



## **Preschool Area Policy**

# **East Frankfort Baptist Church Preschool Area Policy**

## **Beliefs (*What do we believe?*)**

### ***We Believe.....***

1. Every child is a valuable gift from God and should be treated with love and care.
2. Children can come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
3. Christ called children to follow Him; therefore, children can be equipped to serve Him.
4. Children need and want a safe, child-centered, loving and age appropriate learning environment.
5. God has ordained parents as the primary religious instructor of their children and the church's role is to assist parents in their efforts.

## **Our Goals (*How do we implement our beliefs?*)**

1. To welcome all children and to help them feel loved at church.
2. To provide opportunities for each child to accept Jesus as his or her personal Lord and Savior.
3. To help children become devoted followers of Jesus Christ and to grow in their knowledge of God's Word.
4. To provide a safe, secure, loving environment for children to participate in where parents feel comfortable leaving their children.
5. To partner with the family in their role and responsibility in the spiritual growth of their child and for our parents to apply Deut. 6:5-9 in parenting their children.

**“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”**

## **Our Policy**

Jesus showed us His desire for the wellbeing, love, and desire for the children to know Him. The scriptures example this in the gospel of Mark (Mark 9:42 & Mark 10:13-16)

*“ ‘...whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea.’ ”*

*“Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.”*

In recent years, child abuse has become a significant issue in the church community. Because churches are open and trusting places, they are especially vulnerable to both actual incidents and allegations of abuse. A single incident or allegation of child abuse can severely damage the entire ministry of a church.

We at East Frankfort Baptist Church as followers of Jesus Christ are determined to exhibit and afford every child that same love, having that same devotion to protection, and to the learning of His love having the opportunity to know and obey God now and for eternity.

Therefore to help us to that end and to bring an assurance to those adults whom the Lord has entrusted such precious gifts, we do commit ourselves to the following policy.

### **Environment**

- We believe it is very important to have a clean, neat, and child-friendly learning environment for our children. Much has been done to create space for our children. To keep our rooms clean and neat, rooms are to be cleaned and reorganized after each session.

### **Entry to the Preschool Area**

- There shall be only one way in (through the door from the interior hall way) and two ways out (the door to the interior hallway and the emergency exit in rear).
  - \* If you need admittance you must speak with the window attendant or ring the bell and then be greeted at the window.
  - \* No one except adults with the proper identification (given at child drop off), pre-approved workers or pre-approved helpers working in the area, shall be admitted.

## **In regards to drop-off and pickup of children**

- No siblings/children are to pick up children. Only the adult with the designated identification shall be allowed to pick up children.
- All children dropped off shall have their belongings labeled.
- All children shall have an information card on file. This will be identified or filled out upon arrival.

## **Teachers/ Workers**

- All Sunday School Teachers, Workers, Preschool Director, and Nursery Workers shall be members of East Frankfort Baptist Church.
- All Sunday School Teachers, Preschool Director, Nursery Coordinators and Workers will complete a background check through the Kentucky State police and be approved by the Minister of Education.
- All Sunday school teachers will successfully complete Red Cross certification in first aid and CPR for infants, children, and adults.

## **Teaching/Leading Responsibilities**

Teachers are to:

- Arrive early (at least 10 minutes before your session).
- Teaching begins when the first child enters the room.
- Come prepared to minister. Prepare your heart by spending time in prayer. Prepare your mind with Bible study. Prepare your body, rest and good health are helpful when working with children.
- Show God's love for your children through your words, attitudes and actions.
- All tabletops shall be cleaned with antibacterial wipes after each session.

## **Discipline**

- We are blessed to have many children and skilled children's workers here at EFBC. The best way to make good disciples is by modeling good discipleship. Therefore we shall lead first by a positive example and make sure we include lots and lots of praise and affirmation. Should a child choose not to obey, we suggest a warning and a simple discussion with the child. We want to be careful not to embarrass any child in front of his or her peers. A short period of time out is appropriate but not to exceed one minute per number of years in his or her age. For example, a six year old would have six minutes of time out. If a child is still having difficulty obeying, the Preschool Director will meet with the child and his or her parents.

## **Health and Sickness Policy**

EFBC, in accordance to the advice of professional healthcare personnel, recommend and reserve the right to request that a child not attend church activities if any of the following symptoms are observed:

1. **Fever** –and/or sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, irritability, or confusion. Fever is defined as having a temperature of 99.4° F or higher taken under the arm, 100.4° F taken orally, or 101.4° taken rectally.

In order to ensure the health and welfare of all the children in our program and decrease the amount of illness, your child must not participate for a 24 hour period after a fever breaks and 24 hours, or as instructed by physician, after the start of taking an antibiotic.

2. **Diarrhea** – runny, watery, or bloody stools.
3. **Vomiting** – 2 or more times in a 24 hour period.
4. **Body rash** with fever.
5. **Sore throat** with fever and swollen glands.
6. **Severe coughing** – child gets red or blue in the face or makes high-pitched whooping sounds after coughing.
7. **Eye discharge** – thick mucus or pus draining from the eye, or pink eye.
8. **Yellowish skin or eyes.**
9. **Lice or nits.** We understand a child can return to normal activities after 1 treatment with lice shampoo (example would be Nix 1% anti-lice cream rinse) if performed properly, killing any nits on the hair shaft and that there could still be nits on the hair shaft but dead and therefore, not a threat to other people. However, nits create the **perception** that lice is still a problem. That is why **we utilize a "no-nit" policy.**

*EFBC is not limited to the above guidelines and will provide for the wellness of all the children in our program.*

***This policy shall be amended if necessary, posted, and in effect for all times the nursery is utilized (Sunday mornings & evenings, Wednesday evening, etc).***