

*"We are called to pray without ceasing"*



Parent  
Handbook  
schoolyear  
2024– 2025





### Verantwoordelijkheid

Jij bent  
verantwoordelijk voor  
je eigen gedrag.

Kies het goede en doe  
wat mag!



### Betrokkenheid

Jij bent betrokken op  
elke mogelijke manier.

Dan is alles een groot  
plezier!



### Samenwerking

Samen werken is zo fijn.

Want dan kunnen wij een  
team zijn!

Door vertrouwen verdienen je verantwoordelijkheid

## Contents

### Contents

Word from the School manager .....	3
MISSION OF OUR SCHOOL .....	4
VISION OF OUR SCHOOL .....	4
The school.....	4
The management.....	4
The Staff .....	5
School hours .....	7
School communication .....	7
School uniforms .....	8
Homework.....	8
Report booklets .....	9
Admittance to school .....	9
Promotion and retention .....	10
Assessment & evaluation of the child .....	10
Involvement /support of parents .....	11
Parent code of conduct.....	11
How to stimulate your child? .....	14
Level reading.....	14
Recess.....	16
Recycling .....	17
Healthy school.....	18
Birthday celebrations .....	18
Contagious diseases.....	18
Library .....	18
Field trips.....	18
Electronics .....	20
Leaving school grounds.....	20
Parental contribution .....	21
Extra activities during the schoolyear .....	21
Insurance.....	22
Parents Involvement .....	22
The school board .....	23
STUDENTS' SCHOOL RULES .....	24

## **Word from the School manager.**

Dear Parents/ Guardians / Visitors,

For many readers, it will be the first contact with our fantastic school. It is impossible to give you a real picture and understanding of what makes us special, so please do come and visit us to find out for yourselves.

We are a school with a good reputation for providing fun and happiness, combined with high standards of education, going back many years. The children, staff, and parents consistently move the school forward in an exciting and enriching way, we never stand still! Our aim is to provide a well-rounded, broad-based, exciting education, for all our children. Our pupils have a reputation as confident, well-mannered, and sociable people who will participate in and contribute to the community.

Our consistently strong annual results show a school that records outstanding educational achievement and a high level of value-added across the board. Our vision is to provide the best possible educational environment to work in strong co-operation with the teaching staff, and currently implementing long-term plans for the improvement of the whole school environment, to bring all our classrooms up to a high standard.

This school is a great example of children, parents, staff, and government working as a powerful team. Our children and their learning are central to everything we do. We are confident your family will enjoy being part of it.

Respectfully,

Anjanie Kavita Ganput, MSc

School manager

Sr. Magda Primary School

## **MISSION OF OUR SCHOOL**

To provide the child at Sister Magda School with a safe, learning situation in which self-confidence, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual development are promoted.

## **VISION OF OUR SCHOOL**

In the Sister Magda School, teaching is done according to the principles of foundational education, in which the child is central and not the subject matter.

The involvement of the educator, the Catholic Church and the community is necessary to achieve this goal. The promotion of self-efficacy, intrinsic motivation and self-discipline should make the child an independent initiator and self-employed worker.

## **The school**

The Sister Magda Primary School is a Catholic Primary School with Dutch as the language of instruction from group 1 through group 8. At school we strive to create a safe learning environment in which the student's self-confidence, social, emotional, academic and spiritual development can come to its full potential.

As a Catholic school we celebrate all major events in the Catholic Church. We will go to church regularly to celebrate Holy Mass. In group 4 the students have the possibility to prepare themselves for the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. This will be a two-year preparation for the sacrament. The sacrament of Confirmation will be offered through the Parish of St. Martin of Tours to those students 14 years and older.

At the beginning of this scholastic year, catholic parents will be invited to sign up for these sacramental programs of the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. We expect a positive attitude towards the Catholic Faith and participation in all its celebrations from all our students and their parents

## **The management**

The management of the school consists of:

- Mrs. Kavita Ganput, School manager
- Ms. Jodwine Hodge, Student Care Coordinator/ Adject School manager
- Ms. Noa Leuchter, Cycle 1 Coordinator
- Mr. Donovan Van de Veer, Cycle 2 Coordinator.

