

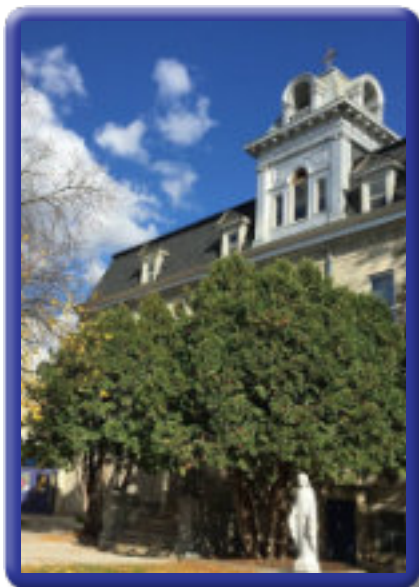
St. Charles Catholic School

Admissions Handout 2026–2027



www.stccs.ca

331 St. Charles Street



Mission Statement

Educating children in an exclusive, faith-based community: a journey of academic excellence and formation in Christ.

Sponsoring Parishes

We are an independent school owned by the parishes of St. Charles, St. Paul the Apostle, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Ann's, and St. John XXIII.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for considering St. Charles Catholic School for your child's education. Since our founding in 1906 by the Missionary Oblate Sisters, we have proudly built on a rich tradition of faith and learning while embracing innovative practices to prepare students for the future.

As an independent school supported by five parishes, St. Charles offers a co-educational program for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8. Our mission is simple yet profound: to provide a high-quality Catholic education that nurtures both the mind and the spirit.

We welcome children from all backgrounds and faith traditions who can benefit from our mission. Our dedicated staff works tirelessly to create an environment where every student feels supported and challenged. Since 2000, we have offered a full-day Kindergarten program, giving our youngest learners the time and space to grow in a relaxed, engaging setting. This extended day allows for enriched experiences in Music, French, and Physical Education, helping students build strong foundations for Grade 1 and beyond.

At St. Charles, we remain committed to fostering a safe, caring community where students can learn, grow, and thrive. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded education rooted in Catholic values, preparing students not only for academic success but for life.

Thank you for your interest in our school. I look forward to the opportunity to meet you and share more about what makes St. Charles such a special school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Aneta Prettie
Principal



Admissions Considerations

St. Charles Catholic School has a proud tradition of academic excellence. Students who thrive in our program are independent learners with a genuine love of learning and the support of a committed family.

For applicants entering Grades 1–8, the admissions process includes a review of previous school progress reports. These reports help us assess academic achievement, learning independence, and educator feedback on conduct and effort.

As part of the application process, clergy recommendations are recommended but not required. Priority is given to families who are active members of their Catholic parish.



Admissions Process

All inquiries regarding admission and registration are handled through the school administration office.

The process begins with submitting all required documents listed on the registration form, along with a \$125 non-refundable registration fee. Please note that some grade levels fill quickly.

Application packages will be available at the November Kindergarten Open House and may be submitted that evening. Families from all other grade levels are also welcome to apply.

Once applications are received, the school will schedule an interview with the principal. This child-friendly meeting is an opportunity for parents and the student to share information and assess readiness.

Interviews for new applicants begin in January. Families are encouraged to submit completed applications promptly to secure an interview time.

Applications are considered complete only when all required documentation has been submitted and interviews have been conducted. The Admissions Committee reviews all completed applications and makes final decisions. All applicants will be notified of the outcome. Please note that, due to limited availability, some applicants may be placed on a waiting list.



Faith-Based Education

St. Charles Catholic School welcomes students of all faiths. All students participate fully in our educational program, including weekly religious education classes and faith-based activities.



High School Pathways

Our grade 8 graduates are well prepared for the next stage of their education and attend a variety of high schools. Many choose Catholic schools such as St. Paul's High School and St. Mary's Academy. Others enroll in local public schools. Regardless of their choice, our students transition successfully.

Bursary Program

We believe every child should have access to a Catholic education. St. Charles Catholic School welcomes families from diverse circumstances through our bursary program, which is supported by our five parish communities. Families requiring financial assistance are encouraged to complete a bursary application once their child has been accepted.

Uniforms

All students at St. Charles Catholic School are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniform policy supports:

- **True Academic Focus**
- **Reduced Peer Pressure**
- **Strong School Spirit and Pride**
- **A Sense of Community**
- **Cost and Time Savings for Families**

Each spring, the school schedules a uniform fitting for new families. You will be notified of the date and have the opportunity to try on uniforms for sizing. Uniforms can be ordered online at any time throughout the year.



Parent Involvement

The success of St. Charles Catholic School depends on the active engagement of the whole family. Throughout the year, families play a vital role in supporting school events and fundraising initiatives – both mandatory and voluntary. We strive to match volunteer opportunities with the interests, skills, and availability of our families, ensuring meaningful and rewarding participation.



Class Sizes

As an independent school, we have the flexibility to make decisions that best serve our students, including class size. Each year, the Board of Directors, school administration, and teaching staff review enrollment for every grade level.

Class size is determined by overall composition, including factors such as age, gender balance, independence, individual needs, and grade level.

- **Kindergarten** classes are intentionally smaller, with a maximum of 20 students.
- Grades 1–8 typically range from 22 to 24 students, with a maximum of 28 when necessary.

This approach ensures classes remain manageable and students meet or exceed grade-level expectations.



