Rev. July 2026

Venice Elementary School

Family & Student Handbook



2026 -2027

Venice Elementary School www.sarasotacountyschools.net/schools/veniceelementary
150 E. Miami Avenue Venice, Florida 34285 (941) 486-2111
Raymond Wilson, *Principal* Tasha Umstead, *Assistant Principal*

August 2026

Dear VES Families:

Venice Elementary School is committed to partnering with our families to provide our students with an exceptional education. We truly appreciate the support of our families and community, and we are looking forward to collaborating with you this school year.

Please be sure to review the handbook in its entirety prior to the start of the school year, as it contains important information for you and your child. If you have any questions pertaining to the information in this handbook, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

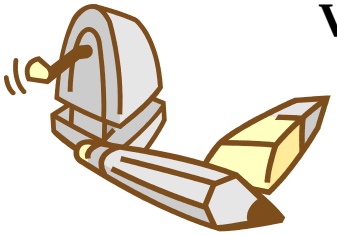
Thank you for your diligence, commitment, and continued support of VES! We are so grateful for the partnership with our families and community, and we are excited to experience another phenomenal year with each of you.

Sincerely,

Raymond Wilson
Principal

Ms. Tasha Umstead
Assistant Principal





VES Family & Student Handbook
Table of Contents



QUESTIONS? 5
ATTENDANCE 5
ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL 5
ABSENCES/MAKE-UP WORK 5
BICYCLES 6
BULLYING AND HARRASSMENT 6
BUS TRANSPORTATION 6
CHAPERONES 6
COMPUTER USE 6
DISMISSAL 7
EARLY DROP OFF PREVENTION 7
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES 7
HEALTH ROOM 8
HOMEWORK 8
INSTRUCTIONAL TIME 8
LOST AND FOUND 9
LUNCH PROGRAM 9
Wigwam café Student expectations 9
MEDIA CENTER 9
MESSAGES 9
NEW STUDENTS 10
PARENT PORTAL (FOCUS) 10
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT 10
PERSONAL INFORMATION 10
Address Change 10
Custody 10
PICTURES 10
RECESS 10
RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES 10

REPORT CARDS 11
Report Card Grading Scale 11
SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS MOBILE APP 11
SCHOOL DAY 11
STUDENT DISCIPLINE 11
STUDENT ID BADGES 11
STUDENT INSURANCE 12
STUDENT RELEASE FORMS MEDIA/DIRECTORY 12
TOYS, TRADING CARDS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, ETC. 12
UNIFORM/DRESS CODE POLICY 12
VOLUNTEERS 14
WITHDRAWAL 14
WORKBOOKS 14

Welcome to
Venice Elementary School

QUESTIONS?

First - Contact your child's teacher. Frequently, a conference or a sharing of information/concerns will answer the question.

Second - If concerns remain unresolved, contact the school at (941) 486-2111 and request to speak with our school counselor.

Third - If your questions/concerns remain unresolved, contact the School Administration for further assistance.

ATTENDANCE

The Sarasota County School Board and Venice Elementary School are committed to maximizing the amount of time a student spends in the classroom in a positive learning environment. To help accomplish this commitment, the School Board has enacted rules to address tardiness and student absence.

Tardy to School

- Students will be allowed to enter their classroom at 8:15 am, when the first bell sounds.
- **Children entering the classroom after 8:30am are considered tardy and must report to the office to obtain a tardy pass. At 8:30am and after, parents/guardians will be required to park their car in the parking lot and accompany their student(s) to the main office and sign the tardy sheet with the parent signature and provide a reason for the tardy. Tardies remain on a student's attendance record, regardless of the reason for the tardy.**
- Chronic tardiness may affect a student's academic performance. *Per District Policy 5.40 elementary school students must attend at least 200 minutes in order to be considered present*.
- If student absences are excessive, a School Board social worker or truancy officer may make a home visit.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

In order for a student's absence to be defined as "excused," **absence notes can be uploaded through the Focus Parent Portal or e-mailed to:** 0211contactves@sarasotacountyschools.net within three days of their return to school. Sarasota County School Board Rule 200.0 defines the student absence policy in detail. An excused absence is defined as:

- Illness documented by parent/guardian or medical doctor
- Major illness in student's immediate family
- Religious holidays of a specific faith
- Pre-approved absences: Special situations (i.e. family emergency) must be pre-approved by the School Administration. ***Family vacations/ trips/personal time are not considered excused absences.**

Chronic absences can adversely affect a student's academic performance. Letters will be sent to the parent/guardian of any student with excessive absences and/or when attendance becomes an obstacle to academic success.