*It is advised to make an appointment if a consultation is needed. Walk ins are welcomed, however it is not always guaranteed that the above persons are able to meet with you without prior notice due to their scheduling.*

Our website is:

[www.skos-sxm.org/ Sr. Magda  
school](http://www.skos-sxm.org/Sr.Magda.school)

The e-mail address is:

[info@smp-school.org](mailto:info@smp-school.org)

The address

The address of our school is Cupperdrive 1, St. Peters.

Our telephone number is: 5483715

### The Staff

<u>Cycle 1</u> Group 1: Tr. Charlene Group 2: Tr. Sheena Group 3: Tr. Valerie Group 4A: Tr. Noa Group 4 B: Tr. Ayeola	<u>Cycle 2</u> Group 5 A : Tr. Lianne Group 5B : Tr. Warzina Group 6 : Mr. Donovan Group 7 : Tr. Shardha Group 8 : Tr. Marisca
English language arts: Tr. Christel	Secretary :Mrs.Anjanette Maintenance : Mr. Pers
Music teachers: Tr. Dennis, Mr. Dow, Mr. Greg	
Gym Teacher: Tr. Astrid NIA: Tr. Kitsie & Tr. Zoya	



## School supporting specialists

Student Care Coordinator: Tr. Jodwine Hodge

Social Worker: Ms. Monica Hunt

Classroom Assistant Cycle 1: Tr. Gwen  
: Tr. Sheila

Classroom assistant Cycle 2: Tr. Marlonie  
: Tr. Albertine

## **School hours**

School starts at 7.30 am.

Kindly see to it that your child is present before the abovementioned time. Students go to their classrooms where they will be greeted by their group teacher. A student, arriving after the morning bell, must report to the office.

Only with written notice from the office will he/she be allowed to enter the classroom. A note of tardiness will be made on the child's report card.

Excessive tardiness, more than 5 times in a trimester, will be reported to the Truancy officer. We ask parents to help us teach the importance of punctuality and responsibility.

If your child is unable to come to school, please call the school and leave a message with the secretary. Kindly send a letter stating the reason for his/her absenteeism to your child when he/she returns. If the reasons are medical, please include a doctor's letter. Absenteeism of a student more than 3 times a month will be reported to the Truancy officer.

School ends at 2:00 PM on all days except Wednesdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays and Fridays, the school ends at 12:45 PM.

Please see to it that your child is picked up no later than 14:15 PM and 1:00 PM on Wednesdays and Fridays. All students should be signed out by the one who is picking the student up. After 14:15 the students that have not been picked up will go back to their classes.

Students enrolled in the afternoon program should go directly to their afternoon school groups.

For safety reasons no students are allowed to play outside of the regular school hours.

We are asking your cooperation to ensure that the students enrolled in the afternoon school program are picked up no later than 17:15. (5.15 pm) You will be asked to pay a late fee if your child is picked up later than 5.15pm.

PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK THE GATE OR THE STREET

## **School communication**

At the Sister Magda School, we cherish clear and open communication between parents/guardians and teachers/school or vice versa. As partners in the education of children we should have total confidence in each other. Concerns should not be addressed on the playground, Facebook® or WhatsApp® but with the teacher, Student Care Coordinator, management etc.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to keep in close contact with the group teacher to be part of their child's school life.



Class dojo is also a communication tool, thus ensuring close contact with the home front. The school's newspaper "Magda's Voice" will give you a monthly update of activities taking place in school and in the different groups and classes. The Magda's Voice will be issued on the first week of each month. A digital copy will be posted on Class Dojo as well as the school website.

### **School uniforms**

The students are expected to always wear the school uniform during school and school activities. You are asked to ensure that the students are neatly dressed and always groomed.

The boys with their hair cut short, must be shorter than 1 inch and with no added style, simple and even. Girls' hair should be combed neatly. Hair extensions of any sort are not allowed.

no other look-a-like uniforms will be allowed.

A black belt (for the boys) should be always worn.

The uniform is complemented by all black, comfortable shoes. If the shoes have shoelaces, they too should be black and always tied.

White or green socks should be worn that cover at least the ankle of the student. Black socks are not allowed. Shoes and/or socks cannot be bought at school.

If your child is not able to wear their school shoes due to an injury, then a doctor's letter is required. If their uniform is not according to the dress code, then a letter from parents is expected to explain the situation.

