



## Informational Handbook

Grace Point Church

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***“His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot!” –Jeremiah 20:9***

### **Mission**

To partner with families to instill a Biblical worldview and preschool education by kindling each child's love for God, love for others, and love for learning.

### **Purpose**

To provide a safe, nurturing environment that promotes the physical, social, cognitive and spiritual development of young children in a Christian environment.

### **Enrollment/Admission**

Kindle Preschool serves children ages 3 months through 5 years. No child will be discriminated against based on race, color, religious belief, or gender. Children with special needs, including mental/physical handicaps and serious disciplinary problems, will be individually assessed. An enrollment package must be completed prior to your child entering the program. Your child will not be allowed to attend class until a complete and accurate enrollment package is submitted. This includes statement of health, discipline guidelines, and financial agreement. It is the parent's responsibility to update the information as needed.

### **Location, Days & Times**

Kindle Preschool is located at Grace Point Church, 1201 McCollum Road, Bentonville, Arkansas. Days of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and will follow the *Bentonville School District calendar and inclement weather policy*.

### **Program Cost**

AGE	APPLICATION FEE*	ENROLLED DAYS	SUPPLY FEE*	MONTHLY TUITION
All ages	\$25	Wednesday	\$50	\$115
All ages	\$25	Tuesday/Thursday	\$75	\$215
All ages	\$25	Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday	\$75	\$315

\*Application fee due with submission of application form. Supply fee due during first week of enrollment.

Tuition is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of attendance each month for the entire month. Failure to meet tuition obligations may result in the child being dropped from the program. This will require the child to re-enroll or be placed on a waiting list. To re-enroll, a new registration fee must be paid. **\*\*Paid fees are non-refundable**

- **We have a very low child to teacher ratio and that is based on the days your child is enrolled. Therefore, there is no discount for days your child will not be able to attend.**

Late Pick Up Fee – A late charge is assessed if a child is picked up any time after 12:45 p.m.

There is an initial charge of \$5.00 and \$1.00 per minute thereafter.

### **Payment Methods**

We accept checks, money orders, or cash for tuition. We also have a convenient online payment option through the GPC website.

There will be a \$25.00 fee for any insufficient check. The amount of the insufficient check must be paid in cash as soon as you are notified that the check has been returned. The return of a second check may revoke your privilege of paying by check. If your account is not paid in full by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, your child may

not attend class until the account has been paid. Late accounts must be paid in full by the close of the month, or your child will be dropped from the program. To re-enroll, you will need to pay a new registration fee and all past due amounts. If space is not available, your child will be placed on the waiting list.

### **Drop Off/Pick Up**

For the school year 2021-2022, Kindle will continue to utilize a car rider line. We will begin accepting children for the morning drop off at 8:20. All health screenings will be handled at the car before child will be walked to class by a staff member. In the afternoon, dismissal will begin at 12:20pm. Please have your car tag visible in the front window. If someone other than the parent/guardian will be picking up, this information must be communicated to the Director via phone or email. Additional information regarding car line will be given at a later time.

### **Sample Schedule**

8:30 Opening Activity/Free Play	10:30 Centers
9:00 Snack	11:00 Outside Play
9:20 Music or Movement	11:30 Restroom/Clean-up
9:40 Circle Time	11:45 Lunch
10:20 Art	12:30 Dismissal

\*Schedules and activities will vary based on age of child.

### **Withdrawal**

We ask that you provide us with a two-week notice, should you wish to withdraw your child. Until notice is given, you are responsible for all tuition fees. No refunds for partial months will be given.

### **Inclement Weather/Holidays**

Should the Bentonville School District close early, start late, or cancel school due to inclement weather conditions, Kindle will close or start late as well. ***Discounts in tuition are not given for snow/bad weather days.***

### **Items to send with child** *(Please label all items with first and last name):*

Toddler/Preschool:

- Nutritious sack lunch
  - Finger foods – **no peanut products of any kind**
  - Please note that we are unable to warm up food for children.

- Water bottle and a drink for lunch
  - Juice (please avoid red or dark colored juices), or milk in lunch box with ice pack
- **Change of clothes** and pull-ups (if appropriate)

Infants:

- Bottles, formula, snack, food for lunch, diapers, ointment, change of clothes
- Pacifiers, blankets, etc. as appropriate
- Completed feeding/nap schedule

**\*Note: As we want to protect all children from potential allergy issues, all classrooms are “peanut free” zones.**

### **Sunscreen**

- According to the FDA, sunscreen is an over-the-counter medication. Therefore, we are unable to apply sunscreen at school unless given written consent by a parent or guardian.

### **Health and Safety**

***Please keep your child home if he/she experiences any of the following:***

*No child will be admitted who has a contagious or infectious disease. Parents will be notified to pick up their child if the child exhibits any of the symptoms listed below:*

- **Fever:** A body temperature of 100.4 or greater (Recommendations – infants, six months of age or under, who have a temperature of 100 or greater should be excluded). Child must be free of fever for 48 hours **without** medication before returning to school.
- **Diarrhea:** three (3) or more watery stools in a 24-hour period.
- **Vomiting:** Vomiting within the past 24-hour period.
- **Rash:** Body rashes, not obviously associated with diapering, heat, or allergic reactions to medications.
- **Sore throat:** If associated with fever or swollen glands in the neck.
- **Severe coughing:** Episodes of coughing which may lead to repeated gagging, vomiting, or difficulty breathing.
- **Pink eye:** Pink or red eyes which may be swollen with white or yellow discharge, until on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- **Untreated scabies, head lice, or the presence of nits:** Must be treated and remain lice/nit free for a complete 24 hours before returning to school.

