



PASSPORT *To* SUCCESS

Preparing Spring Valley Graduates
to Launch with Confidence



SPRING VALLEY
SCHOOL



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PASSPORT TO SUCCESS

This workbook is going to be your guide as you begin your journey in Upper School.

It serves as an overview of the 4 years here at Spring Valley School and gives you a place to plan, write down your goals and successes, and accomplish lists throughout each year. It will also serve as a keepsake of all the milestones you achieved here and the invaluable skills and tools you learned.

SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL MILESTONE STAMPS

There will be fun stamps throughout the book to mark your journey milestones. Be sure to fill in the date you completed your successful adventure so you can look back at what you accomplished during your time at Spring Valley School.





OVERVIEW

- 4 **9TH GRADE** Freshman Year
- 6 **10TH GRADE** Sophomore Year
- 8 **11TH GRADE** Junior Year
- 12 **12TH GRADE** Senior Year
- 16 **SUMMER** What's Next?



POSSIBILITY
CONFIDENCE
SUCCESS
AND JOY



9TH GRADE 📍 Freshman Year

Ninth grade is a fresh start and your launchpad for upper school success. This year is all about discovering your interests, building independence, and taking the first steps toward your bright future. Use this space to set goals, capture your milestones, and celebrate the skills you're developing as you begin your journey toward a confident launch.



OPPORTUNITIES & FOCUS AREAS FOR FRESHMEN

- **Lay a strong academic foundation** (start to take ownership of learning)
- **Build independence**
 - + Self-advocacy
 - + Self-care
 - + Household skills
- **Explore interests, strengths, and occupational interests**
 - + Volunteering
 - + Clubs
 - + Sports
 - + Organizations outside of SVS (e.g., civic, faith-based, etc.)

✈️ Use this space to write out some of your goals that pertain to the above list.



SUMMER AFTER FRESHMEN YEAR

• Independent living skills

☐ Study for permit & be an “active passenger”

* Volunteer

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

* Have daily and weekly responsibilities at home

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

• Career exploration and Resumé building

* Identify leadership roles/opportunities for the upcoming year
(in school and other organizations)

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐



My favorite memory from 9th grade





10TH GRADE 📍 Sophomore Year

Tenth grade is your year to build on what you've started and to continue exploring what excites you about the future. This is the time to strengthen your academic habits, get involved in activities that interest you, and take on new roles at school and at home. Use this space to write down your goals for this year, track your achievements, and continue exploring.



AT SVS

- **Career Prep (mandatory elective)**

- + Career exploration
- + College research
- + Interviewing
- + Résumé writing
- + Personal finances

- **Field Trips**

- + Career Expo (fall)
- + Mock Interviews (spring)

- **Dual Enrollment (elective)**

- + Open to sophomores who want additional rigor and who are willing to increase their workload



AT HOME

- **Study for permit & be an “active passenger”**

- **Look for leadership opportunities outside of school.** Examples include Youth Leadership Forum, scout awards (Gold Award/Eagle Scout Award), university-sponsored programs, etc.

-
-

- **Discuss diagnoses to increase student ownership and advocacy**

-
-

- **Begin preliminary college visits**

SUMMER AFTER SOPHOMORE YEAR

- **Independent living skills**

- Get learner's permit and/or driver's license

- * Practice managing money

- Manage paycheck
 - Allowance
 - Manage shopping budget
 -
 -

- * Have responsibilities at home (daily & weekly) and learn basic tasks

- Laundry
 - Dishes
 - Cleaning
 - Grocery shopping
 - Simple meal prep
 -
 -

- **Career exploration and Resumé building**

- * Secure a summer job, volunteer, or look for leadership opportunities

- -
 -

- **Preparing for post-graduate plans**

- * Preliminary college visits

- -

- * Identify special application requirements to plan accordingly. For example, art programs require portfolios.

- -

- * Establish re-evaluation timeline for post-secondary services & college/workforce accommodations

- -





11TH GRADE 📍 Junior Year

Eleventh grade is the time to start turning your interests and strengths into concrete plans for the future. This year is about deepening your academic habits, preparing for key milestones like the ACT, and participating in activities that reflect your interests. You'll also have the opportunity to practice real-world skills—like mock interviews—and take on new responsibilities at school, at home, and in your community.



AT SVS

- **Begin meeting with College and Career Counselor**

- ☐ Discuss/explore future plans

- ☐ Register with **Voc Rehab** (Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services) to access vocational services

- **Dual Enrollment (elective)**

- + Earn up to 12 college credits prior to high school graduation

- **Field Trips**

- + Career Expo

- + Mock Interviews

- ☐ **ACT Preparation (elective)**

- ☐ **Register for ACT Accommodations and Administration (by SVS Faculty)**





AT HOME



- **Prepare for Post-Graduate Plans**

- ☐ Schedule ACT tutoring (Optional)

- * Visit Colleges and/or Trade Schools

- ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐

- * LD (Learning Differences) Support

- ☐ Explore assistive technology
(e.g., speech-to-text; note-taking software)
 - ☐ Update LD documentation with a re-evaluation to receive post-secondary accommodations
 - ☐ Continue to discuss diagnoses to increase student ownership and advocacy

- **Independent living skills**

- ☐ Prepare to acquire driver's license (and seek support services from Voc Rehab)

- * Practice managing money

- ☐
 - ☐

- * Have responsibilities at home and learn basic tasks

- ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐

- **Career exploration and Resumé building**

- * Volunteer, acquire a job, or shadow at occupations of interest

- ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐

- * Look for leadership opportunities outside of school.