ABSENCES/MAKE-UP k tWORK

When a student has been absent with a valid excuse, teachers will provide opportunities to complete missed assignments. The initiative for making up missed assignments rests with the pupil under the teacher's guidance. **(NOTE: School policy recognizes that if a student is sick, he/she is unable to work at their highest level. Therefore, make-up work will not be sent home prior to a student's return to school.)**

BICYCLES

Students riding their bikes to school must wear a safety helmet, as required by law. **Students without a helmet will not be allowed to leave the school with their bike.** Parents will be contacted if their student arrives at school without a helmet. The parent may bring the helmet to school or they will have to pick up their student at dismissal if the student does not have a helmet. For safety reasons, bicycles are never to be ridden on school grounds. Bikes should be parked in designated areas. Students are encouraged to lock their bike, as neither the School District nor VES will be responsible for lost or stolen bikes. Skateboards and roller blades are not permitted on campus. Heelys are not to be worn at school with or without wheels.

BULLYING AND HARRASSMENT

The School Board of Sarasota County, FL Policy 2.70 states that all students and school employees will have an educational setting that is safe, secure and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. Venice Elementary School will not tolerate bullying and harassment of any type. Conduct that constitutes bullying and harassment, as defined in Policy 2.70, is prohibited and disciplinary action will be taken. Any reference to "bullying" includes cyberbullying, whether or not specifically stated. Please refer to the School Board Policy 2.70 for information on bullying and harassment definitions, behavior standards, consequences, reporting, investigating, notifications and counseling.

- All students will receive an orientation on bullying and the steps to take should they see bullying occur
- Education will occur for staff, parents, and SAC
- Parents should report any suspected bullying to the administration of the school using the Bullying/Harassment Reporting Form, which is found on our school website.

BUS TRANSPORTATION



The Sarasota County School District provides transportation for Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 5 students who live in the VES attendance zone and whose residence is within the District transportation parameters. During the school registration or re-registration process, you will be asked if you are interested in school bus transportation. If you select yes, your request will be sent to the Transportation Department where it will be processed and if your student is eligible a bus stop will be assigned. If you have requested transportation, the bus stop information will be available in the parent portal once it is assigned. Students are not allowed to ride a bus other than the one assigned unless a written request is received from the parent or guardian and is pre-approved by the school office. Requests for special services, questions, or concerns regarding transportation should be directed to the Sarasota County School Board Transportation Department at (941) 486-2141.

CHAPERONES

Anyone desiring to chaperone a field trip, or volunteer at Venice Elementary School in any capacity, must have prior approval through our volunteer approval process. This is accomplished by completing a Volunteer Application on the Community Relations page of the district website (sarasotacountyschools.net). This system has been put in place as a safety feature. It permits us to keep track of who's on campus, if they have been screened by the FDLE, and how we might better utilize the services they provide. Level I screening is required for all volunteers. Level II screening (fee based) is required to chaperone a field trip where students will be with chaperones not under the teacher's direct supervision. Teachers assign chaperones for academic-related field trips, organizing duties, and responsibilities for student supervision.

COMPUTER USE

The school district is providing access for staff and students to the internet via computers. The benefits for staff and students to such information access are obvious, however, with this privilege comes responsibility.

Although district staff monitor use on our district network, it is impossible to control all access. The county provides a firewall to help prevent students from visiting inappropriate sites. Students are trained to go back to the "home" site and inform the teacher if they come across a site that is not appropriate for elementary students.

If a user violates any of these provisions, his or her access to electronic information services will be terminated. Willful violations will lead to disciplinary action, and if a criminal offense is committed, the user will be prosecuted per State Statute 815.04. NOTE: The student assigned the network account is responsible at all times for its proper use. The school district does have the right to review the contents of any and all email and other files created and stored on school district equipment.

