

Parent Handbook 2020 - 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

As a ministry of Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Learning Center (MPPLC) provides a faith-based, early-childhood education program that fosters children's spiritual, ethical, social, and intellectual development. While nurturing children's academic skills in a loving environment, we strive to deepen our children's commitment to Christian values including kindness, responsibility, and respect for others – qualities we believe are essential to developing caring, well-rounded individuals.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Welcome to the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Learning Center! We are glad that you are a part of our family. We know that finding the best preschool takes work! You want a safe, secure environment with loving, qualified staff, great facilities and play areas, and a good balance between developmental and academic curriculum, centered on God's Word. You want your child ready to meet the adventures that await them at elementary school.

Preschool education is an investment, financially and emotionally. From the time your child is born, the investment choices you make begin to mold their character and their future. MPPLC offers a wonderful environment to help you establish a solid foundation for your child.

Clear communication is one of the keys to a successful preschool program. This handbook contains specific information and requirements set forth by The Learning Center. This handbook is designed to be a handy reference for you and is not intended to address every facet of the preschool experience. We suggest you keep it in a convenient place for easy referral throughout the school year. Should questions arise, please contact your child's teacher or the Director.

About Us

The Learning Center, established in 1960, exists first and foremost to introduce little children to Jesus in an atmosphere that is warm, loving, fun, and instructional. We have a sincere love for children and a commitment to help families raise their children to be prepared educationally, emotionally, socially, and spiritually to meet the challenges that are ahead of them.

We believe that our preschool provides an environment that is safe and conducive to good health and where children can work, play, and learn together while being guided toward a happy, wholesome development.

We believe that each child should be encouraged to progress at his own rate of speed toward enriched experiences, self-discipline, and the ability to make good choices. Our aim is to provide an education that develops the whole child by providing an educational experience of lasting value. We aim to help develop in children the feeling of being loved and valued.

A Typical Day at School

The program consists of both indoor and outdoor activities, alternating active and quiet play, circle/learning times, Chapel, and snack time.

We explore reading, math, arts and crafts, music, science, cooking, Spanish, Bible stories and verses, as well as letters, numbers, colors, shapes and so much more.

The Christian Curriculum is developmentally solid, age-appropriate, and Christ-centered.

Our Staff

Our staff is here to train, love, and care for your child. The teachers strive to provide a Christian atmosphere of love that comes from their own personal relationship to Christ, along with a developmentally sound curriculum.

All staff members are required to complete Child Protection training and national background checks and we always have staff on campus who are trained in infant/child CPR. We have a wonderful, dedicated staff that has more than 100 years combined staff experience working with preschool age children.

REGISTRATION & TUITION POLICIES

Age Requirements

Infants (3-11 mos.) must be 3 months by September 1st.

Toddlers (12-17 mos.) must be 12 months by September 1st.

Toddlers (18-23 mos.) must be 18 months by September 1st.

Twos must be 2 years old by September 1st.

Threes must be 3 years old by September 1st and are required to be potty trained.

Fours must be 4 years old by September 1st.

Kindergarteners must be 5 years old by September 1st.

Tuition

| | Annually | Semester (2 pmts) | Monthly (9 pmts) |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Infants (3-11 mos.) | \$1080 | \$540 | \$120 |
| Toddlers (12-17 mos.) | \$1800 | \$900 | \$200 |
| Toddlers (18-23 mos.) | \$1800 | \$900 | \$200 |
| Twos (2 days) | \$2250 | \$1125 | \$250 |
| Twos (3 days) | \$2700 | \$1350 | \$300 |
| Threes (3 days) | \$2700 | \$1350 | \$300 |
| Threes (5 days) | \$3150 | \$1575 | \$350 |
| Fours (4 days) | \$2925 | \$1462.50 | \$325 |
| Fours (5 days) | \$3150 | \$1575 | \$350 |
| Five's (5 days) | \$3600 | \$1800 | \$400 |

Tuition Payment Policy

Annual payments are due by September 1st.

Semester payments are due by September 1st and January 1st.

Monthly payments are due the 1st or 15th of each month. Monthly tuition is paid from September to May.

Failure to make payments may result in removal from the program.

Registration, tuition, and supply fee (\$55) payments are paid using FACTS Management Company.

If you should have any questions about your Learning Center account, please contact Joann Westberry at 884-4612.

