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WELCOME TO TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

The staff of Trinity Presbyterian Preschool are pleased to welcome you to our school. We provide a loving and nurturing Christian environment where children can develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally. This handbook contains general information you will need to know about our program. We hope it is helpful and answers any questions you may have. Please feel free to stop by the preschool office if you have additional questions or suggestions.

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool was established to be a service to the community while providing children with the opportunity to learn and grow in a Christian atmosphere. It provides a quality, multi-cultural, early childhood program for children ages two, three and four.

The philosophy of Trinity Presbyterian Preschool is to provide a loving and nurturing Christian environment where children can develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally. We feel that each child is a unique individual with special and different needs. An age-appropriate curriculum reflects this philosophy and maintains the flexibility necessary to acknowledge the different rates at which each child develops.

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool affirms its commitment to cultural diversity, and its program is available to all children of preschool age, without regard to race, sex, religion, or national origin.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of Trinity Presbyterian Preschool are to provide a learning environment for children:

- Where they are loved, nurtured, and respected.
- Where Christian values are upheld.
- Which incorporates a planned age-appropriate curriculum that includes learning through play.
- Which encourages curiosity in the world, thus fostering a love of learning.

CREDENTIALS

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool is licensed by the Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources and is recognized by the Kentucky Department of Education. We are members of the following organization:

- ❖ Community Coordinated Child Care (4 – Cs)

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool is inspected annually by the State Fire Marshal, and periodically by the Middletown Fire Department. We have monthly fire drills and quarterly disaster/lockdown drills.

Please know that every effort is made to meet all the requirements and regulations set forth by these agencies. Your child's safety and well-being are of great importance to us.

STAFF

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool has an excellent staff. Each staff member is required to take fifteen hours of continuing education each year to keep abreast of the latest trends in early childhood education. In addition, Pediatric Head Trauma training, First-Aid and CPR training is required.

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool's staff is sensitive to the "whole" child as he/she develops spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally. It is our goal to help each child develop skills and a positive attitude that will provide him/her with a strong foundation for their future.

CLASS TIME & SCHOOL YEAR

Class hours – 9am to 12 Noon

The school year begins in August and ends approximately mid-May.

FOUR YEAR OLDS – 3 DAY AND 5 DAY CLASSES

This informal learning setting has a strong focus on a pre-reading foundation. The class curriculum reinforces pre-reading, writing, math, science, social “readiness” skills and prepares the child for the structure of kindergarten. It involves children in language-rich experiences such as finger plays, drama, poetry, and literature. The activities involve the child in individual endeavors or small group interactions. Activity centers play a large role in our program. Classes are offered Monday/Wednesday/Friday and Monday through Friday. **Children must be 4 on or before August 1st to enter these classes.** All four-year-olds must be toilet trained prior to entering the program.

THREE YEAR OLDS - 3 DAY AND 5 DAY CLASSES

The children are very interested in learning about themselves and the world around them. The curriculum is based on child-appropriate social readiness skills, using words, sharing, and taking turns. The children are introduced to learning centers. Classes are offered on Monday/Wednesday/Friday, and Monday through Friday. **Children must be 3 on or before August 1st to enter these classes.** All three-year-olds must be toilet trained prior to entering the program (NO pull-ups allowed).

TWO YEAR OLDS - 3 DAY CLASS

The children are nurtured through the learning process of sharing. Children have some structured activities such as “circle time”, music, art, and listening to stories. Classes are offered on Monday/Wednesday/Friday. **Children must be 2 on or before August 1st to enter these classes.**

CLASS SIZE

We strive to give your child a quality program and to be able to provide individualized attention. We maintain a low student / teacher ratio. Classes have no more than:

- 14 four-year-olds / 1 teacher & an assistant
- 12 three-year-olds / 1 teacher & an assistant
- 8 two-year-olds / 1 teacher & an assistant

A DAY AT PRESCHOOL

A typical day in preschool will include activities in the following areas: learning centers, circle time, snack, story time, and P.E.

When the children enter the classroom, they are greeted by their teacher. The children are encouraged to explore the various learning centers that have been prepared. There are blocks, books, art, manipulatives, science/social studies, and dramatic play centers. The activities within these centers are changed monthly to provide new and varied learning experiences. During this time the teacher is available to assist the children, answer questions, and provide individual instruction.

Circle time brings the class together to explore concepts and teach readiness skills such as colors, shapes, sequencing, matching, numbers and letters. The children learn how to listen, follow directions and interact within a group.

