

Children's Ministry

Childcare at Sherwood Oaks Christian Church

Purpose

To provide a fun, safe environment for kids whose parents are involved in a ministry function *not occurring in conjunction with children's programming.*

What is childcare?

The table below delineates the main differences between childcare and programming:

Childcare	Programming
Ministry support	Discipleship
No lessons, crafts, etc.	Lessons, crafts, etc.
Paid Workers	Volunteers

Childcare Policy*

Only staff members can make childcare requests for their ministry events.

The Children's Ministry staff will work with the event coordinators to determine the childcare needs (i.e., space, number of workers, etc.) and will reserve the appropriate rooms.

The Children's Ministry staff will provide childcare workers (a minimum of 2 per room) who are active volunteers (with background checks) in the Children's Ministry.

The ministry needing childcare will pay each worker \$10 per hour. The Children's Ministry will pay the workers, and the ministry needing childcare will reimburse the Children's Ministry.

A request for childcare must be submitted to the Children's Ministry staff at least 10 days before the day of the event.

Cancellations must be made at least 12 hours in advance. Otherwise, the ministry requesting childcare must pay each worker half of the total amount expected.

***These are general guidelines that apply to ALL childcare taking place at Sherwood Oaks. We completely understand that there are exceptions that will need to be considered by ministry leaders on a case-by-case basis.**

Life Groups

Child Care Information

The Children's Ministry provides programming on Sunday mornings from 9:30 AM to 12:15 PM, and on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Life Groups who meet during these times can drop off children and allow them to participate in the programming activities. Parents of children age 3 and up do not have to remain at SOCC during Children's Ministry programming, but they must pick up children promptly when these programming events end. At times it may be necessary for Life Group members to volunteer and assist with childcare. Note: The Awana program is from 6-8pm and does involve a fee.

Life Groups that wish to meet at SOCC during times when Children's Ministry programming is not available may request a room and childcare arrangements by contacting Nancy Barrow (nbarrow@socc.org). Sundays from 6:00 to 8:00 PM are preferred. The childcare costs for Sunday evening is currently \$2 per child. Each group's payment should be arranged through Nancy Barrow in the church office. If a group cannot meet on Sunday evening, requests for special accommodations at other times will be considered. Childcare on other evenings are provided at cost, contact Nancy for details. Parents must remain at SOCC in order to use this childcare. As with any ministry, Life Groups that meet at SOCC should leave their meeting rooms in a clean and orderly condition.

Childcare costs should not be a barrier for an individual or any life group. Some funds may be available to subsidize childcare costs for parents who are unable to pay. Contact Nancy Barrow for more information.

Life Groups that meet in homes and wish to hire childcare workers on their own will make all contacts, arrangements, and payments for the workers. If they need help finding childcare workers, they can contact the Children's Ministry at kids@socc.org.

Another way to arrange childcare for Life Groups that meet in homes is to contact John Muffler, SOCC High School Student Minister (jmuffler@socc.org) for names of teens who are babysitting to raise money for SOCC sponsored mission trips.