Withdrawal

Tuition payments made in advance are refundable in the event of withdrawal from the program. A minimum of 2 weeks written notice should be given to the Director. A full month's tuition payment will be charged regardless of the number of days attended that month. A withdrawal fee will be charged for any child who leaves the program after the first day of school. The withdrawal fees are \$100 (Infant and toddler classes), \$200 (2K – 3K classes), \$400 (4K – 5K classes)

2021-2022 Registration

Registration for the 2021 - 2022 school year will be held in January 2021. Current students are registered first, then their siblings, then church members, and finally the general public. The Learning Center uses a Blind Lottery System to choose applicants for open spots and the waiting list. Registration fees equal one month's tuition and are due upon acceptance into the program. Registration fees are NON-REFUNDABLE. All 3K students must be potty trained in order to begin class.

Immunizations

State law requires a record of immunization. All children must have their immunization record on file with the Director no later than October 1st. All children 4 and older must have a record of the chicken pox vaccine or physician's notification of having had the virus. Delayed vaccination schedules are unacceptable.

The Learning Center does not accept medical, religious, or other exemptions to immunizations.

Class Hours

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Infants | 1 day per week (F) 9 am-12 pm |
| 12-17 mos. | 2 days per week (T/TH) 9 am-12 pm |
| 18-23 mos. | 2 days per week (M/W) 9 am-12 pm |
| Two's | 2 days per week (T/TH) 9 am- 1 pm |
| Two's | 3 days per week (MWF) 9am to 1 pm |
| Three's | 3 days per week (M/W/F) 9 am-1 pm |
| Three's | 5 days per week (M-F) 9 am – 1 pm |
| Four's | 4 days per week (M/T/W/TH) 9 am-1 pm |
| Four's | 5 days per week (M-F) 9 am-1 pm |
| Kindergarten | 5 days per week (M-F) 9 am-1 pm |

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Below are listed some of the basic curriculum goals and methods by age group. Each age group has a detailed Student Evaluation Form that is tailored to maximize learning potential in the areas of Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills, Cognitive Skills, Personal/Social Skills, Counting/Color Recognition, Language and Physical Skills etc. If you would like a copy of the Student Evaluation Forms, please see your child's teacher or the Director.

Infants

Loving, attentive care is offered for infants to help begin the socialization of God's youngest children in a community of faith. The student to teacher to ratio is 7/2.

Toddlers (12-17 months) (18-23 months)

The toddler classes focus on beginning Christian education concepts and socialization skills. Toddlers practice sharing, taking turns, folding hands in prayer, sitting for snack time, and participating in music class (older toddlers). The student to teacher to ratio is (12-17 months 10/2) (18-23 months 12/2).

Twos and Threes

Children learn Bible stories and biblical precepts while continuing to work on socialization. They are introduced to basic academic skills through thematic units: letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. Singing and reading are also incorporated into circle time. In addition to chapel, the three-year-old classes attend weekly Bible class. They also participate in Spanish class each week. The student to teacher ratio is 12/2. Handwriting Without Tears is started with our two and three-year-old classes.

Four year olds

This program focuses on learning through more detailed Christian education thematic units. The McRuffy Press Curriculum is used to enhance readiness for kindergarten language arts and math. This curriculum will facilitate an understanding and mastering of letter recognition, phonemic awareness to develop future phonics learning and a solid foundation for an understanding of reading and literature. The McRuffy Press Color Math is designed to build readiness for kindergarten math. The goal is to develop an understanding and mastery of basic concepts such as counting, number recognition, patterns, simple geometric reasoning, and following directions. They attend chapel, Bible, music, STEAM, and Spanish classes each week. The student to teacher to ratio is 12/2. Handwriting Without Tears is used for our writing program.

Kindergarten

This program follows the South Carolina standards as outlined for Kindergarten. The McRuffy Press Curriculum is used to teach children the basics of reading. The main emphasis of the program is decoding words (phonics), reading (giving meaning to printed material), spelling and writing (encoding). Handwriting Without Tears is also used to supplement the writing curriculum. The McRuffy Press Kindergarten Color Math is a highly interactive math program that emphasizes a well-balanced variety of skills. Auditory, visual, and tactical methods such as math manipulatives are used to develop concepts. All subjects are presented thematically. This program also includes a Bible curriculum, as well as weekly chapel, music, Spanish, and STEAM classes. The Star Board is used to enhance the curriculum.