Snack provides an opportunity for the children to practice good manners and social skills. The children are encouraged to assist in preparing and cleaning up snacks. These activities build self-esteem and encourage children to become self-sufficient.

Story time is included in the daily schedule. The children are introduced to many types of literature. They enjoy listening to stories or looking at books independently.

Children can interact with peers their own age during P.E. Large motor skills are developed through running, jumping, climbing, and swinging.

These are a few of the activity's children experience each day. In addition, a variety of special activities are planned throughout the year.

REGISTRATION

The children in the two- and three-year-old classes will receive registration forms for the following year after January 1st. Siblings of former students may register prior to Open Registration for the Public. At the time of registration, parents are required to sign an Enrollment Agreement and pay a \$325 non-refundable enrollment fee. This fee includes a \$100 payment towards the 2025-2026 tuition balance and a \$225 registration fee. The registration fee provides funding for resource people and consumable supplies. **A position for your child will be confirmed after we have received all the following: registration form, Enrollment Agreement and paid the non-refundable \$325 fee.**

In the event there are more requests than openings for a particular class, a lottery system will be used to determine entrance. Those children whose names weren't chosen will be offered another class. In addition, they will be placed on a waiting list in case a position in the desired class becomes available.

Student assignments are made in a manner that strives to balance race, gender, and the learning needs of the children. Parent requests for specific teachers will be taken into consideration as one component of the process.

CLASS TUITION & PAYMENT PLANS

There are 9 monthly installments due on or before the 15th of the month. The first month's tuition is due by May 10th. The following months will be due September – April.

5 Day Classes - \$3420/yr.	\$380/month
3 Day Classes - \$2700/yr.	\$300/month

There is a 15% tuition discount for Trinity Church members and a 5% discount for a second child's tuition. Tuition must be paid on time. A \$10 late fee will be charged for each week the tuition payment is overdue. Non-compliance of payments due is basis for removal of the child from the preschool program. If you have questions concerning your tuition statement, please call the preschool to talk to the Treasurer.

Trinity Preschool IRS I. D. #61-1134730.

EARLY WITHDRAWAL

At the time of registration, an Enrollment Agreement is signed stating that in the event of early withdrawal or the decision to enroll the student elsewhere, you are obligated to pay tuition for the full academic year.

A child may be asked to withdraw from the program and/or not re-enroll for the following reasons: lack of tuition, disruptive behavior, current Kentucky Immunization not on file in the preschool office, failure to abide by the conditions put forth in the Parent Policy Handbook, and/or conflicting views regarding the performance of the preschool to carry out its mission.

PROFESSIONAL DAYS

There are several In-Service Days during the year in which school is canceled to allow our staff to attend professional conventions or workshops related to early childhood education. These days are included on your preschool calendar.

SNOW DAYS

Our classes will be canceled whenever Jefferson County Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather. If Jefferson County Public Schools are on a delayed schedule (1- or 2-hour delay), our preschool hours will be 10:00 am – 12 noon with morning carpool beginning at 9:50 am.

SNACKS

We serve a midday snack which consists of two of the following food groups: 100% juice; 1% milk; bread/grain; meat/meat alternative; fruit; vegetable. All bread or grain products must be "whole grain or enriched grain". Cakes, cookies, doughnuts, or candy will not be permitted unless there is a special occasion such as a birthday celebration or holiday party. Snacks which contain peanuts or tree nuts are not allowed.

Parents are asked to provide snacks for two weeks during the year.

Health and Licensing laws require that all snacks come from a bakery or store. All snacks must be sent to preschool in unopened boxes/packages or individually wrapped.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The health and safety of the students and staff is important to us. Cleaning protocols to prevent the spread of viruses are being implemented. There will be daily and weekly cleaning/disinfecting of classroom instructional materials and surfaces with an EPA-Certified disinfectant.

It is important to consider your child's health before you send him/her to school. Anyone that is ill or has a fever of 100.4 or higher will be sent home. Students and staff will be allowed to return when they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medicine.

In the event a student becomes ill during preschool or develops symptoms of a communicable disease, he/she will remain in the office until a parent (or person named on the emergency contact form) is contacted and the child is picked up. Notification letters will be sent home if there is a health situation which you should be aware of, or when a student has been exposed to a communicable disease.

If your child is absent from preschool due to illness, please inform us by calling the preschool office at (502) 244-0054 or sending an email to trinity_preschool@att.net.

