



St. Cecilia School
2900 Hoover Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
Phone #515.232.5290
school/stceciaparish.org

Principal: Sara E. Rooney
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Question: Do St. Cecilia School students wear uniforms?

Answer: Kindergarten through fifth grade students do have a dress code. Preschool students are welcome to wear uniforms but it is not required. Our dress code is listed on our website as well as below:

St. Cecilia School Dress Code
Approved May 2018

Shirts: navy, light blue, or red short/long sleeve polo style shirt with collar. Small logo allowed (1 inch or less). Long sleeved white or navy t-shirt may be worn under collared shirts.

Sweatshirts, vests, sweaters & fleece: Solid navy, light blue or red. Collar must be worn underneath. Only these colors are permitted to be worn in the classroom and at Mass. St. Cecilia Logo is permitted. Small emblem (1 inch or less) or small brand name is allowed. Other jackets may be worn at recess.

Pants: Navy or khaki full length traditional uniform pants. No cargo pants.

Shorts: Navy or khaki walking/Bermuda length (should reach fingertips but not past knee). No cargo shorts. Shorts may be worn during warm days from April 15-October 15.

Dresses: Navy blue, light blue, or red polo style (appropriate shorts should be worn underneath for modesty). Romper style jumpers in navy and khaki are permitted. A dress-code collared shirt must be worn underneath. From October 15-April 15 tights or leggings must be worn and must be a solid color. Socks need to be worn with leggings.

Skirts/Skortts: Navy or khaki of appropriate length (should reach fingertips but not past knee). Appropriate shorts should be worn underneath for modesty. From October 15-April 15 tights or leggings must be worn underneath. Socks need to be worn with leggings.

Shoes: All shoes must have backstrap or closed heel. No flip flops. Tennis shoes must be worn on Physical Education days. Boots or alternative shoes must be available for wear during recess time in the winter.

Belts: Optional. Must be worn through appropriate pant loops. Cannot be worn over a shirt or sweater.

Hats: No hats of any kind may be worn, including bandanas.

Out of Uniform Days/Field trips: Certain days will be deemed relaxed uniform days. The school will specify the requirements as needed.

Question: Where can you purchase these uniform items?

Answer: You can purchase these at any department or consignment store. Stores in Ames that carry these items are JCPenney, GAP, WalMart, Target and Duckworth Wearing (consignment).

We also have a uniform exchange program in which gently used uniform items are out at 'Back to School' night and conference time. This year has been different however due to COVID19, so if you are in need of any different sizes and want us to check our uniform supply, please contact the school office.

Question: Do you require staff and students to wear masks?

Answer: Since the start of the 2020-2021 school year, we have required masks to be worn by all students and staff members. There are places marked and safely distanced where students can take a 'mask break' and remove their masks for a short period of time. The office has a supply of child and adult masks.

Question: If COVID19 is still a concern when we start back for the 2021-2022 school year, what will be our plan?

Answer: We will follow much if not all of our 2020-2021 Return to Learn Plan if needed. We will share information as needed.

Question: How do we register for preschool through fifth grade?

Answer: If you go to our website; school/stceciliaparish.org and go to the 'Parents' tab, then click on the 'Preschool and School Registration' link for instructions.

Question: Does St. Cecilia School have before or after school care?

Answer: Yes, Ames Community Preschool Center is our provider for before and after school care (if enough students) for kindergarten through fifth grade students. To reserve a spot, please fill out a waiting list form on their website, www.acpc-childcare.org. If you have any questions, please contact them at #515-233-2901.

Question: Does St. Cecilia School have busing?

Answer: Yes, through Durham School Services and Ames Public Schools. If you want your child(ren) to ride the bus to and/or from school, you must complete the form on the St. Cecilia School website; school/stceciliaparish.org and go to 'Parents' tab, then click on 'Bus-Durham School Services.' Complete the 'Transportation Request Form' and either mail it to Durham School Services, 1220 S Bell Ave, Ames IA 50010 or email it to Sara Knight at sjknight@durhamschoolservices.com.

Question: Does St. Cecilia School follow Ames Public Community School's calendar?

Answer: We try to follow the Ames Public Community School's calendar as far as start/end dates, conference weeks and breaks. However, some times we cannot make this work, therefore, a day may be different here and there.

Question: Where are the yearly tuition and fees listed on the website?

Answer: The 2021-2022 tuition and fees are listed on the front page of our website with the registration information. They are:

St. Cecilia School and Preschool Tuition for 2021-2022

School Tuition & Fees:

Catholic Rate \$3,183 Tuition plus \$155 Fees = \$3,338 Total

Non-Catholic Rate \$4,774 Tuition plus \$155 = \$4,819 Total

Preschool Tuition & Fees:

3-Year-Old \$1,222 Tuition plus \$35 = \$1,257 Total

4-Year-Old \$1,824 Tuition plus \$45 = \$1,869 Total

Question: What if I'm unable to afford the entire school tuition?