Chapel

We have Chapel in the church sanctuary once a week for 3K – 5K students. Chapel for 2K will be held weekly in the Seabrook Building. The pastors of the church, as well as other program staff members, and the Learning Center Director and Assistant Director will lead the Chapel lessons. Each lesson reinforces the Christian Education Curriculum.

Music

We are proud to offer a comprehensive, weekly music program for our students (toddler-kindergarten). Each session begins with a greeting song that recognizes each child's presence and signals the beginning of music class. During class, the children work on steady beat activities using knee-patting or other movements. They sing the Bible verse from the Christian Curriculum using a familiar tune. In addition, the children experience playing rhythm instruments such as rhythm sticks, bells, egg shakers or sand blocks.

Bible

We offer weekly Bible classes to 3K – 5K that are designed to teach our children about God and Christianity. Children are also introduced to the concept of missions and experience the importance of the Christian community first-hand.

Spanish

We offer Spanish class once a week for our 3K – 5K students. Our goal is to open the hearts and minds of our students to a whole new world of adventure using the Spanish language.

S.T.E.A.M

During these classes, curriculum is used to enrich the student's learning experience through Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

Field Trips

Field trips are an integral part of the preschool experience. They enhance the learning experience by offering opportunities not available in the classroom. Parents will be notified of a forthcoming field trip at least two weeks in advance. All children participating in a field trip will be required to have a permission slip signed by their parent/guardian. These permission slips will be provided by the teacher prior to the field trip. A parent or guardian of each child must attend the field trip in order for the child to participate.

Lunch Buddies

This is an extended day program for parents who have children in the 18 - 23 months program that dismiss at noon and have children in our 2-year old through 5- year old program that dismiss at 1pm. This will help you as a parent, so you do not have to pick up 2+ children twice within an hour! This program is optional. In Lunch Buddies your child will enjoy an extra hour of lunch time and play time.

This program will only be available if we have enough participation, so please let us know ASAP.

Pick up time will be by 1PM for Lunch Buddies. If you are participating in Lunch Buddies, you will need to come to the entrance where you dropped off your youngest child that morning to pick-up . You will need to pick up your older child at their designated carpool door (see carpool rules).

The cost is \$105 per month. You will pay for Lunch Buddies through your FACTS account each month. This cost was calculated by your child attending the program 56 days at \$15 per day. The sum of this amount was spread over the 8 months your child will be in the program.

Be sure to send in a lunch with your child and any extra items such as diapers and wipes. A change of clothes is also handy to have if needed.

If a child does not adjust well to the extra hour of care (Many children are just too tired at this young age to stay an extra hour) then the attending teachers will notify the parents and a decision will be made together as to whether or not the child should wait until another time to begin staying for Lunch Buddies.

COMMUNICATION

Authorization for Student Release

The teachers cannot accept a verbal message from a child. Please write a signed and dated note and send it in your child's bag. **Children will not be able to leave the Learning Center with anyone except a designated person unless the Director or teacher is notified in writing or by phone.**

Conferences

Conferences with your child's teacher are always welcome. There will be regular conference days prearranged for 4K and 5K. Conferences during arrival and dismissal times (carpool) should be avoided at all times.

Class Newsletters and Calendars

Teachers send home weekly newsletters, monthly calendars, forms, and other information sheets to keep parents informed about the learning goals, themes, and activities planned for that month. The Learning Center Director also sends home The Little Pelican (school newsletter) monthly.

Photography

External Photography Policy

Photographs may be taken by school staff to support learning, to record children's individual progress, and to document and promote school activities. Photographs are not to be used by outside groups/businesses. Please direct any questions regarding this policy to the Director.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Arrival