Please do not send a verbal message through your child to the teacher

*Failure to adhere to the uniform code will result in the student being sent home.*

When the student is celebrating his/her birthday, he/she can come to school in appropriate clothing (see school rules) other than the school uniform.

### **Homework**

There is a no homework policy for groups 1 through 6. This means that these students will not receive schoolwork to take home. Homework is a vital tool for groups 7 and 8, which the teacher uses to reinforce the work taught at school. The amount and frequency of homework differs depending on the grade.

Please check regularly to see if your child has homework and that it is studied and/or done neatly. Homework should be handed in on time.

You can help your child by providing a quiet place at home to do the homework.

Our school agenda is compulsory; each student, from group 7 and 8, will receive one from the school. You are advised to encourage reading to your child daily. Reading for your young child and reading together is important for language development and general knowledge.

### **Report booklets**

Report booklets are handed out three times a year. This report is shared digitally. They will not be given out before date nor time scheduled.

Prior to the report evening 10-minute consultations will be planned by the teacher to discuss the progress of your child in detail.

### **Admittance to school**

Children celebrating their 3<sup>rd</sup>. birthday before October 1<sup>st</sup> of the new scholastic year can be registered at the school's Early Stimulation department, provided they comply with the r e g i s t r a t i o n rules set by the Catholic School board (see website). Registration for Early Stimulation is done online via the Catholic School board's website.

All children celebrating their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday before October 1<sup>st</sup> of the new scholastic year can be registered at the school, provided they comply with the registration rules set by the C a t h o l i c School board (see website).

A child celebrating his/her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday from October 1<sup>st</sup> till December 31<sup>st</sup> of the new scholastic year, will be registered and admitted to school on the first school day of the month of January, if space is available. However, students entering on January 1<sup>st</sup> will be evaluated based on their developmental progress, prior to being promoted to group 2.

Candidates for all other groups can be registered throughout the academic year provided space is available in the requested group. A pedagogical-didactical report (educational report) drawn up by the previous school of the candidate is mandatory to be registered in a group other than group 1.

## **Promotion and retention**

At the end of the scholastic year most children will be promoted to the next grade. All main subjects, Dutch, Mathematics and English, will have to be on class level and sufficient.

In the case of a student performing under class level, the parents/guardians will be kept up to date concerning the academic progress throughout the year.

## **Assessment & evaluation of the child**

When a child is registered to attend the Sr. Magda school in group 1, an assessment will be done. An educational report from the previous school must be submitted for students being registered for a higher group level. If regular education is not deemed to be in the interest of the child because of his/her intellectual and/or emotional development and/or disabilities, the child will be referred to Individual Education within the Foundation or to Special Education outside the Foundation.

If the child has been admitted to the Sr. Magda school and the need for a further evaluation arises, we expect full cooperation from parents/ guardians. This includes cooperation if the child needs therapy, counseling and/or special education services, and a diligent adherence to the recommendations of the psychologist. Furthermore, if it becomes apparent that a registered child needs special education, he/she will be referred to an appropriate group or school providing individual attention and specialized care. This is in the best interest of the child and parents are expected to cooperate with transferring the child to a special school as soon as a place becomes available.

## **Involvement/support of parents**

For your child to be awarded all opportunities to develop in all areas, we expect the full support of parents/ guardians. Attending general meetings and parent/teacher meetings are an important aspect of this. If you have a scheduled meeting and are not able to attend, please notify the person whom the meeting is with.

We also encourage parents and family members to volunteer some time to assist during school hours. “Lees ouders” (reading parents) are always needed to help the students develop their technical reading skills. Other ways that you can help is chaperoning on field trips, doing crafts with students, helping in any other area that could be a benefit to the students and school.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact your child’s teacher and notify him/her of this.

## **Parent code of conduct**

Parents/Guardians are important role models of our students. We expect a high standard of personal behavior from parents/guardians when on school grounds, including but not limited to such things as: refraining from offensive, insulting or derogatory language as well as conduct on school grounds and social media. This includes wearing clothing with offensive language or insignia. Revealing clothing or beach wear, going barefoot or without a shirt is not appropriate. Please refrain from smoking within sight of the boundary of the school property. You will not be allowed on school grounds if you are affected by alcohol or any other intoxicant.