DISMISSAL

Parents are to pick up/drop off students in the car-rider area **ONLY.** Students who ride to or from school in a private vehicle should be dropped off and picked up next to the sidewalk. **You may not have your child enter or exit your automobile in the bus area, grassy areas, or the non-curbside lane of our car-rider loop.** Please be cooperative with our Safety Patrols and Staff.

Car-Riders:
Car riders will be escorted to the car loop by a staff member every day. To ensure the safety of our students, your car rider tag must be displayed in your vehicle. Students will be called to a specific gate number where they will meet their ride. Please be patient in our car loop during the first few days of school. It may take 45 minutes or more to re-establish this procedure at the start of the school year. Please follow the directions of the staff and safety patrols.

Walkers/Bikers:
All bike riders and walkers will check in with a staff member for accountability purposes. Once they are checked in, a staff member will lead the walkers through the VES campus to the sidewalk on Bahama Street. Bike riders will proceed to the bike rack and exit the VES campus. Parents who wish to meet their walker or bike rider at dismissal are welcome to do so at the VPAC parking lot. This policy has been developed in conjunction with the Venice Police Department & the Sarasota County Schools Police Department to ensure the safety of our walkers & bikers.

Bus Riders:
Bus riders will be escorted to the bus loop each day by a staff member and have their attendance recorded. Every bus is given a color. Please refer to the VES Dismissal Information Sheet for details regarding bus assignments.

After Care:
The aftercare program is a fee-based program that operates on all regular school days. All students participating in aftercare will be escorted to the cafeteria by a staff member each day. Students enrolled in the aftercare program may be signed out by a parent or guardian in the front office beginning at 3:45pm.

Written notification from a parent/guardian is required to change a specific day's dismissal plans. Change of dismissal notes should be e-mailed to: 0211contactves@sarasotacountyschools.net**, no later than 12:00pm. Permanent changes can be made by completing a new Dismissal Information Form.**

Early Dismissal:
If a parent/guardian wishes to have his/her child dismissed from school prior to the end of the day, **a written notice is required via email before 12:00pm to**: 0211contactves@sarasotacountyschools.net. For the safety of our students, early dismissals must occur prior to 2:45pm, unless there is an emergency. The school will need to be provided with the *date and time of dismissal and the name of the person picking the student up*. **Any person picking up a student must be listed in the FOCUS Parent Portal**. The person picking up the student will sign him/her out in the front office. **Proper identification must be provided before any student is dismissed. Your student will not be held in the main office for pickup. We will call the student down upon arrival of the parent/guardian/contact.**

EARLY DROP OFF PREVENTION

For the safety and well-being of all students, parents/guardians should not drop off their students on campus before 8:00 a.m. unless they are enrolled in the before care program. VES staff supervision is NOT available prior to this time, and students who arrive early may be exposed to unnecessary safety risks. Families are asked to plan transportation arrangements accordingly and ensure students remain under parent or guardian supervision until campus supervision begins at 8:00 a.m. Your cooperation helps us maintain a safe and secure environment for every child.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

School Board Policy 5.38 states: A student may possess electronic devices which are designed to receive and send an electronic signal or store digital data during the school day only under the following stipulations:
Elementary students will have devices silenced, put away, and not used at all times. They will not be asked to use their personal devices for instructional purposes. Students may never use electronic devices on school property or at a school sponsored activity to access and/or view inappropriate Internet websites, including those that are blocked to students at

school. During testing students may not possess any electronic or recording device(s) at their desk, clipped to their belt, in their pocket, or anywhere within reach, even if the device is turned off or the student is not using it. If a student is found to be in possession of any electronic device during testing, his or her test must be invalidated. Possession of an electronic device by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the electronic device. If the electronic device is confiscated, it will be returned to the student's parent/guardian as defined by Florida statute. The student who possesses an electronic device is responsible for its care. The school board is not responsible for preventing theft, loss, damage or vandalism to electronic devices brought on to its property.