DROP OFF

- ▶ DROP OFF IN MORNINGS: **8:50 – 9:10 (ALL AGES)**
- ▶ At 9:10 all doors will be locked. The only entrance into the building will be at the front door on Church Street by the ramp, so you will need to use the doorbell and wait for your child to be screened.
- ▶ NO TALKING ON CELL PHONES we need to have your full attention in line.
- ▶ Parents need to enter the carpool line from Coleman Blvd at Mill Street by the Shem Creek Parking garage, proceed down Church Street and then Hibben Street. Do not enter the carpool line via Live Oak Drive. All children in the morning drop off will be admitted on Church Street. Four cars at a time will be able to advance on Church Street to designated cones for drop off.
- ▶ DO NOT CUT IN LINE!
- ▶ Please do not block the intersection of Live Oak Drive and Church St.
- ▶ Please pull to the right side of the carpool line on Church St as this is a two-way street.
- ▶ For safety purposes, we ask that children are placed on the right side of the car due to the two-way traffic.
- ▶ Pull up to next available cone and remain in the car.
- ▶ Teachers will greet you to take child(ren)'s temperature and ask several screening questions before child(ren) exit vehicle. Parents, please stay in the car during this process.
- ▶ Child will be given hand sanitizer and escorted into the building if they pass the screening. Mask must be worn at this time. (Infants and toddlers that must be walked in are excluded from wearing mask)
- ▶ Parents with infants and toddlers in 1A and 1B will drop off at the outside door of nursery (screening will also take place at this time). At this time, parents will not be allowed inside the building.
- ▶ Parents with toddlers in 1C will drop off at the entrance to Grace Hall (screening will also take place at this time). At this time, parents will not be allowed inside the building.
- ▶ Parents that are walking their children to school must come to the door on Hibben Street. Please maintain social distancing while waiting for your child to be prescreened. At this time, parents will not be allowed inside the building.

Dismissal

PICK UP – Infants, 1A, 1B, 1C

12:00pm (Monday – Friday)

Your child will be picked up at the same location as drop off. Please maintain social distancing when waiting for your child to be brought to the door.

- ▶ IF YOUR IS BEING PICKED UP BY SOMEONE DIFFERENT, I.E. GRANDPARENTS, SITTER, FRIEND, PLEASE SEND A NOTE TO YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER. WE CANNOT RELEASE THE CHILD TO SOMEONE OTHER THAN HIS OR HER PARENTS WITHOUT A SIGNED NOTE FROM THE PARENT OR PHONE CALL TO THE DIRECTOR.

IMPORTANT: IF YOU HAVE A CHILD IN (CARPOOL A) AND (CARPOOL B), PLEASE USE (CARPOOL A)- BOTH CHILDREN WILL BE BROUGHT TO YOU AT THE SAME TIME

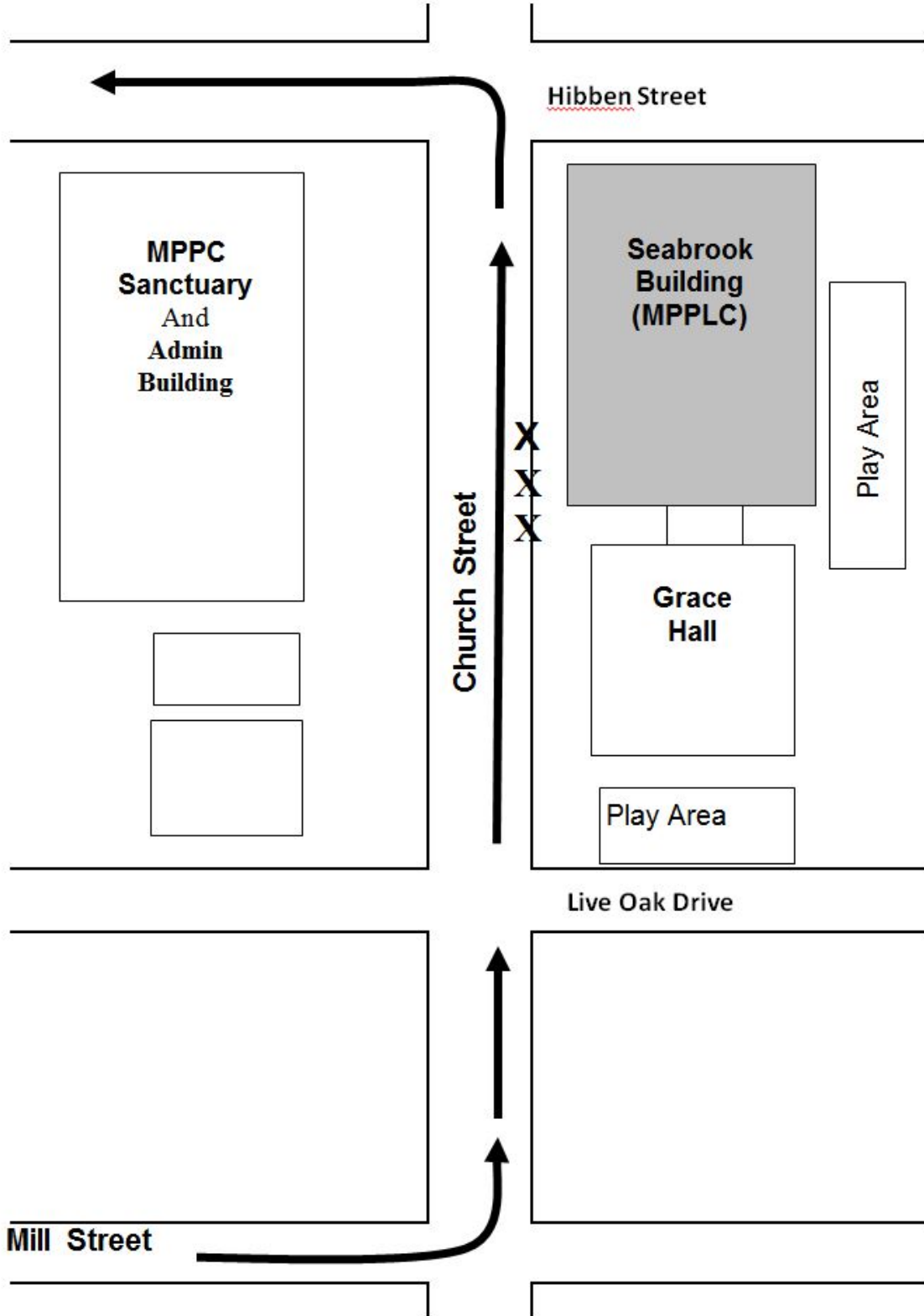
PICK UP – CARPOOL A – 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3D