Parents are expected to interact civilly with staff, students and other parents always. Abusive language, raising your voice, insulting or violent behavior to anyone on school grounds is not appropriate and unacceptable. If there is an incident involving your child and another student, please seek the assistance of a teacher or member of staff, rather than speaking to the other student directly, especially in the absence of their parent.

## **Positive Behavior Supports PBS and Pedagogical Tact**

What is Positive Behavior Supports or PBS?

PBS is a broad range of systemic and individualized strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while preventing problem behavior with all students.

- is based on understanding why problem behaviors occur.
- can be used on a school-wide level, in a specific setting, in the classroom, or with an individual student.
- includes changing systems, altering environments, teaching skills, and focusing on positive behaviors.

- is based on preventing problem behaviors from escalating and early intervention if problems do occur.
- is organized in tiered levels of behavior and academic support for students.
- Not specific practice or curriculum...it is a general approach to preventing problem behavior.
- Not limited to any particular group of students it is for all students.

Our three important values within PBS are: Involvement, Cooperation and Responsibility. We have added a fourth value, which is "Trust".

As you have seen at the beginning and throughout the handbook, the iguana is our mascot. Each iguana is linked to one of the values. These iguanas were designed by students and pulled together by one of the parents of the Sr. Magda. They can also be found throughout the school.



Our goal is to teach and learn proactive behaviors that promote optimal social and academic outcomes for everyone!

A role for parents: Parent involvement in all aspects of their child's educational planning is often the key to the success of the child. When parents are actively involved in the educational activities of their children, the children are more successful in school. This is particularly true when there are behavioral concerns. Parent communication with the school and participation in school activities can provide academic and behavioral support as well as help develop a healthy school climate. Help teach your children the importance of school-wide expectations at home, at school, and in the community.

## **Pedagogical Tact**

Teachers will work on Pedagogical Tact and make sure that everyone belongs. Pedagogical Tact refers to the approach of the teacher and describes how teacher-student relations are important. Teachers show and do the right thing at the right time in relation to students. We act with sensitive insights, we must be thoughtful, and have the creative ability to act caringly and appropriately in the immediacy of the moment. We model and encourage that children do the same in relationships with each other. And that adults do the same in relationships with each other. We have and encourage dialogues through our PBS pillars.

## **Social media**

Over the course of the last few years, we have noticed a major increase in interventions needed in conflicts involving social media and cyber bullying. This starts as early as group 5 (in past incidents).

Unfortunately, these incidents occur outside of school hours, but have a major impact on the student's well-being and performance during school hours. Fighting, teasing, sadness and exclusion are some of the challenges we see at school due to bullying via WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram and even certain online games such as roblox and fortnight. There are many more social media outlets that are being used by children. Unfortunately, they are not being used in a positive manner.

The school has held campaigns such as anti-bullying, kindness week and cyber bullying workshops, however, this is a matter that needs to be addressed at home as well.

We encourage you to rethink allowing your child(ren) to have a smart phone. It is also advised to regularly monitor your child's activity on social media if you do decide to allow him/her to use it. Bullying can have serious long-lasting effects.

## How to stimulate your child?

To be a success in life, your child depends on the support he/she is getting from you the parent!  
You can support your child by:

- listening to what he/she wants to tell you about school life
- appreciating the work, he/she is taking home
- see to it that he/she comes to school daily in a clean uniform
- attending and actively participating in the information evenings
- attending the "Active Parenting in 3" program offered through the school
- collecting his/her report card on time
- helping him/her when needed; however, helping does not mean that you do the homework; your child should be assisted where necessary. Tutoring or "bijles" after school can be valuable but is not a guarantee to success.
- visiting your child's teacher regularly after you have made an appointment. *Please do not visit during school hours unless invited to do so.*
- stimulating your child to read. Reading is the key to success in life
- signing letters, notes, tests, copybooks when requested to do so and returning them the following day. This ensures us that you have received our message using writing pad paper when you send a message to school, placed in a properly addressed envelope; it will encourage neatness by your child.
- seeing to it that your child does not come to school with fancy pens, pencils, games, toys and other gadgets, as they are very distractive and cause problems
- advising the school of any change in address, by means of an extract from the Census office and or phone number.

Stimulating your child does not mean hitting him or her when he/she does not perform according to your wishes.

By law the school is obliged to and will notify the police when child abuse is suspected.

### Level reading

We appreciate your help with our Dutch reading programs.