HEALTH ROOM

Children who become ill or injured are sent to the health room. School Board Policy 5.61 states: in accordance with procedures in the *Sarasota County School Health Manual*, ***any student with a temperature above normal, diarrhea, or vomiting shall be evaluated and sent home***. Sick students are to remain at home until at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever (without the use of a fever-reducing medicine). The student should be excluded from school until free from diarrhea and/ or vomiting without the use of medication for at least 24 hours.

Students with a head lice infestation will be excluded from school until treatment for removal of live lice has been completed. Siblings and close associates of the student should also be examined for lice or nits. The health room aide examines students upon their return to school to ensure that no live lice are present.

Whenever possible, give medications at home. School personnel will give medication to students only if the following conditions are met:

- A serious or chronic health condition exists and failure to take medication could jeopardize the student's health.
- Medication, including non-prescription or over the counter, must be in the original prescription container with the child's name, name of the medicine, dosage, and times to be given.
- Medication must be delivered by the parent to the health room aide.
- A Medication/Treatment Authorization Form must be signed by a parent or guardian, completed by the prescribing doctor and given to the health room staff. Form is available to print on VES webpage.
- No medication should be sent in a child's backpack.
- Parents are responsible for keeping forms and medication up to date.

HOMEWORK



In general, homework is considered to be a time for skill practice, enrichment, or more in-depth attention to a given unit of study. Homework can contribute greatly to the learning process for every child. Homework expectations will be explained by the classroom teacher to your child and in regular communication between you and your child's teacher. Parental support in seeing that all homework is completed is strongly encouraged and plays an important role in every child's academic success.

When a student has been absent with a valid excuse, teachers will provide opportunities to complete missed assignments. The initiative for making up missed assignments rests with the pupil under the teacher's guidance.
(NOTE: School policy recognizes that if a student is sick, he/she is unable to work at their highest level. Therefore, makeup work will not be sent home prior to a student's return to school).

INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

To help protect and maximize instructional time and minimize classroom disruptions, families are encouraged to ensure students arrive with all necessary items, including lunch boxes, water bottles, proper clothing/shoes, and classroom materials. **Items dropped off after 8:30am will be held in the front office and retrieved by students during an appropriate time such as their lunch period**. Your cooperation with this procedure helps us to maximize learning opportunities.

LOST AND FOUND

Students and parents should immediately check with office personnel in the event of a missing item. All unclaimed items are removed of at the end of each month.



LUNCH PROGRAM

Lunch is available daily at school for students and adults. Milk may be purchased separately. Breakfast is available from 8:00-8:30 AM this year. Please visit the Food and Nutrition Services page of the Sarasota County Schools website for pricing information. Applications must be completed each year for a family to be considered for free or reduced meal benefits. You may be asked to verify the information provided in your application. Application for meal benefits is located on the Food and Nutrition page of the School District website (sarasotacountyschools.net). Any questions regarding the lunch program may be directed to the Food Service Manager at (941) 486-2115.

Beginning on Monday, August 24,2026 parents/guardians may come to school to eat lunch and/or breakfast with their child at the designated Family Tables in the Wigwam café or in the courtyard. Recess activities are not permitted during lunch time with your child. Parents/guests should not use or access the playground areas. Recess is part of the instructional day. For accountability purposes, parents are not permitted to escort their child to recess after lunch. For purposes of security, it is required that you sign in and pick up a visitor's pass at the office whenever visiting VES.

Wigwam café Student expectations

- Inside voices (level 2 voice)
- Face the table
- Always walk
- Stay in your seat
- Use table manners
- Line up quietly and orderly
- Clean tables top and below
- Keep hands and feet to self

Home-baked Items – The Health Department has determined that foods prepared in a private home shall not be used, sold or offered to students. Any food items to be shared with students or staff must be commercially prepared and packaged with all ingredients listed on the front label.

Healthy Food Focus – At Venice Elementary School, there is a conscious effort being made to support healthy eating habits while on campus. Although on occasion students may be provided a "special treat" in recognition of select accomplishments, it is our intent to promote a balance in the selection/consumption of healthy foods/snacks. Students should not have soda while at VES.