- Examples include SVS House Council; Youth Leadership Forum; Governor's School; scout awards (Gold Award/Eagle Scout Award); university programs, etc.

- ☐
 - ☐

☀️ SUMMER AFTER JUNIOR YEAR

- **Independent living skills**

- ☐ Get learner's permit and/or driver's license

- ☐ Learn basic vehicle maintenance

- * Continue to practice managing money

- ☐

- ☐

- ☐

- * Have responsibilities at home and learn basic tasks

- ☐

- ☐

- ☐

- **Career exploration and Resumé building**

- * Volunteer, acquire a job, or shadow at occupations of interest

- ☐

- ☐

- ☐



✈️ Extra notes



- **Preparing for post-graduate plans**

- ☐ Plan re-evaluation timeline for college/workforce accommodations
- ☐ Create a resumé (**SVS students create a preliminary resumé in Career Prep courses**)
- * Identify and contact individuals to request write letters of recommendation
 - ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐
- * Explore trade schools & vocational training programs
 - ☐
 - ☐
 - ☐
- * Preliminary college visits
 - ☐
 - ☐
- * Identify special application requirements to plan accordingly. For example, art programs require portfolios.
 - ☐
 - ☐
- * Establish re-evaluation timeline for post-secondary services & college/workforce accommodations
 - ☐
 - ☐
- * College Visits & Conversations with Accommodations Officers
 - ☐
 - ☐
- ☐ Participate in summer college camp programs to stay at a college
- * Create a list of potential scholarships & their deadlines
 - +
 - +
 - +
 - +
- ☐ Application Prep, Essay Drafts, & Portfolio Assembly (if applicable)



12TH GRADE 📍 Senior Year

Twelfth grade is your year to finish strong and prepare for what comes next. Take pride in how far you've come, stay focused on your academic goals, and complete key milestones like college applications, mock interviews, and final ACT testing. Whether you're preparing for college, a career, or other post-graduation plans, now is the time to take initiative, lead with confidence, and make the most of your final year at SVS.



AT SVS

- **Develop a post-graduation plan**

- * Apply to college or trade school programs

☐
☐
☐

- * Begin job-training and/or pre-employment programs (e.g., Vocational Rehab programs)

☐
☐

Identify deadlines for your chosen path

☐
☐
☐

- Check regularly on statuses for acceptances, scholarship offers, etc.

- **Continue to meet with Voc Rehab for assistive technology assessments, job coaching, etc.**

- **Participate in Dual Enrollment**

- **Field Trips**

- + Career Expo
- + Mock Interviews

- **Re-take ACT with appropriate accommodations** (optional; may increase scholarship opportunities)



AT HOME

• Independent living skills

☐ Acquire your learner's permit and/or driver's license

☐ Learn basic vehicle maintenance

* Continue to practice managing money

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐



* Have responsibilities at home and learn basic tasks

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

• Career exploration and Resumé building

* Look for extracurricular leadership opportunities

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

* Volunteer and/or acquire a job

- ☐
- ☐



My favorite memory from my Senior Year



SENIOR YEAR TIMELINE



FALL

- College applications (Early Action/Early Decision)
- ACT (if retaking)
- Common App (August–November)
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) (Oct 31–Dec 31)
- Applications to community colleges and technical school



WINTER

- Housing Registration
- Admission decisions
- Scholarship application due



SPRING

- Deadline for accepting admission
- Housing registration
- Scholarships

GRAD UATE



SUMMER AFTER SENIOR YEAR

• Post-Graduate Action plan

* LD support

- ☐ Become familiar with applicable assistive technology (e.g., note-taking software)
- ☐ Purchase a laptop to replace the student's SVS Chromebook after graduation-become familiar with it and its accessibility features
- ☐ Finish completing LD documentation
- ☐ Continue to discuss diagnoses to increase student ownership

* Career Exploration

- ☐ Shadow someone in a career/field that interests you
- ☐ Get an internship
- ☐ Volunteer and/or get a job

* Trade/Vocational Path

- ☐ Begin training program
- ☐ Complete Voc Rehab pre-employment programs

* College Path

- ☐ Contact the accommodations office
- ☐ Complete the required accommodation request forms
- ☐ Participate in college-sponsored transition programs (if offered)

* Continue to meet with Voc Rehab

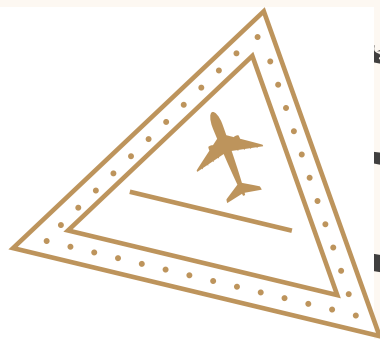
* Independent living skills

- ☐ Acquire your learner's permit and/or driver's license
- ☐ Practice basic vehicle maintenance
- ☐ Continue to practice managing money
- ☐ Have responsibilities at home & take ownership of basic self-care tasks

READY TO LAUNCH









SPRING VALLEY
SCHOOL

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AND JOY**