We ask for 30 to 45 minutes of your time, once a week. We start from group 1 up to group 8.

## **Gymclasses**

Only during Gym and Dym classes students are allowed to wear the gym-uniform (green short pants and white T- shirt with the school logo). On all other occasions uniform is mandatory. However, the cycle 1 (groups 1-4) students may come to school wearing their gym clothes on the days that they have Gym or Dym.

No other attire will be allowed during gym and DYM lessons.



## Swimming classes:

Swimming is compulsory for students of the group's 5.

The students will be taken to and from the Raoul Illidge Sports Complex for their swimming classes.

The pool rules of the Raoul Illidge Sports complex are:

- You are not allowed to swim alone.
- you are not allowed to play rough in the pool
- you must have a towel with you at the swimming pool
- you are not allowed to dive in the shallow water
- you are not allowed to run on the pool-deck
- you may not urinate in the pool or in the locker room, only in the bathroom
- you may not eat or drink around the pool
- if you have long hair and or gel/grease you must wear a swimming cap in the pool; you are not allowed to swim without a cap.

If your child has a medical problem, a letter from your doctor is required to ensure that we are informed. Should your child be unable to participate due to illness, please write a letter stating the reason, or submit a letter from the home physician,

## Recess

*Groups 3, 4 and 5A have recesses together: 9:15 till 9:30; 11:00 till 11:15.*

*Groups 5B through 8 also have recesses together: 9:30 till 9.45, 11:15 till 11.30.*

*Snack time: group 1 – 8: 12:45 till 13.00.*

*Groups 1, 2, have their own recess schedule which will be shared with you through the group teacher.*

Please provide your child with a healthy snack for all breaks. The third break is a snack break.

During the recess drinks, sandwiches and side orders are available for between \$1.00 and \$3.00 per item. For safety reasons we ask that you give your child no more than \$ 3.00 a day for snacks in school. The school is not responsible for money that is lost or stolen.

## Recycling

We encourage students to recycle their trash.

Ultimately, the goal is to reduce the amount of garbage that is produced. To achieve this, we are asking for your support. By providing your child with reusable containers to carry their snack as well as reusable drinking containers, we can make a big impact in the reduction of trash. Also, having reusable items is more cost efficient and better for the environment.



## **Healthy school**

In our school we take the health of everybody very seriously. This is why we are working on becoming a healthy school. All children should walk with water instead of juice. We would like to encourage everybody to drink as much water as possible instead of juice.

We would also like to see the children eat their fruits.

## **Birthday celebrations**

Birthdays are a special occasion, which is why we take the time at the end of the day to celebrate it. Keep in mind however that we do not throw birthday parties. The celebrations should be kept as simple as possible.

We also ask that you limit the treats to either pizza, cupcakes, or a similar snack with a drink. Please select one snack and a drink and not a combination of all. Soda is not allowed.

If you choose to have party bags, we suggest keeping it as simple as possible. In keeping with our efforts to become a healthy school, candy is not allowed in party bags. There are many healthy alternatives to candy that can be used, such as fruit.

As it is allowed, your child may come to school in their own clothes other than the school uniform. We do expect that this clothing is appropriate, according to our school rules.

## **Contagious diseases**

If your child has a contagious disease like e.g. red eye, ring worm etc. or is infested with lice, your child will not be allowed to come to school until he/she no longer poses a threat to the other students. A doctor's notice is requested to state the condition of the student and the threat he/she poses to their fellow students as well as to declare your child fit to return to school.

## **Library**

We encourage parents to read to their children and let your child/children see that you are also reading your book. The library is an excellent source for books. All students can become a member of the library free of charge. Every group has a reading program in Dutch; please ask about the reading program in your child's group. There are also English books available to improve reading in English. Please ask the teacher if English books are needed.

## **Field trips**

At least once per term, there will be a field trip. Field trips are educational; participation is mandatory. Children are insured during Field trips.

A financial contribution can be asked for a school trip.

If you would like to chaperone a field trip, please let your child's teacher know.

In group 8 the students will be going to a school-camp; a parental contribution for this trip will be required. Do you have any suggestions for the group 8 school-camp or any field trip, please let the class teacher know as soon as possible so that it can be taken into consideration in the planning.