MEDIA CENTER



The Venice Elementary School media center offers a wide variety of materials and equipment in order to reinforce and expand the educational experience for your child. Media center hours for students are **8:15 AM to 3:00 PM.** Computers are used for circulation and inventory of all materials. Students learn at a very early age how to use the electronic card catalog system.

Students visit the Media Center with their class on a weekly basis. Books are checked out for two weeks and may be renewed as needed. We encourage students to return or renew their books on time. Books may be renewed up to three times. Notices will be sent home with your child requesting the return of overdue books. Lost or damaged books must be paid for at their replacement cost.

MESSAGES

Messages will be delivered to children ONLY in emergency cases. Dismissal arrangements should be made before your child leaves home in the morning. Children will **NOT** be released from class to respond to incoming telephone calls**.** ***Do not use email or text to inform the teacher of dismissal procedures or changes.*** **All dismissal change requests must be emailed to 0211contactves@sarasotacountyschools.net before noon (12:00pm).**

NEW STUDENTS

Students enrolled prior to 12:00 PM will begin attending Venice Elementary School the following day. This allows the teacher to prepare the classroom and for the new student to start at the beginning of a school day (in lieu of walking in unannounced). Students enrolled after 12:00PM will begin 2 days later.

PARENT PORTAL (FOCUS)

The Sarasota County School Board is pleased to offer the FOCUS Parent Portal as a method of monitoring your child's performance in class and receiving current communications from VES. In addition to viewing your child's grades, the FOCUS Parent Portal allows for the earliest access to send absence notes, view report cards, attendance records, student schedules, and state assessment results. Please visit Sarasota (focusschoolsoftware.com) to access your account.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Venice Elementary School has a strong Positive Behavior Support (PBS) program. The VES PBS program encourages all of our VES Little Indians to have their "ARROW" on target. That means that we teach our students to be an Achiever, Respectful, Responsible, Observant, and Wholehearted in their daily actions and interactions. When our students have their ARROW on target, they are recognized with an Indian Feather, which they collect and redeem for recognitions in their classroom and school-wide mini-milestone and milestone events.



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Address Change

In the event of an address change, whether during the school year or at re-registration time, Sarasota County School District requires proof (*current utility bill or a lease agreement*) of the new address in order for the school to change the records. The proof of address should be emailed to our School Registrar, Kelly.Marsh@sarasotacountyschools.net. You may need to request a reassignment if your new address is outside of VES attendance zone and you plan to remain at VES.

Custody

Families that have a custody agreement must provide a copy of the custody papers (signed by a judge), which will become a part of the student's cumulative record. This will ensure that student & parental rights are honored. Student safety is always our top concern.



PICTURES

Individual student pictures are taken in the fall and in the spring. Flyers and payment envelopes are sent home prior to this special day. Please note that students must wear the school uniform for fall pictures and may choose non-uniform attire for spring pictures. A media release will need to be on file for any student's photo to be taken.

RECESS

Students have 20 minutes of recess daily. Recess activities are not permitted during lunch time with your child. Parents/guests may not use or access the playground areas. Recess is part of the instructional day. For accountability purposes, parents are not permitted to escort their child to recess after lunch.

RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Individual classes and grade level teams may hold traditional seasonal recognitions, which may include the recognition of an event of cultural or social importance. If a parent strongly objects to their child's use of instructional materials that include certain symbols or participation in a school or class activity, please notify the classroom teacher in writing. If you have any questions, the classroom teacher will be glad to assist.

REPORT CARDS



Report cards are distributed through the FOCUS Parent Portal. However, you should expect ongoing communication with your child's teacher regarding their performance at school. If you have questions or concerns, do not wait until the report card or performance report is distributed. Contact your child's teacher through their identified methods of communication.

Report Card Grading Scale



The Grading Scale, for Grades 1-5, that has been adopted by the Sarasota County School District is as follows:

A – Outstanding	90-100%	E - Excellent
B – Above Average	80-89%	G – Good
C – Average	70-79%	S – Satisfactory
D – Below Average	60-69%	N – Needs Improvement
F - Failing	0-59%	U – Unsatisfactory

SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS MOBILE APP

The SCSB is pleased to offer the SCS App for Android and Apple mobile devices. The SCS App can be downloaded from the SCSB website (www.sarasotacountyschools.net); the directions are found under the "Parent and Student" section of the website. The SCS App allows the user to receive push notifications & updates from VES. The SCS App is one of our primary means of sharing school-wide announcements, so we encourage you to sign-up and follow VES!

