid when due will result in the student(s) being withheld from the Preschool day. If a major change in financial status occurs, the party responsible must contact the Parish Business Manager in advance of the next due date to make an appointment to discuss other payment arrangements.

If the responsible party does not contact the Parish Business Manager and tuition is not paid, the student will not be allowed to return to school until tuition is paid in full or a payment plan is arranged with the Parish Business Manager or Pastor of St. Stephen Martyr.

Closings

St. Stephen Martyr Afterschool follows the Arch Dioceses school calendar and therefore in case of implement weather, St. Stephen Martyr Afterschool will follow their schedule.

Withdrawal of Child

If you are planning to withdraw your child from St. Stephen Martyr Afterschool, please give the preschool director or lead teacher a written letter. We require a 2-4 week notice for withdraw. This will allow waitlisted families to be notified prior to your child's withdrawal for them to prepare for enrollment.

If St. Stephen Martyr Afterschool determines your child's needs, whether medical, social-emotional, or developmental, would be best met elsewhere, members of the education team will meet with the family to help determine and obtain a more appropriate placement.

Snacks

A snack will be provided for Afterschool care children every day. Every child will have 2 items to choose from each day. If your child is a picky eater or has allergies, please pack a healthy snack in their lunch. We will make sure they get their snack out of their lunch box each day. Snack menus will be available to view in the classroom each month. 1% milk or water will be offered to every student at snack and lunch every day.

Medication

A prescribed medication form must be filled out and signed by the child's pediatrician with medication in the original bottle before SSM personnel can distribute the medicine to your child. A prescribed medication form can be found through your teacher or through the Director or Assistant Director. Medication includes Chapstick, lotion, Tylenol, and anything your child's teacher has to help your child apply/administer.

Immunization

In order to begin the first day of school at St. Stephen Martyr Aftercare, children must have a current immunization certificate on file that includes a doctor signature, a Kentucky seal, and an expiration date. This certificate must be kept current throughout the student's time attending school. A teacher or other team member will notify you if your child's immunization certificate is expired or about to expire. The guardian will have 30 days to obtain an updated immunization certificate, or your child will not be allowed to return until you provide a current certificate.

Personal Items from Home

While St. Stephen Martyr recognizes that young children can be comforted by familiar objects from home and sometimes, they are eager to show new toys to friends. Team members request that you do not bring stuffed animals, toys, dolls, etc. to school unless it is a show and tell day or has been approved by the team for another reason. Items that are brought to school will need to remain in your child's backpack. St. Stephen Martyr Aftercare is not responsible for any personal items that are lost or damaged.

Behavioral Support Strategies

Teachers focus on positive reinforcement, age-appropriate expectations, goal setting, and redirection techniques when addressing student behaviors. Some specific methods may include:

- Explain the Aftercare rules at the children's developmental level and allow children time to practice following new classroom guidelines.
- Reinforce desirable behaviors by giving positive praise.

- Use positive statements. Instead of saying, "Don't write on the table," a teacher might say, "Markers are for paper." Instead of saying, "Don't run," a teacher might say, "We use walking feet in the room."
- Offer the child two acceptable choices to help the child feel validated. For example, when the child is preparing for the end of the day, the teacher might ask, "Do you want to go to the potty first or clean up first?"

Teacher may also use the “first, then” technique.

- Redirect the child to another activity to try to end the undesired behavior. For example, if the child is continually grabbing at another child's puzzle pieces, the teacher might ask the child if he/she wants to play with play dough or build a tower with her or a friend instead.
- Provide corrective actions that are natural consequences for the behavior. For example, if a child throws toys off a shelf, then the child will be assisted in picking up the toys.
- Redirecting the child to the calm down corner instead of using “time-out”. The calm down corner is equipped with calming strategies such as a pillow, fidgets, calm down strategy cards, and books to let the child decompress and allow them to calm their body.

Children will not be subjected to punishment of a physical or psychological nature of any kind. Children will not be punished or intentionally embarrassed for toileting accidents. Restriction of food, drink, and/or gross motor time will not be used as a means for disciplining.