## **Electronics: BYOD (Bring your own device)**

As school we introduced last school year “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD). This is to educate the students with 21st Century Skills. We are integrating ICTs in our curriculum. We are also making use of digital platforms such as Gynzy and BOUW! In school we have some desktops, laptops and tablets. Students can bring their own device to work on it. Students may bring electronics such as tablets and laptops. Students are responsible for their own device. The school will not be held responsible for the loss, theft or damage of these items.

## **Leaving school grounds**

Once your child has entered school in the morning, he/she may not leave the school grounds until it is time to go home, and they are picked up. This means that if your child must buy something to eat in the morning, then this must be done before arriving at school.

Students in the afternoon school program receive a warm meal and drink after school. There is no need for them to go to the shop by the main road.

Students may also not send other students, friends, or family members to the shop to buy candy, snacks and drinks for them. The items will be confiscated, and parents will be contacted about the incident.

## **Parental contribution**

The Catholic School board has set the parental yearly contribution at:

Naf. 300, -- or \$ 170.-- for the first child

Naf. 275, -- or \$ 155.-- for the second child

Naf. 250, -- or \$ 140.-- for the third and following children in the school.

Although we are a government subsidized school, we need your parental contribution to maintain the level of education the Sister Magda School is known for.

This is how we use your parental contribution for your child's education:

- Naf. 60,00 as a reserve to replace the textbooks
- Naf. 100, -- for the Science Material/ equipment
- Naf. 40, -- for copies
- Naf. 100, -- to replace or fix I.T. material, computers well needed for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills

Preferably the parental contribution should be paid before the new school year starts to enable us to pay for the materials your child will be using throughout the school year. However, circumstances might not allow this. Occasionally you will be reminded of the payment due for the parental contribution through the Magda's Voice or by means of a letter.

Parental contributions must be paid via internet banking or deposited directly into the bank account. The account information is as follows.

Beneficiary information; Stichting Katholiek Onderwijs

Parental contribution: WIB \$ 814-675-06 or WIB NAF 814-676-04.

Beneficiary information; Stichting Expertise Centrum EGO, Simpsonbay Road # 6 C, St. Maarten.

Afternoon school: WIB\$ 217-961-10 or WIB NAF 217-962-08.

## **Extra activities during the schoolyear**

In group the students will sit their traffic-exam. During their years in school the students have been prepared for this exam.

Our students in group 6, 7 and 8 are also sitting their religious instruction exam twice a year.

## **Insurance**

Our students are insured for a maximum of Nafl. 4000, - per event during school hours, from half an hour before school starts to half an hour after school ends. During school organized activities outside school, e.g. field trips, the students are also insured.

It is advised to personally insure your child not only for health (SZV, Private insurance) but also for liability through a third party (Wettelijke Aansprakelijkheid) insurance to avoid costly expenses resulting from accidents.

## **Parents Involvement**

To ensure positive communication between parents and school we are motivating parents to get involved in different activities of the school. The goal is to have one parent from each class as a representative. Together with our Parent Involvement Team (PIT) parents we as a school want to organize several fundraising activities like the movie-nights, Gala dance party.

The expectations of Parent Involvement team (PIT) are:

- To participate at the Sr. Magda Primary School.
- To be involved and always strive for only the best for the Sr. Magda Primary School.
- Parents may advise with ideas and/or concerns; however, all matters should be handled in a positive manner. Parents must also always be referred to the protocol of addressing complaints/concerns (see handbook for chain of command).
- Ideas for fundraising, events and activities are always welcome. The final decision, however, lies with the members of management.
- To foster a pleasant working relationship between parents, management and staff of the Sr. Magda Primary School.

Chair PIT: Ms. Ivanca Sterling.

## The School board

Board Foundation Catholic Education St.  
Maarten  
Stichting Katholiek Onderwijs St.  
Maarten

President:	Mr. M. Halley
Secretary:	Mrs. M. Acuna Lopez de Weever
Treasurer:	Mrs. I. Hodge
Member:	Mrs. A. Bute
Member:	Mrs. C. Hodge
Member:	Mrs. G. Richardson - Nicolaas
Member:	Mr. C. Peterson
Member:	Mr. P. Gumbs

Director of Catholic Schools: Mrs. L. Aventurin-Hodge  
Superintendent Catholic Schools: Mrs. J. Greene

Address:	P.O. Box 404
Telephone:	+1-721-542-3821 +1-721-542-3858
Fax:	+1-721-542-2302



## STUDENTS' SCHOOL RULES

FOR ALL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ON SINT MAARTEN  
BY THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD COMPLEMENTED BY  
THE SISTER MAGDA PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Major School Agreements and Regulations

*"To provide the child at Sister Magda school with a safe, learning situation in which self – confidence, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual development are promoted."* (Mission Statement)

To achieve our Mission, the Foundation Catholic Education St. Maarten requires that all students adhere to the Major School Agreements and Regulations; a breach of these agreements and regulations will result in disciplinary action and can lead, regrettably, to suspension or dismissal.