SCHOOL DAY

School office hours are 8:00 AM to 3:45 PM – Student day is 8:30 AM to 3:15 PM

- Students are not permitted in the classroom until the first bell at 8:15 AM
- No student will be allowed back into the school building after the dismissal bell without permission

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

At the beginning of the school year, each teacher will clarify rules and procedures for their classroom. Rules guiding behavior are written in general terms to require interpretation and discussion by teachers and students. Once the rules are discussed and understood, they will set the standards of conduct.

Everyone shares in the responsibility of behaving in a manner that makes Venice Elementary a school where there are high expectations and people are valued. At the opening of school, all students will receive information about school rules from their teachers and through a "**Student and Family Handbook**" distributed by the Sarasota County School District on-line as well as this Venice Elementary School Family & Student Handbook, which is also distributed online. Parents are expected to review this information with their children. Children who repeatedly violate the rules are referred to the VES Administration. An appropriate action will be taken, which could involve restricting school privileges. Some violations of school rules are so severe that they may require out of school suspension for a period of time. If the behavior is not only a breach of school rules but a violation of the law, students will be referred to the SCSPD SRO. This does not preclude disciplinary action by the school as well.

STUDENT ID BADGES



Your student will be issued a Student ID Photo badge and backpack tag every school year. We will also provide a school lanyard. The Student ID badge is kept on campus by their homeroom teacher and will be used to check out books from the media center, scan for lunch accounts, and various purposes throughout the year. The backtag tag is used for walkers, bus entry and exit and for identification purposes. Should your student bring home their Student ID Photo badge accidentally, please return it promptly to our campus. If you replace their backpack at any point during the school year, please return the backpack tag to the office and we will affix it to their new backpack.

VES will be providing student badges for use in the Media Center and the Cafetorium. These badges and lanyards stay at school in their classrooms. Should a badge come home with a student, be sure to return it to school the next day to be returned to their teacher.

STUDENT INSURANCE

Student Accident Insurance

At the beginning of the school year, the Sarasota County School District provides the opportunity for all students to purchase a Student Accident Insurance Plan. This information is posted online on the VES website, under the Resources page and includes the online application. The plan is also available to any new student enrolling during the school year. Students have the option of purchasing accidental insurance coverage for the school day only, or they may purchase coverage for 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cost and coverage descriptions are explained in the insurance company literature. The purchase of these insurance programs is strictly voluntary, and the cost of the plan is paid by the parent or guardian of the student.

Student Medical Coverage (other than Student Accident Insurance)

The Sarasota County School District has no provision, either insured or otherwise, to make routine payments of medical expenses for students injured as the result of accidents. It is assumed that all parents/guardians of students have made provisions to meet the financial responsibility of paying medical costs incurred by their child.

STUDENT RELEASE FORMS MEDIA/DIRECTORY

A Release Form is filled out for each student at the time of registration. This form is required by the Sarasota County School District and is official permission for your child to be included in the yearbook, directory, social media and to have their picture taken by newspaper or television, etc. The signed form remains in effect for your child's entire career at Venice Elementary School. If the status needs to be changed, it can be done so by contacting the Venice Elementary School Registrar and completing a new form.

TOYS, TRADING CARDS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, ETC.

Trading cards, electronic games, electronic music devices, and other toys that may be a distraction to the learning environment, ***are not permitted in the classroom learning environment.*** Should one of these items be brought to school, it may be confiscated and stored in the front office where a parent may pick it up. At times, teachers may make a special allowance for these materials.