If a child is not responding to these strategies, an individualized behavior plan will be written and implemented. Individual behavior plans will be written by the lead teacher in the child’s classroom and the Director then consulted with the parents in a meeting.

To ensure the plan is the right plan for the student to succeed at St. Stephen Martyr Preschool. The team (lead teacher, Director, and parents) will then discuss the plan. Each behavior plan is individualized, however, if a student is a threat at any time to themselves, other students, or teachers', parents/guardians will be called and required to pick up the student immediately. If the parent/guardian is asked to pick up their child more than three times within a 30-day span, you may be asked to leave the program. Our number one priority at St. Stephen Martyr Preschool is keeping students and teacher safe.

Child Abuse

The employees of St. Stephen Martyr Preschool are dedicated to respecting and upholding the dignity and rights of young children. St. Stephen Martyr Preschool team members have been trained to recognize signs of abuse and/or neglect. When a child in the care of SSM is suspected of being abused in any way by anyone, the preschool team stands ready to act appropriately and immediately by calling Child Protective Services. If it is felt that a child is in imminent danger and needs immediate protection, 911 will be called.

We have a policy in place to act immediately to address any disrespectful or abusive interaction, whether verbal or physical, between a team member and a child. Any disrespectful or abusive interaction is cause for immediate dismissal.

FIREARMS AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS

KRS Chapter 527 reads as follows: “A person is guilty of unlawful possession of a weapon on school property when he knowingly deposits, possesses, or carries, whether openly or concealed for purposes other than instructional or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, or the purposes permitted in subsection (3) of this section, any firearm or other deadly weapon, destructive device or booby trap device in any public or private school building or bus, on any public or private school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field or any property owned, used or operated by any Council of education, school, Council of trustees, regents, or directors for the administration of any public or private educational instructions.

The Ky. Penal Code, Section 500.080, states that “deadly weapon” means:

- Any weapon from which a shot readily capable of producing death or other serious physical injury may be discharged;
- Any knife;
- Billy club, nightstick, or club;
- Blackjack or slapjack;
- Nunchaku karate sticks;
- Shuriken or death star;
- Artificial knuckles made from metal, plastic or other similar hard material.

While the Ky. Penal Code does not define hunting knives, or pocketknives as “deadly weapons” these knives should not be permitted in schools unless prior permission has been obtained from the administrator and the items are used for instructional purposes.

Emergencies/Security

St. Stephen Martyr Preschool meets all **fire and health regulations** and is licensed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, meeting all requirements of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. All personnel with responsibility for students are instructed to perform within these regulations and are trained in safety and emergency procedures.

Fire, tornado, and earthquake **drills** are scheduled according to state-required frequency. The preschool practices fire drills once a month and tornado drills and earthquake drills quarterly. All classrooms also practice lockdown drills and shelter-in-place drills quarterly.

In the case of an **emergency evacuation**, SSM team members will escort all children to the Audubon elementary, or to St. Xavier High School, if more distance is needed for safety. Parents/guardians will be notified of the event immediately and will be asked to pick up their child. SSM Emergency Preparedness Plan is updated regularly.

Changes in the evacuation policies will be shared with SSM families.

Emergency Contacts

It is critical for us to have updated names and phone numbers for parents/guardians and all emergency contacts. If anyone on the child's Authorization for Emergency Medical Care Form or Pick Up Authorization Form moves or changes phone numbers, please update the information with the child's teacher as soon as possible.

Parents/guardians will only be contacted when necessary.

Health and Safety Inspections

To ensure that the preschool campus is a safe and clean environment, St. Stephen Martyr Preschool has regular inspections by licensing, the state fire marshal, and an exterminator.