1. The Catholic Faith must be always respected by all students.
2. We communicate with appropriate language and with pleasing gestures towards each other.
3. We expect each child to show respect and consideration for the personal and material rights of others. In other words: bullying, destroying and/or stealing of property (must be replaced by parents), graffiti, writing in books, on covers, desk, chairs or walls and stealing from others are totally unacceptable. We solve problems through dialogue, fighting may never be used to solve a problem. It takes more self-control to walk away from a fight than to enter it.
4. We expect the students not to bring any dangerous items to school such as: knives, matches, lighters, lasers, Tasers, etc.
5. Electronic games are to be left at home unless otherwise advised by the school. Cellular phones MUST be silent and kept in the schoolbag or in the School Manager's desk drawer during school hours. The student is solely responsible for their device.
6. The school is the only competent authority to buy and sell items.
7. All students are expected to positively always represent their school. We expect students to always show appropriate behavior in and outside the school.
8. Each student is expected to produce schoolwork and do homework (group 7-8) to the best of his/her ability.
9. All students must adhere to the established Dress Code of the school and Board.
10. Students are expected to fully comply with the start and end times of the established school hours.

Negative consequences for inappropriate behavior may include:

- Loss of privileges
- Assignments or cleaning duties
- Contact with home/parents or guardians
- Behavior plan
- Reminder or warning
- Confiscation of property that is not allowed in the school
- Time away in another class
- Suspension from school
- Expulsion from school according to the law

Positive Reinforcement for appropriate behavior may include:

- Thumbs up Smile
- Verbal praise Notes
- Sticker and coins
- Phone calls home
- Note to principal
- Student of the hour/day/week
- High five
- Computer Special privileges
- A visit to the Student Care Coordinator

Admittance, Suspension and Expulsion.

1. The decision on admittance, suspension and expulsion of students is vested with competent authority. The decision on admittance, suspension and expulsion may not be made dependent on the monetary contribution of parents.

2. Notwithstanding the conditions set forth in 3. the admittance of students to special education may solely be refused based on religious or life beliefs or the proven non availability for placement and may not be based on the lingual background of the student or on insufficient development in education areas. The admitted student is placed based on age in the applicable cycle.

3. Referral of students to special education (IE individual Education from SKOS) shall be conducted by Dr. J. Enterprises and the Care team of the school. Referral of students to special education or departments for special education, shall be conducted by SSSD. Prior to the decision of suspension of 3 days or more or expulsion the competent authority hears the teacher, the parents and the compulsory education official of the Island Territory. Expulsion of a student is not executed until such a time as the competent authority has arranged admittance of the student with another school.

4. In the event an objection has been filed against a decision in section 1, the competent authority shall decide on the objection within 4 weeks of receipt of the objection filed.

The management of the school may remove a student temporarily or permanently in the event the attitude/behavior of the student, the parents/caretakers of the student so warrant. The temporary removal is called a suspension whilst the permanent removal is called an expulsion.

These measures can be undertaken when:

- The student exhibits continued disruptive and/or aggressive behavior, which causes an interruption of or hindrance to the regular progress and continuation of the educative process.
- the parents and/or caretakers have exhibited threatening and/or aggressive behavior or have exerted verbal violence and recurrence of such behavior cannot be excluded resulting in a justified fear for the safety of personnel or students, or the uninterrupted continuance of the educative process.
- addressing of the behavior expressed above requires the involvement of a disproportionately large segment of the school organization, and due to which the aims of the school cannot be realized

IN ALL CASES IN WHICH THESE REGULATIONS ARE NOT CLEARLY DEFINED, THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL DECIDE AFTER HAVING HEARD THE PARTIES CONCERNED