- **Multiple sores inside mouth with drooling:** Unless health care provider determines the condition is non-infectious.
- **Ring worm:** A fungal infection of the scalp or skin; may return after evaluation and under treatment by a health care provider.
- **Impetigo:** May return 24 hours after treatment is initiated.
- **Colored discharge from the nose (green or yellow).**
- Any child who becomes ill will be separated from other children and supervised. Parents will be called to pick up the child.
- For your child's protection, we ask our staff to follow the same guidelines.
- If your child is being treated with an antibiotic, we ask that they receive treatment for at least 24 hours before attending class.
- Staff cannot administer any medications.
- Parents of all children will be notified of contagious illness as soon as possible.
- Kindle reserves the right to require a doctor's note for certain illnesses prior to your child returning to school.

### **Injuries**

In the event of an accident or injury, your child will have immediate attention. An accident report form will be given to you stating the details of what happened and what medical attention was given. You will be immediately contacted regarding any serious injury.

### **Potty Policy**

All children ages 36 months and older (as of August 2021) must be fully potty trained before attending Kindle. If your child has more than two accidents in one school day, parents will be called to come pick up your child. If a child has to be sent home three times due to potty accidents, we will ask the parents keep their child home until toileting skills are better developed.

### **Allergies**

Please make sure any severe allergy your child has is listed on your application/enrollment package. Also, please let your child's teacher know if your child has a severe allergy.

### **Discipline** (Proverbs 22:6)

Young children are in the process of learning and understanding how the world works and sometimes they don't have any idea of the consequences of their actions. The process of discipline is to help teach children appropriate ways to meet their needs and to stop inappropriate behavior. The word discipline means "teaching," and that is exactly what Jesus did with His disciples. Our teachers are responsible for the following guidelines:

- Encourage children to love the Lord and to love their neighbor (treat others as you want to be treated).
- Redirect behavior.
- Offer a choice.
- Talk through problems.
- Set clear limits (use the word “no” as little as possible); Tell children which behaviors are acceptable.
- Provide an opportunity for time out (children two years or older – must not exceed one minute per year of the child’s age).
- Contact the director if the above options have been taken without any change in a child’s behavior.
- Contact the parent if removal has not been effective.
- Understand that effective discipline does not include ridicule, sarcasm, threats, or withholding any sort of care from a child.
- Effective discipline should NEVER include any sort of negative physical touching (spanking, slapping, swatting, tapping, shaking, pulling, biting back, or grabbing face or limbs).

It is our desire to demonstrate to children that our teachers are loving and considerate people who want to show them God’s love.

**Time-out** shall not be used for children under two years of age. However, brief separation from the group is acceptable when a child’s behavior endangers him or endangers others. Then, a child may be placed in a supervised area away from the group while the teacher attends to the situation. (Example: A child who has bitten another child could be briefly removed from the group while a teacher attends to the bitten child, and the other teacher attends to all other children.)

### **Kindle Endangering Behavior Policy**

#### **Endangering behaviors are defined as:**

- Any behavior exhibited by a child that puts himself/herself in danger, puts other children in danger, and/or endangers staff. This includes but is not limited to: hitting, kicking, biting, pinching, frequent running away, banging head, etc.

#### **The following steps will be taken if Endangering Behaviors occur:**

- The behavior will be interrupted with a firm “No...we don’t \_\_\_\_”
- The harmed child will be comforted.
- Staff will remove the child exhibiting endangering behaviors from the situation and redirect.
- The wound of harmed child shall be assessed and treated.

- The parents of both children will be notified of the incident. Appropriate forms will be filled out (Incident Report).
- Confidentiality of all children will be maintained.
- The wounded child will continue to be observed by parents and staff.
- Teach non-aggressive responses to situations and reinforce appropriate behavior.

**If Endangering behavior continues the following procedures will take place:**

- Classroom staff to meet with the director on a routine basis for advice, support, and strategy planning.
- Document each occurrence using an incident report including pertinent information such as location, time, participants, behaviors, staff present, and circumstances.
- Let parents know of the problem and the procedures that will be followed. Parents will be asked to sign the incident report, which will be kept in the child's file.
- Be mindful of children who indicate a tendency of endangering behaviors and children who have a tendency to be harmed: Head off situations before they occur.
- Teach responses to potential aggressive situations: "No" or "Don't hurt me!"
- If an occurrence happens 3 times in one day, the parent/guardian will be called to pick up the child exhibiting endangering behaviors. The child may return the following class day.
- If a child is sent home three times for his/her best interest, the child will be excused from the program. Referrals for outside resources will be provided upon request.
- After a minimum of three months' separation, the child will be eligible to re-enroll provided there is space in the appropriate Kindle classroom. Director, parents, and classroom teachers, along with any other outside providers the parents so choose, will work together to form a written plan to help the child succeed in the classroom.

**Complaint Procedure** (*Matthew 18:15-19; Matthew 5:9; Ephesians 4:26*)

If you have a complaint or concern:

1. Pray about it. Ask that God will help you make the complaint in such a way that it will result in the betterment of the program.
2. Express your concern promptly and clearly.
3. Concerns about the Kindle Preschool policy should be addressed directly to the Director. Concerns regarding classroom condition should be discussed with your child's teacher. After the discussion with the child's teacher, if you feel that the results were not satisfactory, the next step would be to contact the Director.

### **Interviewing**

A licensing representative visits our facility to ensure that we are meeting all minimum standard guidelines set forth by the State of Arkansas. Children may be subject to interviews by licensing staff, child maltreatment investigators and/or law enforcement officials for the purpose of determining licensing compliance or for investigative purposes.