At Venice Elementary School, we believe the highest student achievement occurs in a positive learning environment where students are safe and free of distractions. As such, our school implements the following uniform policy and dress code, which has been developed and approved by our VES School Advisory Council:



UNIFORM/DRESS CODE POLICY

Monday through Thursday: VES students are required to wear the Venice Elementary uniform which may be purchased through Venice Elementary School or Lands' End. The uniform consists of:

- Tops must be a white or green VES logo t-shirt, collared shirt, or dry fit shirt
- Bottoms must be one of the following:
    - Khaki shorts, skorts, or skirts (neutral colored bicycle shorts must be worn under skirts)
    - Khaki pants or capris
    - Green or white polo dress with the VES logo (neutral colored bicycle shorts must be worn under dress)
    - Green athletic shorts with the VES logo or green athletic pants (sold at VES)
    - Jumpers **are not** considered part of the VES uniform

- *If leggings or tights are worn under the uniform bottoms, they must be neutral colored (navy, white, black, tan, gray, cream) and not patterned*
- Sock length must be under the knee.
- Close-toed shoes without heels (Crocs and/or croc-like shoes are not permitted)
- Athletic shoes are required for PE and recess.
- Solid color long-sleeve shirts may be worn under the uniform shirt.
- No hoodies are permitted to be covering a student's head in VES.

Friday Free Day: Students may wear clothing of their choice while following these guidelines:

- Clothing should be appropriate for school (clothing with references to drugs, tobacco, alcohol, violence, weapons, sex, or supporting discrimination on any characteristic protected by federal or state law or School Board policy is prohibited).
- No exposed undergarments.
- No jeans, shorts, or pants may be worn below the belt line and must not contain any rips above the mid-thigh.
- No see-through clothing, clothing that exposes bare midriffs, crop tops, halter tops, tank tops, or spaghetti straps. All shirts must cover student shoulders.

Everyday policies pertaining to our Dress Code:

- All students should be respectful of their peers at all times, regardless of what they are wearing.
- Shorts' hemlines must at least reach the tip of the thumbnail and should not be shorter than any shirt/outerwear not tucked in. Student shirts/outwear may not cover student uniform bottoms.
- No roller wheeled shoes allowed.
- Hair color should be a natural color and in a style that is not a distraction to the educational environment in the classroom.

Uniform Suppliers: Venice Elementary School – contact Cheryl Osada at 941-486-2111 or at Cheryl.Osada@sarasotacountyschools.net

Land's End **– www.landsend.com -** School Code: 9000-9582-9

Families in need of financial assistance regarding uniforms should contact the school office at 941-486-2111
VES UNIFORM EXCHANGE – Uniform exchange night(s) will be scheduled during the year through our VES PTO. During these events you may bring in your gently worn uniform tops and bottoms and exchange them for another item.

Students who violate the VES Uniform/Dress Code are subject to the following procedures:

Action Steps/Consequences:

1st Offense Teacher sends student to clinic to change; Note sent to parents*****

2nd Offense Teacher sends student to clinic to change; Counselor will talk to student; Note sent to parents*****

3rd Offense Contact parent to bring appropriate clothes and Administration schedules a conference with parents

*******1st and 2nd Offense – Clinic will call home and parents will be given the option to bring in a change of clothes.*

- Students wearing non-uniform shoes – Sit out at Recess and PE and a note will be sent to parent/guardian

- Hair Dress Code Violations – Parents/guardians are called by the school staff to correct the issue at home that night for minor infractions. If the issue is a substantial distraction to the learning environment, the parent will be called to come to school to rectify the situation before the child is allowed to return to class.

VOLUNTEERS



Venice Elementary School is well known for its large number of volunteers! District policy requires that all volunteers & chaperones complete an online application, which is screened by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). All persons must have Level 1 clearance to volunteer on campus, and Level 2 (fee-based) clearance to accompany students on a field trip as a chaperone out of county or in county, if not under a teacher's direct supervision at all times. Please visit the Volunteer information page on the district website.

WITHDRAWAL

If you are planning to withdraw your child from Venice Elementary School, please notify the office as soon as possible as you will need to complete a withdrawal form. All textbooks, library books and lunch charges must be paid before your child's records can be released to the new school.

WORKBOOKS

Students are expected to be responsible for their workbooks. Classroom teachers keep a record of books assigned to students. Students will be charged if they do not return the books assigned to them. If a book is lost during the school year, the student will be charged for the book prior to another being issued. Any student paying for a book which is found within the school year is eligible for a refund.