MASK POLICY

Trinity Preschool mask policy allows staff and children 3 years of age and older to decide if they wear a mask during school hours. **Children in the 2-year-old class will not be allowed to wear a mask for safety reasons and due to the difficulty of keeping them on.**

A face mask permission form must be signed and kept on file in the office for any child that wears a mask.

HEAD LICE POLICY

If a student is found to have nits or a live infestation of head lice, the parent/guardian will be notified immediately via phone and information on head lice will be given to the parent/guardian at the time their child is picked up. For more information, please refer to the full head lice policy available on our website.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FORMS

Each child must have an Emergency Medical Treatment Form on file in the preschool office.

Your child's safety is important to us, and we take precautions to see that all activities are supervised, and the environment is safe. In the event that an accidental injury occurs, the teacher will administer first aid, the parents will be notified, and an accident report will be sent home. If the injury requires more than simple first aid and a parent cannot be reached, then we will phone the child's physician. Ambulances will be sent to the hospital stated on the Emergency Medical Treatment Form.

BE SURE TO INFORM US OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR PHONE NUMBERS OR THOSE YOU HAVE LISTED IN THE EMERGENCY INFORMATION.

TOILET TRAINING AND BATHROOM PROCEDURES

When your 2-year-old has begun toilet training at home, we will be glad to assist your child in this process at school. Please inform the teacher and attach written instructions to your child's bag. Each parent must provide diapers or pull-ups for their child at school. Diaper wipes are furnished by the preschool.

All 3- and 4-year-olds must be toilet trained (no pull-ups allowed) prior to starting classes in August. In the event of a bathroom accident, the teacher will verbally assist the child when cleaning himself/herself and changing clothes. However, if the accident requires extensive clean-up, the child's parent (or a person named on the emergency contact sheet) will be contacted and requested to come to preschool and assist the child. If the parent or contact person cannot be reached, the Director and another staff member will assist the child. This is for the safety and health of the child.

DISCIPLINE

Trinity Presbyterian Preschool staff use positive methods of discipline that encourages self-control, self-direction, and cooperative behavior. A "thinking" chair or area is sometimes used to isolate a child for several minutes when another child may be harmed physically or emotionally. Two or three minutes are usually the duration of any time out. The staff will not hit or spank a child.

CARPOOLS

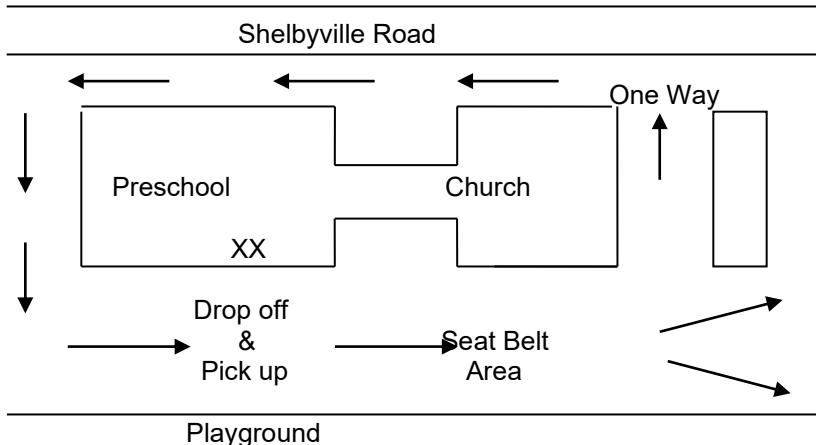
A class list of students will be available in the preschool if you wish to carpool. It will have addresses and phone numbers to assist you in contacting other parents. Staff members are not allowed to drive children to and from school.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

The double doors across from the playground will be unlocked at 8:45am. The Director and assistants will then begin unloading cars. This will allow time for the children to be in the classrooms by the time school starts at 9:00am. Cars form one line in the driveway.

Parents that bring a child after morning carpool has ended will be required to come to the preschool front door and ring the doorbell. A staff member will greet the student and escort him/her to the classroom

DO NOT BLOCK THE DRIVING LANES



DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR UNATTENDED IN LINE

Dismissal begins at 11:45am. Please form one lane. Hang your carpool number on the rearview mirror and pull your car up to the orange cone at the front of the line. All vehicles must be in park before we put a student in the car. Drivers will pull forward to the handicap parking spaces on the right next to the grass to buckle in students.

All driving groups are to be registered with the Director on or before the first day of school. Each driving group will receive a number and a teacher will take the children to the car.

