



St. Catherine of Siena Academy

Shadow Day FAQs

What is a Shadow Day?

As a shadow, your daughter will have the opportunity to visit St. Catherine's for a day and see what it is like to be a student here. She will be paired, based on age and interests, with an SCA ambassador and will attend classes, Mass, and lunch with her. Throughout the day she will tour campus, get to know our teaching staff, and share time visiting with many other students. Coming for a shadow day is a required part of the application process.



When are Shadow Days?

Unless otherwise specified, Shadow Days are held from late September to early May on Wednesdays. Upcoming dates are listed on the Shadow Day sign up form. Because SCA is a rigorous college preparatory school, we seek to minimize outside distractions for our students by limiting shadows to one day a week. Exceptions to this rule occur only (1) if a group shadow day was organized in advance for a particular grade school or (2) if a student is transferring to SCA from out of state and is only in town for one specific day. We want your daughter to have the best visit possible, and we've found that our shadows have a better experience coming on a set Shadow Day. For this reason, we are unable to make any other exceptions to the Wednesdays-only shadow day rule.

How to Schedule a Shadow Day

Shadow Days are by appointment only and reservations must be received by the admissions office **at least one week prior** to the requested shadow day. This gives us time to match your daughter with a student of similar interests, coordinate classes, plan for lunch, and notify staff. Because this timeframe is necessary to ensure our Shadow Days run smoothly, we cannot make exceptions for late requests.

Shadow Day Schedule: 8:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Please arrive at the main entrance at 8:30 a.m. Your daughter will sign in, be given her welcome packet, and meet her SCA ambassador. She will attend classes, Mass, and lunch with her ambassador. At the end of the day, shadows will be given a brief tour of the school by the admissions office. Pickup is at the main entrance at 2:00 p.m.

May my daughter shadow a specific student?

Visiting students are matched with an SCA ambassador based on age and interests. Seventh and eighth graders are paired with freshmen and sophomore ambassadors. Transferring students shadowing SCA are

likewise paired with a student ambassador of a similar age group. Since not all of our students are trained as ambassadors, we are only able to accommodate requests if the specific student requested is (1) in the ambassador program and (2) no more than a grade or two ahead of your daughter.

Can my daughter shadow her sister?

We have found that our visiting students have a more objective experience of St. Catherine's if they shadow a student other than a sister. This provides an opportunity to meet students closer to their age group, make new friends, and get a better sampling of the classes they will take as a freshman.



What should my daughter wear?

As all of our SCA students wear a uniform, your daughter will feel most comfortable wearing something similar. During her visit, your daughter may wear the uniform of her current school (if she attends a school with a uniform), or a collared shirt with dress pants or a skirt. In order to maintain a professional atmosphere for learning, we ask that she not wear t-shirts, shorts, jeans, yoga pants, short skirts, low-cut tops, pajama pants, sweatpants, leggings, flip flops, or slippers.

Should my daughter bring a lunch?

Lunch is provided free of charge to all shadow day students. However, if your daughter has special dietary needs she may wish to bring her own bagged lunch.

What should my daughter bring?

Most of all, your daughter should come with an excitement and inquisitiveness for learning about SCA! We also encourage visiting students to bring a book or journal in the event that their student ambassador has a test or quiz. **Please do not bring tablets, iPads, or phones. These devices are prohibited for students during the school day.**

Thank you for your interest in St. Catherine of Siena Academy. Our students, staff, and faculty are looking forward to welcoming you and your daughter!

For any additional questions, please contact Audrey Sutherland at 248-946-4848, ext. 132 or at asutherland@saintcatherineacademy.org