12:45 – 1:00 (Monday – Friday)

- You will pick up your child using the same route as drop off.
- Please make sure your car tag is visible during pick up.
- NO TALKING ON CELL PHONES we need to have your full attention in line.
- Pick up time is not a conference time. Please email or call the school or teacher to set up a time to talk to the teacher.
- Do not enter the carpool line via Live Oak Drive. Please look at the map for the traffic flow pattern.
- DO NOT CUT IN LINE!
- Please do not block the intersection of Live Oak Drive and Church St.
- Please pull to the right side of the carpool line on Church St as this is a two-way street.
- Learning Center teachers are not allowed to buckle in your child. This is done as a safety measure and for liability.
- Please buckle your child in a timely fashion.
- For safety purposes, we ask that children are placed on the right side of the car due to the two-way traffic.
- Children must hold the hand of their teacher until they reach the safety of your car.
- IF YOUR IS BEING PICKED UP BY SOMEONE DIFFERENT, I.E. GRANDPARENTS, SITTER, FRIEND, PLEASE SEND A NOTE TO YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER. WE CANNOT RELEASE THE CHILD TO SOMEONE OTHER THAN HIS OR HER PARENTS WITHOUT A SIGNED NOTE FROM THE PARENT OR PHONE CALL TO THE DIRECTOR.

WALKERS: IF YOU WALK TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD, AND THEY ARE IN ONE OF THE CLASSES LISTED ABOVE, PLEASE PICK UP AT THE ENTRANCE DOOR ON CHURCH STREET