NO CHILD WILL BE RELEASED FROM SCHOOL TO ANYONE OTHER THAN THE CARPOOL GROUP UNLESS A WRITTEN, DATED NOTE OR E-MAIL IS PROVIDED TO THE DIRECTOR THAT DAY. PROPER IDENTIFICATION MUST BE SHOWN BY THE PERSON PICKING UP THE CHILD.

We ask that parents be prompt in bringing the children between 8:50am – 9:00am, and picking them up between 11:45am – 12:00 Noon, dismissal time.

Parents who arrive after 12 noon will be charged \$5 for the first five minutes and \$1 for each additional minute. It is due on the day the parents are late and is to be paid by check or cash. It is the parent's responsibility to inform all individuals who pick up their child of this policy and to pay late fees.

EMERGENCY DISASTER PLAN

The following events may result in the preschool building being an unsafe environment for your child:

- Fire
- Earthquake
- Tornado
- No heat or water
- Outside chemical spill

In the event of one of the above disasters, we will move staff and children to Dorsey Fire Station (10217 Shelbyville Road). If this location is not safe, then we will transport children to Middletown Christian Church (500 North Watterson Trail). Parents will be contacted as soon as students and staff are safe. A sign will be posted at the preschool to direct you.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an important and enjoyable part of our program. These trips will be noted on your child's monthly calendar. A permission slip must be signed and returned to preschool before your child will be allowed to participate on a field trip.

MUSIC/CREATIVE MOVEMENT

The daily curriculum includes music and creative movement in the classroom. The children are introduced to many forms of Christian and Secular music in an age appropriate and fun way!

TOTE BAGS AND CLOTHES

Each day your child needs to bring a tote bag to school. Please include in the tote bag an extra set of weather appropriate clothes (pants, shirts, underwear, and socks). Occasionally, accidents do occur where clothes need to be changed due to spills at snack time or wet clothes from outdoor activities. Please label all items with your child's name. This includes coats, jackets, sweaters, hats and gloves.

We prefer that only comfortable, washable, everyday clothes be worn to school. We use paint smocks while painting but spills still occasionally occur. Please dress your child for outdoor play year-round. **All children must wear tennis shoes with rubber soles that either velcro or tie. Sandals, cowboy boots, flip flops, clogs, and dress shoes make participating in play activities difficult and unsafe.**

RESOURCE PEOPLE

We like to have parents and local people visit us in connection with our units of study. If you or someone you know has a specific talent or professional skill to share, please let us know!

VISITOR POLICY

Visitors are welcome to participate in preschool activities. They are not required to have a background check or TB test. Visitors are not allowed to supervise children without a qualified staff member present or count towards state mandated child-to-staff ratios.

FAMILY EVENTS

During the year there are several opportunities for families to join us at school. This may include holiday programs or surprise events designed by the children. These events are a special time for your child. It is a time when your child can share their friends and school with you.

SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual pictures are taken in the fall and spring. Purchase of pictures is on a voluntary basis.

BIRTHDAYS

The celebration of birthdays are eagerly anticipated. Children enjoy sharing this special day with their friends. You may send cookies, brownies, or other finger treats to school on your child's birthday. All drinks provided must be 100% fruit juice. If you wish, you may provide special napkins and other party goods. Please check with the teacher to avoid a duplication of birthday celebrations. There will be half birthdays held for those children with summer birthdays. Please contact the teacher about scheduling a half birthday.

All food sent to school must come from a bakery or store. This is a Health and Licensing law.

CONTACTING SCHOOL (502)244-0054

The Director's office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 12:30pm, when school is in session. Please call when you have a concern, question or suggestion. The Director or staff member will answer the phone. If they are unavailable, the phone will be answered by an answering machine. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

The preschool strives to provide regular communication with parents through weekly emails and a monthly newsletter from the Director. Each teacher will provide a monthly calendar /newsletter and weekly emails to keep you informed of daily classroom activities.

Further communication will be provided through parent conferences. A conference with your child's teacher will be held in the fall and spring. The days scheduled for conferences will be listed on the preschool calendar. Children do not attend school these days. If you would like to request additional conferences concerning your child's progress in school, please contact the teacher. She will set up a date and time to meet with you.

STAFF AND PARENTAL CONCERNS

Any staff or parental concerns will be reported to the preschool Director. These concerns will be discussed, and a plan of action will be formulated to address them. A report on the concerns and how they were addressed will be submitted to the Trinity Preschool Board members by the Director.