

Vineyard Kids Re-opening Guidelines

The Vineyard Church understands that the safety of children attending Vineyard Kids is paramount to re-opening Children's Ministry. This document outlines our approach for maintaining a safe environment for children and families at The Vineyard.

What are the compelling reasons to bring kids back into their classrooms?

- Every child needs spiritual leaders in their life in addition to their parents.
- Kids grow in age-appropriate environments.
- Kids grow in community with other children.

Reopening Dates:

- June 27/28 - All Early Childhood classrooms will open.
- July 11/12 - All Vineyard Kids classrooms will open.

Services:

- Vineyard Kids will be available during the 5:30pm, 9:50am, and 11:30am services at the Jackson Road Campus. Until there are enough volunteers, Vineyard Kids will not be available during the 8:30am service.
- Vineyard Kids will be available during the 9:30am and 11:15am services at the Grape Road Campus.

Face Masks:

- Vineyard Kids volunteers will be required to wear face masks whenever 6ft of social distancing cannot be maintained.
 - Babies, Toddlers, Tykes, and Juniors volunteers are required to wear face masks throughout service.
 - Kids Central and Club 54 volunteers are recommended to wear face masks, per CDC guidelines.
- Children will not be required to wear a face mask while attending Vineyard Kids, but families are encouraged to decide what is best for their children.
 - Children ages two and younger should not wear face masks, per CDC guidelines.
 - *Parents: If you choose to have your child wear a face mask, Vineyard Kids volunteers will do their best to remind them to keep their face mask on throughout Vineyard Kids. To maintain proper hygiene of the mask, if the mask comes off, your child will need to be able to apply their own mask, and if there are questions or concerns with the mask, Vineyard Kids will page the parent for assistance.*

Drop Off/Pick Up:

- At Jackson Road, check in for Vineyard Kids will occur in each classroom. Parents will need to take their children directly to the classroom where a volunteer will check the child in and provide parent with a parent pickup tag.
 - New families or children visiting for the first time will need to check in at the Vineyard Kids Hospitality Desk in the Atrium.
- At Grape Road, check in will happen at the Vineyard Kids Welcome Center.
- All classroom doors will remain open during drop off and pick up times to limit the number of people touching doors/door handles. Parents will be asked to pick up children at the doorways rather than entering the classroom.
- Classrooms with young children will have gates in every open doorway to reduce commonly touched surfaces such as door handles.
- Parents will be encouraged not to congregate in the hallway.
- Parents will be encouraged to pick up children as soon as service is over to allow volunteer enough time to clean each classroom.
- A volunteer or staff member will stand in the hallway to interact with parents, give instructions, and monitor the hallway.
- Parents of babies and toddlers will be asked to continue leaving their diaper bags for diaper changing purposes. However, carriers/car seats will need to be taken out of the classroom once the child is dropped off.

Classroom Procedures:

- Each classroom will be rearranged to allow for 6ft of social distancing.
- Classrooms will follow strict limits on the number of children per room.
 - Limits Per Room at Jackson Road:
 - Babies Room: 2 volunteers, 5 children
 - Toddlers Room: 2-3 volunteers, 9 children
 - Tykes Room: 2 volunteers, 5 children
 - Juniors Room: 2 volunteers, 12 children
 - K/1st Grade Room: 2-3 volunteers, 30 children
 - 2nd/3rd Grade Room: 2 volunteers, 15 children
 - Club 54 Room: 2 volunteers, 13 children
 - Limits Per Room at Grape Road have yet to be determined.
 - These limits are dependent on the number of volunteers and room availability.
 - If the classroom limit has been reached, parents will be asked to drop their child off at the next youngest age-group.
 - If the classroom limit has been reached in both the appropriate age-group and the younger age-group, Vineyard Kids Staff will work with parents to determine the next best option.
- No snacks or drinks will be given during weekend services.

Volunteer Guidelines:

- Vineyard Kids volunteers who are currently in middle school or age 65+ will not be allowed to serve in children's ministry classrooms at this time due to being a high risk demographic. This will be re-evaluated in September 2020.
- Vineyard Kids volunteers will practice social distancing with children whenever possible.
 - However, if contact (e.g. hugs, high fives, fist bumps, etc.) is initiated by the child, volunteers will be encouraged to choose for themselves if they are comfortable making contact.
 - *Why not eliminate all unnecessary contact?*
 - Children need to know church as a warm and inviting place where they can experience the love of God.
- All volunteers will be asked to arrive 25 minutes before the start of their scheduled service to allow classrooms to open earlier.
- Volunteers will be asked to keep track of the number of children in classrooms to follow classroom limits and communicate with staff if their room has met capacity.

Cleaning/Sanitizing:

- Hand sanitizer will be provided in each classroom.
- Children will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival and when necessary throughout the service.
- Vineyard Kids volunteers will wash their hands before and after serving in Vineyard Kids as well as whenever needed during service.
- Vineyard Kids volunteers will clean major surfaces after each service.
 - For classrooms where supplies are needed for multiple services, a separate bin of supplies will be used for each service.
- Water fountains will not be available. However, children will be allowed to bring water bottles if necessary. Water bottles must be labeled with the child's name.

Additional Information:

- The number of toys will be limited in each classroom.
- All tables and chairs will be removed from classrooms to reduce commonly touched surfaces.
- Rocking chairs in the Babies Room will be spaced out.
- The Nursing Mom's Room at Jackson Road and Room 1 at Grape Road will remain available for mothers who need to nurse their baby.