Traffic Flow Pattern

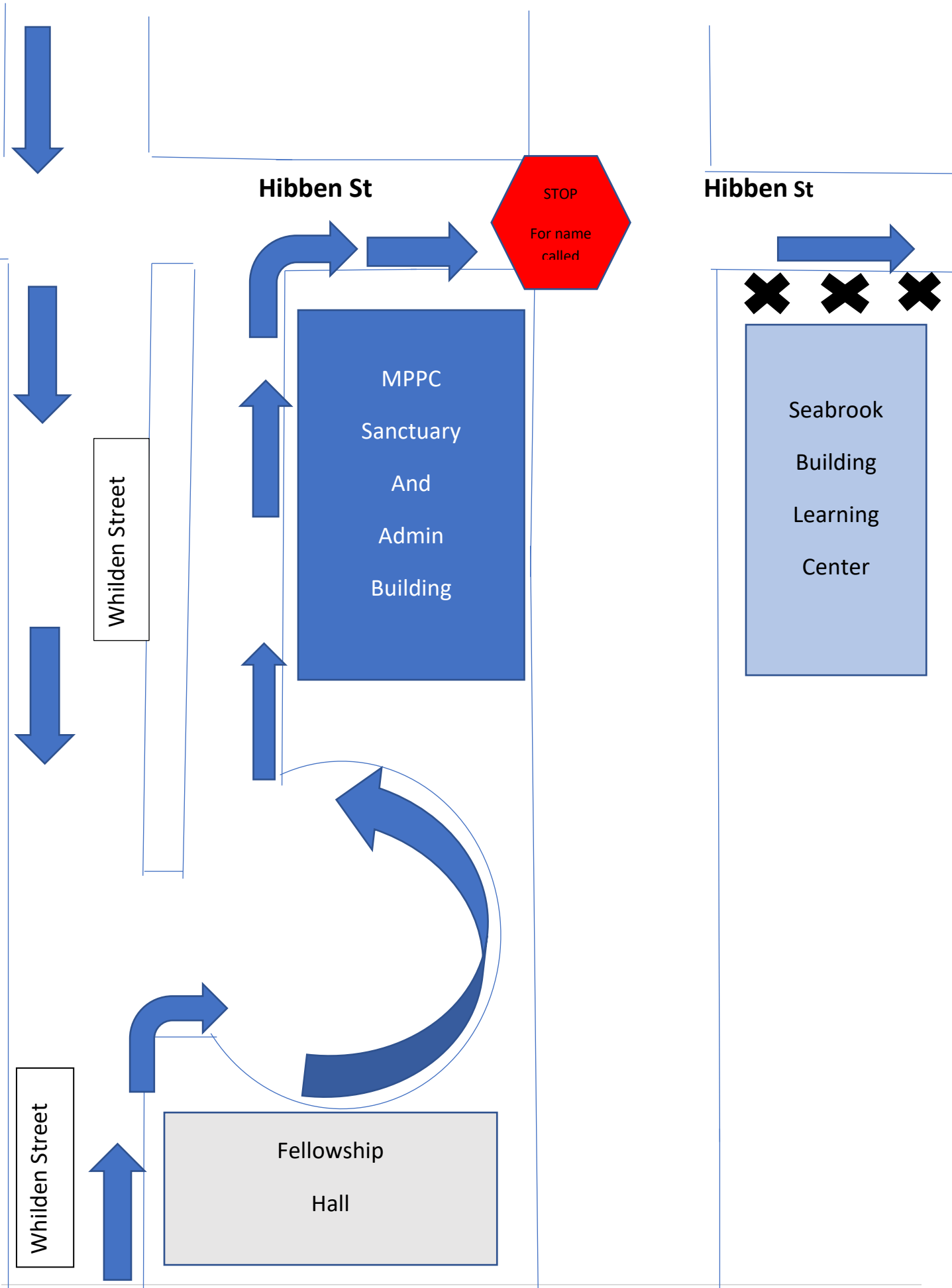


PICK UP – CARPOOL B – 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 5A 12:45 – 1:00 (Monday – Friday)

YOUR CARPOOL PICKUP LINE WILL BE DIFFERENT THAN YOUR MORNING DROP OFF

- Parents need to enter the carpool line by traveling on Whilden Street into the church parking lot, proceed around traffic circle to entrance on Hibben Street, take a right onto Hibben Street and stay on the right hand side of the road, after your child's name is called at the corner, proceed to the 4 orange cones in front of school building on Hibben (**please make sure to watch for oncoming traffic from Church Street and please DO NOT block the intersection of Church Street and Hibben Street**).
- Please make sure your car tag is visible during pick up.
- NO TALKING ON CELL PHONES we need to have your full attention in line.
- Pick up time is not a conference time. Please email or call the school or teacher to set up a time to talk to the teacher.
- Do not enter the carpool line via Church Street. Please look at the map for the traffic flow pattern.
- DO NOT CUT IN LINE!
- Please do not block the intersection of Church Street and Hibben Street.
- Please pull to the right side of the carpool line on Hibben Street as this is a two-way street.
- Learning Center teachers are not allowed to buckle in your child. This is done as a safety measure and for liability.
- Please buckle your child in a timely fashion.
- For safety purposes, we ask that children are placed on the right side of the car due to the two-way traffic.
- Children must hold the hand of their teacher until they reach the safety of your car.
- IF YOUR CHILD IS BEING PICKED UP BY SOMEONE DIFFERENT, I.E. GRANDPARENTS, SITTING, FRIEND, PLEASE SEND A NOTE TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER. WE CAN NOT RELEASE THE CHILD TO SOMEONE OTHER THAN HIS OR HER PARENTS WITHOUT A SIGNED NOTE FROM THE PARENT OR PHONE CALL TO THE DIRECTOR.

