

Parent Handbook

# **Table Of Contents**



Page 3-4 Welcome Letter

Page 5 Educational Philosophy of the Program

**Page 6-10 Weekday Preschool Policies** 

Page 11-12 Preschool Illness Policies

Page 13 Emergency/Disaster Plans

Page 14 Contact & Communication

### Dear Preschool Friends & Families,

Welcome to the New Vision Weekday Preschool Program. We are blessed that you have chosen New Vision to be a part of your child's early education & care during these precious preschool years. New Vision Weekday Preschool is a place of nurturing the WHOLE child-Socially, Spiritually, Cognitively, Emotionally, & Physically. New Vision Baptist Church and all its ministries are Biblically based and seek to honor Christ in every way. Our preschool program is no exception. We will strive to treat every child with respect and give each of them the best opportunity to grow and learn in a Christian environment.

Beginning preschool is a very big step for children.

Talk to your child to help prepare them physically & emotionally for the challenge & excitement that awaits them! As an educator and a mother, I am well aware of the many emotions you may be juggling at this time.

Please know that my door is always open & do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I pray that your child's learning experience will be happy and wholesome. Great & exciting things are happening at New Vision & you have chosen an amazing place for your child to thrive!

### **Our Promise**

I promise you every day your child will learn something.
Some days they will bring it home in their hands.
Some days they will bring it home in their heads.
Some days they will bring it home in their hearts.



In His Love,
Brandi Bontrager
Weekday Preschool Director

Dear Parents,

We are thankful that you have chosen New Vision Weekday Preschool for your child's first structured early learning experience. We realize the tremendous responsibility we have in helping your child grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52). We are excited about this year and all God has in store.

If you and your family do not have a church home, we would love for you to worship and connect with us. Sometimes the hardest part about coming to church is just walking through the doors for the first time. We can help you. Let us know you're coming and we'll meet you and walk you through the process so you feel at ease from the moment you arrive. You can visit NewVisionLife.com for worship times and information about programming for preschoolers through adults. We look forward to this year and all God has in store. You and your child are important to us.

Paige Robinson
Preschool Minister

# **Educational Philosophy of the Program**

A child develops mentally, physically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally. We are committed to providing Biblically based, age-appropriate experiences to allow each child to progress in these areas at his/her own level of ability while enjoying feelings of success. This is primarily done

through hands-on activities in learning centers and positive Christ-like role modeling of the staff. A child's growth and development is a process, not an event. We believe the most important part of learning is the process, not the final product.



### **The Program**

Your child will participate in a variety of learning center activities which include art, books, blocks, puzzles and manipulatives, nature, music, and dramatic play. Our curriculum provides guidance and activities to help children develop language, reading, writing, and math skills appropriate to their stage of development. Social skills are developed through sharing, taking turns, thinking, reasoning, and solving problems. Bible stories, thoughts and verses are included in each teaching unit.

### **Weekday Preschool Policies**

### **Eligibility**

Children must be at least one year of age by August 15<sup>th</sup>. All required forms & fees must be submitted prior to the child's first day of school.

### Registration Fee

There is a \$100.00 non-refundable registration fee, per child, which must accompany each application. This reserves a place in the program for your child. No child will be placed on a class list without the registration information and fee.

### Withdrawal Information

New Vision Weekday Preschool reserves the right to request withdrawal of any child if the child or their parent/guardian needs such attention or supervision that the class/preschool is unfavorably affected. Through a process of observation and consultation, the decision will be determined with input from the Preschool Teachers & Preschool Directors. Families requesting withdrawal of their child from the program, for any reason, must give 2 weeks notice to the director and pay tuition accordingly for the entire month which includes those 2 weeks.

#### **Tuition**

Monthly tuition for the 2026-2027 school year is \$210.00 per month.

Tuition is based on a yearly cost divided by ten months (August-May). The first tuition payment is due in August. All tuition payments are due on the first of the month, August through May. If tuition is not paid by the 10<sup>th</sup>, the account is considered delinquent. Unless other arrangements are made with the director, the child will not be allowed to continue classes until the tuition fees are paid. A \$10.00 late fee, per child, will also be assessed.

### Payment options –

Preferred Payment Option:

- On-line payment via Touch Point (Located on the New Vision website under the tab labeled "Give").
   We are happy to help you set this option up if you need assistance! You may pay monthly or utilize our auto pay option.
- 2) Check or cash may be paid at the preschool desk.

### *Late fee*

Preschool dismisses at 2:00 and children should be picked up at that time. There will be a ten-minute grace period prior to late fee charges being assessed.

Late Fee Charges:

2:10 - 2:30 \$10.00

2:30 – 2:50 \$20.00, etc.

<u>A late fee</u> assessment form for the month will be distributed, and the fee must be paid by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

<u>Withdrawal</u> – A two-week notice must be given prior to withdrawing from preschool. No refunds will be issued for partial months.

### Teacher Pupil Ratio

Each classroom is staffed with TWO teachers.