Illness Policy

Please keep sick children home. If a child is sick at school with any of the following symptoms, a parent/guardian will be called to pick up the child and take him or her home until he or she is better to minimize exposure to other children:

- a fever (100.3 degrees or higher)
- diarrhea
- vomiting
- green/yellow runny nose without a doctor's note/explanation of allergies during allergy season
- skin conditions such as poison ivy, ringworm, unexplained rash, etc. All unexplained rashes must have doctor's notes explaining what the rash is, when the child can return and how long the rash is contagious.

If a child runs a fever of 100.3 degrees or higher, parents/guardians are required to keep the child home until fever free without any medications (Tylenol/Motrin) for 24 hours before she or he can return to the classroom.

If the child has had symptoms of vomiting (1 time) or loose bowel movements, the child must stay at home until 24 hours after the last incident.

If a child is sent home from school, then that child needs to stay at home until all relevant symptoms (fever, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) have subsided for 24 hours.

If the child is given a prescription for antibiotics for strep throat, pink eye, etc., the child will need to be on the antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school.

If your student tests positive for COVID-19, flu, RSV, Measles, or other contagious illness please contact Ms. Kristin immediately. If it is after hours (after 4:30) please use the remind me app to contact, her. She will let you know the date your child can return to school and help you with any questions or concerns you may have.

Students who test positive for COVID-19 and flu can return to school when at least 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, symptoms are improving, and they have been fever free for 24 hours. A well-fitting mask should be worn through day 10. A child under 5 MUST have a signed permission form from the parent to wear a mask in a licensed center. If your child can not wear a mask for the entire day for 5 days, we

ask that they stay home. Other illnesses will have different time frames, so it is important to keep all children in SSM Preschool safe and healthy, so it is important to speak to Ms. Kristin.

If a child should become sick while at school or in the event an emergency arises, a team member will get in touch with the parents/guardians or their designated contact person immediately. If the parents/guardians or emergency contact cannot be reached, the child will be removed from the company of classmates and will

wait in the office of the preschool director until she/he is picked up by a parent/guardian. If a situation is judged to be a medical emergency, 911 will be called.

*****St. Stephen Martyr Aftercare is not designed for the care of ill students. Students who become ill will be separated from the other students and parents will be notified to pick them up immediately. Please do not send a student that is contagious, has lice or conjunctivitis, has had a fever of 100.3 or higher in the past 24 hours or has vomited or had diarrhea in the past 24 hours. Students who are ill should stay home until a time when they are ready to fully join in all daily activities.

*The Illness Policy is subject to change due to any outbreak at the Aftercare

Infestations

Bed Bugs - The belongings of each teacher and child are kept in individual spaces, which helps to prevent issues including, but not limited to, the spread of infestations like bed bugs. However, in the case that a possible bed bug is found in any of the classrooms, the parents/guardians of children in that class will be notified and told of any actions that they might want to take as a result. SSM will take appropriate action on-site to ensure the potential problem is contained including vacuuming, bagging belongings, having the space examined, and securing a visit from an exterminator, if deemed necessary.

Head Lice - Children must be kept home from SSM Aftercare if they are discovered to have nits or live lice on their scalp. Parents/guardians will be called immediately if their child is discovered with nits or lice. Guidance will be given on strategies for eliminating the lice before the child's return to preschool. Other SSM Aftercare

families will be notified when a case of head lice is found, so they may take any desired precautions.

If parents/guardians have further questions regarding the school's findings and/or decisions, they can contact the Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care branch of the Department of Public Health and Wellness at 595-4958.

Injuries

Injuries at School

All team members of St. Stephen Martyr Aftercare are trained to always keep children safe while in their care. If a child is injured in any way at school (falls, bumps head, etc.), parents/guardians will be notified with an Incident Report and/or a phone call, depending on the severity.

Parents/guardians will be notified immediately if the child needs medical (including dental) attention. If it is necessary to call EMS, parents/guardians will be notified after a team member calls 911. If parents/guardians do seek medical treatment for their child (such as stitches), SSM will notify the local Division of Regulated Child Care. When an Incident Report is completed following an injury, the original will be sent home, and a copy will be filed in the child's records.