



SCS Online FAQ

Q. Is SCS offering a K-12 online program this coming year?

A. Yes. We will actually be offering two programs: SCS Classroom-Assist and SCS Online School.

Q. How are these online programs different from what was offered in the spring?

A. In the spring, SCS offered emergency online supplementary lessons to respond to the government's decision to suspend classes. With the plan to reopen schools this year, we are introducing both streams right from the beginning to better address the needs of our students and their families.

Q. What is SCS Classroom-Assist?

A. SCS Classroom-Assist is a rebranding of something that we have always done, although it will look a little different this year. This program is activated for a student who is attending a physical classroom at SCS and is absent due to illness (or any other reason). This absence is typically under 30 consecutive days. In the past, the teacher would have sent school work home with a sibling or parent and have the school work returned in the same way. The big change for this year is that we will be using Google Classroom to a much greater extent to facilitate the learning process. The student would then access Google Classroom at home and continue with the lessons. This could be done at any time in the home (asynchronous). When the student returns to the classroom, the student would continue with the learning without missing a step. This program could be activated multiple times a year.

Q. What is SCS Online School?

A. This is a new program for SCS. SCS has contracted a delivery platform and content source to offer K-12 online courses. K-9 courses are offered as well as all core 10-12 courses (and some electives). These courses are taken asynchronously. That means that students can work on this material at their own pace at any time. As long as the student is registered before September 30, there is zero tuition for this option (our usual application fees still apply). Students using the SCS Classroom-Assist and one to two online courses a year option are still paying the regular tuition as they are taking the regular SCS program. As mentioned earlier, the sign-up deadline is September 30.

Q. Are there guidelines or restrictions around the SCS Online School?

A. Yes; for this year only (this will possibly change for next year). This is one way in which we are trying to serve the most vulnerable in our SCS community at this (COVID) time.

The intention is to provide an option for families who are dealing with compromised immune systems (or other medical issues) within their family unit. As such, families will need to apply for the SCS Online School.

Q. Where is the application form?

A. The application form (for current SCS families) is on the SCS website in the Parent Zone.

Q. What if I just want to take an online class that is not being offered by SCS?

A. As part of SPSD, SCS students were allowed to take online courses through SPSD at no extra cost. Now that SCS is a Qualified Independent School, SCS students no longer have the option to take courses through SPSD at no cost. To provide SCS students with a no-cost online option, SCS has contracted a delivery platform and content source to offer grade 10-12 online courses. These are asynchronous courses that supplement those offered in a physical SCS class. Any secondary student can sign up for one of these per semester. However, should a student not pass one of these online courses, the student would not be able to take a different one in the following semester.

Q. Who teaches these courses?

A. SCS Classroom-Assist is facilitated by the regular classroom teacher. SCS Online School is facilitated by an SCS teacher trained in the use of this virtual education platform (not the classroom teacher). In either case, the teacher provides the biblical worldview integration.

Q. Which option is best for me?

A. That depends. If your plan is to have your child at school (physical classroom) but need an online option in case of illness (or vacation or other short-term absence), then the SCS Classroom-Assist program would be best for you. If your plan is to have your child work through a full-time online school due to medical reasons (immuno-compromised or other medical reasons within the household), then the SCS Online School would be the best option for you.

Q. Is there a time commitment for SCS Classroom-Assist?

A. No, but this program is intended only for short-term needs (up to 30 consecutive days). This can be repeated multiple times a year.

Q. Is there a time commitment for SCS Online School?

A. Yes. Typically there is a commitment to participate one semester at a time. There are two main reasons for this: pacing and a semestered delivery platform and content source. Students can work at their own pace in an online course. They may be far ahead or far behind the students in the physical classroom. This would create issues for the child in transitioning between the physical classroom and the online one. The delivery platform and content source are also (currently) not developed by SCS teachers. The

K-12 programming is not synchronous with the programming at SCS; even though we will make every effort to ensure that the outcomes in the online program line up with the ORDER in which we teach the outcomes in the classroom, that may not always be the case. Therefore, if students start in the online program and then switch over, they may not have yet covered outcomes that have already been covered in the classroom.

Q. Is the SCS online commitment 100% rigid?

A. No. Students could move from the online to the physical classes or vice versa. However, in order to disrupt the learning process as little as possible, we would ask that students only make that move a maximum of once per semester. (For example, student A starts September in the online school and realizes in early October that online school is not working. That student could transfer into a physical classroom at that point. However, we would then ask that the student does not move back to the online school at least until the next semester).

Q. Are these all the details?

A. No. We are still working on nailing down every detail and will have more details in place for September 8.

Q. What about the two online courses that SCS secondary students are required to take?

A. Because SCS is moving to a quarter or block system for its secondary students, students attending the physical school will take 2 courses each quarter for a total of 8 courses in the classroom. Since students need to take 10 courses a year, that leaves 2 courses that still need to be completed. SCS students, this year, will take 2 courses through digital means (Google Classroom) taught by the SCS teacher. This will look something like the spring learning option where students are accessing Google Classroom for their learning activities. Students can work on these assignments at school or at home; there will not be a synchronous component but the classroom teacher will have office hours if the students want to meet with the teacher.

Q. Who do I contact for information about my specific questions?

A. Email Dr. Klaue at klauec@saskatoonchristianschool.ca or call him at 306-343-1494, ext. 224.