The ratios are as follows:

1-year-old classrooms: 8-10 children

2-year-old classrooms: 12-13 children

3-year-old classrooms: 14-15 children

Pre-K classrooms: 15-16 children

### Schedule

Our preschool program meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm beginning August 11th and continuing through May 13th, unless otherwise noted on the calendar (i.e., Fall, Spring, Christmas breaks, etc.) Preschool doors will open at 8:50 am for morning drop off & again at 1:50 pm for afternoon dismissal.

#### Sign-in and out

All children must be signed in when they arrive at preschool and signed out when they are picked up. When signing in, please make goodbyes very brief. Some children may experience separation anxiety the first few days. The longer you stay, the harder it is for them when you leave. Children seldom cry for more than a few minutes after parents leave. Our teachers will engage them in fun, learning activities and this phase will pass.

If someone other than the parent is dropping the child off, they must sign-in and leave a contact number where a parent or relative can be reached as well as their own contact information.

Children will NOT be released to anyone not listed as authorized. If someone other than the parent is picking up, the individual must initially present ID.

### **Inclement Weather**

We will follow the Murfreesboro City School system regarding closings and/or delayed openings for inclement weather. If Murfreesboro City Schools delay the opening of school, we will follow the same delay (i.e., if city schools open at 10:00 am – a two-hour delay, preschool will open at 11:00 am – also a two-hour delay). Classroom teachers will inform families of changes so arrangements can be made in the event of inclement weather closings.

The State of Tennessee temperatures for outdoor play are between 32 degrees and 95 degrees. Teacher discretion can be used within those temps. Please make sure you send adequate clothing for your children for outdoor play.

### Security

In an effort to keep your children safe, the doors into the building will be locked between 9:10 am and 1:50 pm. If you need access, please call the preschool desk.

### Diapers and Potty Training

<u>Diapers</u> – Parents are responsible for providing diapers and wipes. Please check to make sure your child has enough for the day.

<u>Potty Training</u> – Parents need to send two full changes of clothing for children who are potty training. Children in our 3-year-old classes must be fully potty trained in order to return to the classroom after Winter Break. We will do our best to support you in the potty training of your child, but please be sensitive to the fact that the teachers have a room full of children.

### Safety

We strive to provide a safe environment for your child. Hopefully accidents will not occur, but children are active. Despite close supervision, incidents may occur that could result in an injury. If your child sustains an injury while at preschool, appropriate first aid measures will be taken.

Depending on the type of injury some or all of the following first aid measures may be taken:

- Soap and water to clean the injured area
- Ice pack for swelling or pain
- Adhesive bandage

If your child receives a minor injury, you will be informed via an incident/accident report. If the injury is of a serious nature, you will be contacted immediately. For safety purposes, we cannot apply first aid ointments, diaper rash creams, sunscreens, or any other type of medicated topical creams.

### Parking Lot Safety

The preferred preschool entrance is the <u>WELCOME 3</u> (back parking lot) behind the preschool wing. You may enter through the double doors at the end of the walkway. If you choose, you may also park in the <u>Welcome 1</u> parking lot located near the town square. Please do **NOT** enter or exit the building through the door located by the playground. Only utilize the Handicap Parking spots if you have an authorized handicap parking placard, decal, or license plate.

### Clothing

Washable play clothes and closed-toed shoes are the most suitable for preschool. Children will be going outside on hot and cold days so appropriate dress is required. It is also a good idea to send your child with a jacket or sweater just in case they are need it.

### Extra Clothing

Please send a Ziploc bag with a complete change of clothing for your child...Just-in-Case!

#### Label All Items

Please clearly label all of your child's belongings (coats, hats, lunchboxes, backpacks, diaper bags, etc.) Several children may have belongings that look alike, and if not labeled, your child may go home with someone else's belongings.

### Snacks/Lunches

Parents are responsible for providing their child's snack and lunch including a drink. Please try to select items for snacks/lunches that will be heathy as well as appealing. Please send food that does not need to be heated or refrigerated. We encourage using freezer packs or an insulated thermos.

#### Allergies

All allergies should be noted on the registration forms and we must have a written food management plan as well as a documented emergency care plan.

All allergies will be managed on a case by case basis. Certain allergies may require a classroom to become allergy free for the safety of our children.

### Sippy Cups

Parents whose children are still using 'Sippy Cups' are responsible for providing 'Sippy Cups' for their child. If a child does not have a 'Sippy Cup' a small disposable cup will be provided.

#### **Bottles & Pacifiers**

Bottles will not be given to any child. Pacifiers may be used in one year old classes ONLY. We would prefer to only use these during nap time if possible.

#### Mats

Mats for napping are needed only for the One & Two-year-old classes ONLY. These mats may be plastic or cloth/fabric and must be taken home daily. Blankets & comfort items are permitted.

### Special Treats and Birthday Celebrations

If it is your child's birthday, we encourage you to bring in a special treat to celebrate this occasion. However, be sure to let your classroom teachers know in advance so they can prepare as well. Please check with the teachers for any food allergies in your child's classroom before bringing snacks. Occasionally there

will be a classroom sign-up sheet for special holiday celebrations.