Answer: You can find information under our website, go to 'Parents' tab then click on 'Financial Aid.'

Attached, please find a document explaining how to make tuition affordable:

<https://school.stceciliaparish.org/documents/2019/11/How-to-make-tuition-affordable-01-28-19-2.pdf>

FACTS Student Tuition Organization (STO): Complete your yearly tuition application at: online.factsmgt.com/aid
Review the application for the yearly due date and requirements. You must apply to FACTS STO in order to be considered for our Local Scholarship Tuition Assistance.

Local Scholarship Tuition Assistance: You will receive an award letter showing your FACTS STO assistance. If this amount doesn't meet your financial needs for the school year, you may apply for our Local Scholarship Tuition Assistance. Please complete the attached application and return it to the school office. All information is confidential.

[St Cecilia Local Tuition Scholarship Assistance Form](#)

Question: What if I'm unable to afford the entire preschool tuition?

Answer: Currently we do not have FACTS Student Tuition Organization (STO) or Local Scholarship Tuition Assistance accounts to help cover preschool tuition, however, we ask that you contact the principal to discuss your situation as we sometimes receive donations that can be used to assist you.

Question: What is the multi-purpose room when you refer to it as part of St. Cecilia School?

Answer: It is our gym, however, we refer to it as our multi-purpose room as we use it for lunch, physical education and art classes.

Question: What are the start and end times for St. Cecilia Preschool?

Answer: The morning preschool starts at 8:15 a.m. and goes until 11:15 a.m. and the afternoon preschool starts at 12:15 p.m. and goes until 3:15 p.m. Please note that we will always try to offer an afternoon class based on the number and ages of the students (i.e. some years it may be 3-year-olds and some years 4-year-olds or combined).

Question: What are the start and end times for St. Cecilia School?

Answer: Students may arrive between 8-8:15 a.m. and go directly to the multi-purpose room where they will be supervised by a staff member. At 8:15 a.m. they will be sent to their classroom.

School starts at 8:25 a.m. each morning. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, school ends at 3:20 a.m. and on Wednesday, school ends at 2:05 p.m. to allow for staff professional development.

Question: Do you serve breakfast at St. Cecilia School?

Answer: Yes, the current student costs are \$1.65 or \$0.30 reduced. They would go directly to the multi-purpose room anytime from 8-8:15 a.m. to receive breakfast.

Question: Do you serve hot lunch at St. Cecilia School?

Answer: Yes, we have a school kitchen and cook our hot lunch here at St. Cecilia School.

Question: What is the cost for a hot lunch at St. Cecilia School? And how do we pay for hot lunch and/or milk?

Answer: Our current student lunch is \$3.55 and includes one milk. The cost for an extra milk is \$.50. You can bring in a check or cash to have applied to your student's lunch account on PowerSchool. You can set an alert on PowerSchool to have it notify you when their funds are getting low.

Question: Can we apply for free and/or reduced lunch?

Answer: Yes, you will need to apply for free and reduced lunch each school year. Once we receive the new year's application, it will be placed on our school website. Currently our reduced lunch price is \$0.40 per day.

Question: Can my child bring cold lunch?

Answer: Yes, the teacher takes a lunch count every day and sends it directly to the school's head cook. If they would like to purchase a milk, they can go through the lunch line and \$0.50 will be withdrawn from their lunch account.

Question: Can parents eat lunch with their child(ren)?

Answer: Yes, guest lunches are \$4.00 each and can be reserved by calling the school office before 10 a.m. However, this year, you could only eat with your child(ren) outside due to COVID19. You can order a hot lunch or bring in your own lunch.

Question: How often are religion classes and opportunities?

Answer: Religion times and frequency vary from grade to grade, however, religion is taught all throughout the school day. We open and close with prayer each day. We also pray at lunch and recess times. We hold weekly School Masses and Father Don visits the classrooms throughout the week. Our fifth grade also performs the Stations of the Nativity and Stations of the Cross for the entire school and visitors.

Question: Can parents and visitors attend our weekly School Masses?

Answer: Yes, however, this year, the visitors are asked to view the live stream from their home or from our social hall.

Question: What extra classes do students receive outside of the classroom?

Answer: They will attend physical education, art, life skills, music, library and technology classes.

Question: I noticed that St. Cecilia School has a Scrip Program. What is this?

Answer: Scrip comes in the form of gift certificates to many local and national businesses. St. Cecilia is able to order the gift certificates at a discount and sell them at face value. This results in a winning situation for all involved as the business and school/faith formation programs both make money. Part of this savings can be passed along to parents in the form of tuition credit:

Tuition Credit-The St. Cecilia Board of Education approved that 50% of the scrip profits generated by your family can be designated as you wish (school tuition, faith formation tuition, or tuition assistance). The other half of the profits are used to support the education programs at St. Cecilia. This is a great way to support the school and faith formation programs and get tuition credit as well.

For additional information and to sign up, please click on the 'Ways to Give' tab on our school website and view the 'SCRIP information' tab.