Kindergarten Program

Our full-day Kindergarten is designed to help children develop social skills, school readiness, and a strong foundation for future success. By extending the provincial half-day curriculum into a full-day format, students learn at a relaxed pace and enjoy enriched experiences in Music, French, Physical Education, and more.

Key Features:

- Small class sizes for personalized attention.
- Gradual start in September with alternate-day attendance for smooth adjustment .
- Specialized teachers in French, Music, and PE.
- Strong literacy foundation through Kid Writing, UFLI, and Guided Reading programs.



SCCS Programs Overview



Holy Childhood Association (HCA)

Students support global children's needs through prayer, fundraising, and educational activities.



K-5 Music & Choir

Orff-based music education with instruments and choir participation in school and community events.



Grades 6-8 Band & Choir

Advanced vocal work and band instruction on woodwind and brass instruments, with performances at festivals.



K-2 Learn-to-Skate

Ten skating lessons at a local rink as part of PE program, focusing on safety and skill development.



Grades 6-8 Hockey Skills Program

Ten weekly hockey training sessions during school hours for all skill levels, emphasizing safety and structured learning.



Competitive Sports

Participation in Manitoba Catholic Schools Athletics Association events: basketball, volleyball, badminton, and track & field.



Intramurals & Extra-Curricular

Lunch-hour sports and games, plus leadership roles for Grades 7-8. Seasonal camps for Grades 5-8.



Totally Unbelievable Speakers Club (T.U.S.C.)

Grades 3-5 students learn public speaking skills through structured speech practice and meeting organization.



Private Music Lessons (PML)

Optional lessons in voice, guitar, drums, piano, violin, woodwinds, and brass during school hours.



Grade 6-8 Strings Enrichment

A String Ambassadors Club for students to learn violin, cello, viola, or double bass during lunch hour.



French Program

Basic K-8 French taught by specialists, focusing on vocabulary, culture, and grammar.



UFLI & Guided Reading

Small-group literacy instruction for K-3, tailored to ability and progress.



Rome School Trip

Grades 7-8 students are invited to join a Rome Tour during Spring Break (every two years). Next tour: March 2027.



Middle Years (Grades 7 & 8)

Our Middle Years program is designed to meet the unique developmental needs of students in Grades 7 and 8 by offering experiences that differ from those in earlier grades. Students benefit from:

- Specialized Instruction – Rotating among subject-area specialists for deeper learning.
- Advisory Groups – Students are assigned a staff member for support and guidance while participating in Project 11 learning.
- Leadership Opportunities – Students take active roles in school life and represent SCCS in interscholastic events.
- Winter Camp – Overnight experience to build teamwork, independence, and community.
- Enrichment Courses – Students participate in three enrichment classes each year. Past offerings include: Song Lab, Coding, Cooking, STEM, Healthy Active Living, Cheer, Art Exploration, Outdoor Education, Hockey, and Drama.



Fundraising

The Manitoba Education Grant covers approximately 50% of the cost of educating students in independent schools and does not include funding for capital development. As a result, fundraising plays a critical role in balancing the school's budget, improving facilities, and keeping tuition affordable.

Beyond financial support, fundraising fosters community spirit and volunteerism – which are core values of our Christian education. It provides families and students with opportunities to work together for the common good of our school.

All St. Charles families are required to participate in fundraising efforts. At a minimum, families are expected to sell annual raffle tickets and at least 4 boxes of chocolates in the fall, as well as Volunteer 20 hours at fundraising events.

As a small community, we rely heavily on family involvement. These efforts help St. Charles achieve its goals while strengthening faith-based education and community connections. For families unable to commit time to fundraising, an opt-out option is available by submitting a cheque at the start of the school year.



Before & After School Care (BASC)

We offer Before and After School Care for students in Kindergarten through Grade 8.

- Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:00–8:30 a.m. and 3:30–6:00 p.m., including early dismissals.
- In-Service Days: Full-day care available from 7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Our program is structured within the school and led by experienced staff. On full-care days, students may enjoy field trips to locations such as the YMCA, The Forks, and the Planetarium.

- Before & After School Care Rates:
 - Before OR After School: \$7/day before school only, \$9/day after school only
 - Before AND After School: \$14/day
 - Early Dismissal (After only): \$10/day
 - Early Dismissal (Before & After): \$15/day
 - Inservice Days: \$26/day

Summer Camp

Since 2014, we have provided a summer camp program for students enrolled at SCCS in the previous school year. Activities include trips to the Zoo, The Forks, Assiniboine Park, water parks, and the YMCA, offering fun and engaging experiences throughout the summer. Camp runs weekly from 7:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. for 7 weeks of summer.



Tuition Fee Schedule (2025–2026 Rates*)

Tuition

- Kindergarten: \$4,500.
- Grades 1–8: \$3,575.

A portion of tuition may be claimed as a charitable donation.

Tuition Payment Options

1. Full Payment: Due September 1st.
2. Two Payments: Sept 1 & Feb 1 (+\$40 fee).
3. Ten Payments: Monthly via debit or post-dated cheques (+\$60 fee).

Family Tuition Credits

- Second Child: \$250.
- Third & Additional Children: \$1,000.

Additional Fees

- New Student Registration (non-refundable): \$125.
- Building Improvement Fund: \$200 for first student; \$150 for second, \$100 for third and any further students.
- Manitoba Catholic Schools Association: \$65 per student.
- Technology Charge: \$100 per student (maximum \$200 per family).
- K–2 Skating Program: \$250 per student.

***All rates subject to change**