#### No Balloons

We do not allow balloons in the preschool classroom. They can cause potentially life-threatening situations if a child pops one, and a piece of the balloon gets in his/her throat.

### Toys from Home

Toys from home are not allowed at preschool. The preschool provides ageappropriate toys and manipulatives for each classroom, which allows children to learn to share and work together cooperatively. It is difficult for children to share "their" toys and it is hard for the staff to keep up with which toys belong to whom.

### Parent Code of Conduct

We expect parents to observe a certain standard of conduct at all times on New Vision Campus. The following items are not acceptable while on our campus:

- Threatening or disrespectful behavior towards staff, parents, or children.
- Inappropriate language, gestures or behaviors.
- Inappropriate attire and clothing. Please practice modesty at all times on New Vision campus.
- Not following policies designated to protect the safety and security of everyone at the school Any violation of this policy will result in the immediate withdrawal of the family.

### **Preschool Illness Policies**

### **General Statements**

- b. For the protection of your child and other children, any child who is or appears ill cannot be accepted in preschool.
- c. Please use common sense when considering sending your child to preschool. If in doubt, please contact your child's physician prior to sending your child. Remember that exposure to illnesses at preschool represents a leading cause of illness in children, as well as an increasing number of antibiotic resistant organisms.
- d. Any child who becomes ill during preschool will be isolated and his/her parents will be contacted immediately to come and pick up the child.
- e. No medications will be given at preschool.
- f. Please notify preschool of any chronic illnesses, i.e. asthma, seizure disorder, allergies, etc.

### Children may not come to preschool with the following:

g. Fever within the past 24 hours. A Fever is a temperature of 100.4. Please

do NOT give anti-fever medicine (i.e., Tylenol, Advil) to a child with a fever and then send them to preschool.

#### h. Hair and skin

- 1). Head lice may return after treatment with anti-lice shampoo and there are no lice or nits present.
- 2). Scabies (body louse) may return after treatment.

### <u>Viral exanthemas</u> (rashes)

- a. Chickenpox may return after all lesions are crusted over usually about 5 to 7 days after lesions appear.
- b. shingles may return after 7 days.
- c. Roseola may return after rash disappears.
- d. Hand-Foot-Mouth Syndrome may return after all lesions heal.
- e. Impetigo may return after oral antibiotic for 24 hours or a topical antibiotic for 48 hours.
- f. Boils/abscess cover the lesion and return after antibiotic for 24 hours.

### **Fungal infections**

- a. Scalp may return after oral medication for 24 hours.
- c. Skin may return after occlusive dressing and cream for 48 hours.

### Eye Infections

Bacterial conjunctivitis (pink eye) – may return after eye drops for 24 hours.

### A. Nose/Lungs

- 1. Upper Respiratory Infection/Common Cold. May return when fever free for 24 hr.
- 2. Bronchitis use fever and ease of breathing as keys to when to return.
- 3. Croup may return 3 days after onset of illness or after no fever for 24 hours.
- 4. Influenza may return with no fever for 24 hr.

### B. Mouth/Throat

- 1. Thrush may return after treatment is started.
- 2. Strep Throat may return after antibiotics for 24 hours.

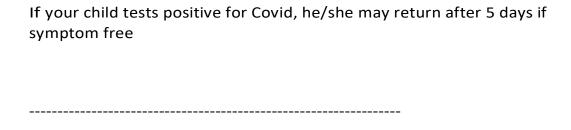
#### c. Lungs

- 1. Pneumonia
  - a. Viral return after no fever for 24 hr.
  - b. Bacterial return after on antibiotics for 24 hours and no fever.

### D. Abdominal

Vomiting/Diarrhea – may return 24 hours after no vomiting or diarrhea.

### E. Covid



### **New Vision Weekday Preschool**

The Tennessee Department of Human Services does not require that Preschools/Mother's Day Out/Parents Day Out programs be licensed. Because of this exemption this facility, New Vision Weekday Preschool is not a licensed child care facility.

## **Emergency/Disaster Plan**

### In the event of a fire

Teachers/staff members will exit the preschool and proceed to a designated location. For security purposes, the location will not be disclosed. We will remain there until we have an "all clear" from the appropriate authorities.

### In the event of a tornado warning

Teachers/staff members will take all children to the restroom areas in the front of the chapel area. We will remain there until the tornado warning has expired. Children will not be allowed to leave the campus during this time. Should parents arrive for pickup, they will need to remain on campus until the warning has expired.

### In the event of violence or the threat of violence

Security procedures have been established. However, for security purposes, these procedures are confidential.

# \*\*\*Communication & Contact\*\*\*

Weekday Preschool Director Brandi Bontrager

<u>Brandi.bontrager@newvisionlife.com</u>

Weekday Preschool Assistant Director Kristi Layne

<u>Kristi.layne@newvisionlife.com</u>

### **New Vision Baptist Church**

1750 North Thompson Lane
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

~Office Hours~

New Vision Weekday Preschool

8:30 am-2:30 pm on Monday-Thursday

# The Preschool Office is Closed Friday

### Phone Number:

Preschool Direct Line – (615) 206-7456 Church Office- (615) 895-7167

