



HANDBOOK

"Anyone who welcomes a little child on my behalf welcomes me,
and anyone who welcomes me also welcomes my Father who sent me."

--Luke 9:48



When parents and schools work together, children thrive. Things learned at school can be reinforced at home; consistency between school and home help children feel secure and better able to understand and deal with their world.

What you need to know about us:

1. Yes, we are a Christ-centered school.
2. Yes, parents are welcome to observe and share your talents.

Please contact the teacher when you plan to observe or need an appointment to talk with a staff member. Parent/teacher communication is so important!
3. Yes, your child must have a complete health form on file.
4. Yes, we do have a specific curriculum that stimulates, interests, and challenges each child.
5. Yes, if a child is ready to read, we will help him or her do so ENJOYABLY. We believe in the DEVELOPMENT of cognitive skills just as we believe in the DEVELOPMENT of height and weight, new teeth, and the ability to creep and later walk. In other words, “you cannot hurry up and learn any more than you can hurry up and grow.”
6. Yes, we do believe in play because that is a major way in which a child learns.
7. Yes, we believe each child is in some way gifted in very individual unique abilities and characteristics, so we will be looking each one’s strengths, talents and needs. Please remember, though, we do not PUSH. We NURTURE.
8. No, your child will never be spanked, screamed at or humiliated—just loved.
9. Yes, we do get dirty when we play and learn. We are “making a wonderful mess” at times . . . and also engage in cleaning up. Your child will need a change of clothes to remain at the school (shirt, shorts or pants, underwear, and socks). Please label all garments. Because of limited space, we will keep their clothes in marked Zip-loc bags in their cubby.
10. Yes, feelings are always welcome. So is the need to snuggle and be reassured. Hugs are always available! (For moms and dads, too!)
11. Yes, we do go on short field trips, and we do have really special things happen because of local opportunities and talent. Life and learning can be very exciting here!
12. Yes, we believe in a nutritional lunch. Please do not send gum or lots of candy.
13. Yes, Fridays will be “Share Bag Day”. This gives your child an opportunity to share with the class. Please leave toys at home on other days.
14. And yes, we want you to BELONG to our preschool community:

To feel welcome,

To feel free to ask questions,

To make a complaint,

To express a wish,

To offer a helping hand,

To submit a cool idea,

To offer a suggestion,

To be as much a part of the early school program as that wonderful little person you have to share with us.



BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

Cumberland Street Preschool provides a positive and friendly learning environment. Each student is recognized and viewed as a unique and responsible person who contributes to the everyday life of the community of the school.

A management program that encourages developmentally appropriate behavior is implemented by the staff in the following ways:

1. Teacher/staff model desired behavior.
2. School rules are stated positively and clearly. They are reasonable, fair, and consistent with the objectives of Cumberland Street Preschool
3. Verbal and written positive reinforcements are used to enhance self-concept and to recognize appropriate behavior.
4. Limits are set. Expectations are reasonable. (We look for improvements, not perfection.)

Expectations:

Students will work toward:

- a. Listening and following directions,

- b. Developing a respect for peers, teachers, other adults, and oneself,
- c. Exhibiting self-discipline,
- d. Understanding “time and place”,
- e. Developing a respect for school and personal property,
- f. Obeying school rules—

Walking quietly inside the building,

Using quiet voices inside the building,

Completing a task without disturbing others unnecessarily,

Keeping hands and feet to oneself,

Maintaining care for the school environment.

Plan:

1. When a behavior expectation has not been met, the rule will be stated again (on child’s eye level).
2. If unacceptable behavior is repeated again, the student will go to the cozy area for a few minutes during which they may read a book or work with legos. After a few minutes the teacher and student will discuss the unacceptable behavior and what the expectation is and if the student is now prepared to meet the expectation.
3. If the pattern continues, a conference will be held with the parent/guardian, teacher, and student to share information, identify the problem, and develop a personalized program. The school director will be informed by the teacher.
4. If the inappropriate behavior continues, a conference with the teacher, parent/guardian, child, and director will be held to share information, reinforce, and/or adjust the program.



SCHEDULE

7:00 – 8:30	Free Time
8:30 – 9:00	Lessons (Individual Instruction)
9:00 – 9:30	Group Time
9:30 – 10:00	Lessons (Individual Instruction)
10:00 – 10:30	Playground
10:30 – 11:00	Lessons (Individual Instruction)/Music/Prepare for Lunch
11:00 – 11:30	Lunch
11:30 – 12:00	Prepare for Rest Time/Individual Reading
12:00 – 2:00	Rest Time
2:00 – 2:30	Snack/Clean-up
2:30 – 3:30	Playground
3:30 – 5:30	Free Time

Group Time

Group time is an important part of your child's day. Your child will experience many things during this time.

Group time consists of

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Calendar Time
3. Bible Verse
4. Topic of the day
5. Instruction for any group activities/lessons

Lessons (Individual Instruction)

Your child is given lessons on an individual basis. The areas which these lessons cover are language arts, math, practical life, and sensorial. Science/social studies lessons are given during group time.

Children are encouraged to bring items from home which relate to the projects on which we are working.

Snack

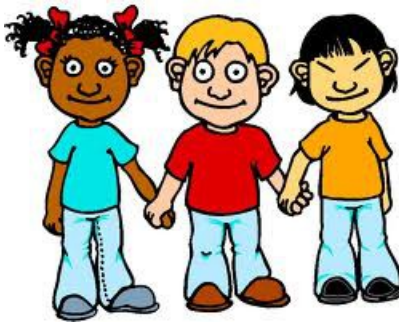
Your child is provided a nutritional snack in the afternoon. Snack includes 100% juice and a healthy snack such as fruit, crackers, cheese.

Lunch

Lunch is not provided by the school. We ask that parents send a cup with a lid. Please label your child's lunch box/bag, cup, and any extra containers.

Rest Time

A two-inch resting mat with a cover is required by the State of Tennessee. Children are not required to go to sleep but everyone needs a quiet time. It is your option to provide a small blanket with the mat for your child's resting needs. (Space is limited, so please do not send pillows, oversized blankets, or sheets.)



Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world!