WALKERS: IF YOU WALK TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD, AND THEY ARE IN ONE OF THE CLASSES LISTED ABOVE, PLEASE PICK UP AT THE ENTRANCE DOOR ON CHURCH STREET



SECURITY

For security reasons, all doors to the Grace/Seabrook Building will be locked when carpool drop off ends. If you need assistance during school hours, we have a camera/doorbell system in place at the door on Church Street at the Seabrook Building where you can ring the bell and a staff member will assist you. Cameras are located in all hallways and playgrounds to continuously monitor the safety of children and staff at all times.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

PLC classroom discipline follows a “Five R’s” discipline approach:

1. **Role Modeling**-Every word and action from the teacher should model appropriate, Christian behavior. Children learn to model adults who show kindness, politeness, compassion, responsibility, self control, etc.
2. **Reinforcing and/or Rewarding Positive Behavior**-Teachers should provide positive reinforcement of appropriate, Christian behavior at every opportunity. Classes may also utilize appropriate behavioral reward systems.
3. **Redirecting Inappropriate Behavior**-When a child exhibits inappropriate classroom behavior, the teacher should at first attempt to redirect the child’s attention from the source of the behavior. For example, if two children are arguing over the same toy, the teacher will attempt to interest one or both of them in another activity.
4. **Recognizing the Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior**-Preschoolers learn to recognize inappropriate behaviors and their consequences as they learn established classroom rules. Four and Five Year Old classes may also utilize a classroom conduct system such as color-coded cards.
5. **Removing the Child**-If a child repeatedly exhibits an inappropriate behavior or ever causes injury to another child, the teacher will remove the child from the situation. Depending on the circumstances, this can range from taking the child aside in the classroom to taking the child to the Director’s office and contacting the parent. Never will a child be humiliated during any of these steps.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

In the event of an emergency, the following procedures will take place:

1. An attempt will be made to notify the parents
2. An attempt will be made to notify the emergency contact
3. An attempt will be made to notify the child’s physician
4. If necessary, EMS will be called to treat the child, which may result in the transport of the child to the emergency room.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The Learning Center will follow Charleston County School policy regarding closings due to weather (i.e. hurricanes, snow, ice, etc.) as much as possible. Should CCSD have a 2 hour delayed start the MPPLC will begin school at 10:30am with carpool from 10:30am to 10:45am. School will be dismissed at the regular dismissal time. Should CCSD have more than a 2 hour delay the MPPLC will be closed for the day. Snow and Ice days will not be made up.

ATTENDANCE AND ILLNESS

We plan our programs with the assumption that every child will attend their scheduled class. If your child is unable to attend school, please notify the office. If your child is absent due to illness with a communicable disease, please let us know as soon as possible.

A child who is ill upon arrival at school will not be admitted and will be separated from the other children until the parent or guardian can pick up the child. If a child becomes ill while at school, the parent or guardian will be contacted and expected to pick the child up as soon as possible. The child will be separated from the other children until the parent’s arrival.

Medication will not be given at school.

If a child displays any of the following symptoms, he/she must be kept at home:

- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Nasal secretion that is thick, yellow or green, and accompanied by fever. Cloudy or colored nasal secretions may indicate an allergy. Please check with your doctor to rule out infection.
- Sore throat with fever or throat spots
- Cough accompanied by fever, chills, and the coughing up of green or yellow mucous, vomiting, or nausea
- Eye drainage of any type should be checked by a doctor to rule out bacterial infection
- Unusual rashes should be checked by a doctor to rule out bacterial infection
- Confirmed case of head lice
- Child not feeling well, such as lethargic behavior and/or increased crying

The child may return to school after illness when:

- Temperature is normal for 24 hours
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea has subsided for 24 hours
- At least 4 doses of antibiotic have been given over a 24-hour period for any type of strep or bacterial infection
- Appropriate treatment of head lice
- Child is feeling well again and normal behavior has returned

Learning Center's Illness Policy for COVID – 19

Per current CDC and SC DHEC recommendations:

Students and staff should be excluded from school if they have any 1 of the following:

Fever >100.4, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, muscle aches, chills, new or worsen cough, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea

Please notify the school if your child is experiencing any of the above symptoms.

Cases in the classroom per DHEC:

If a student or staff member tests positive they could have been contagious with the virus for up to 48 hours before symptoms.

Any positive cases within the classroom will be assumed to be a close contact exposure (less than 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes). This will result in the teacher and all students in that classroom being out of school for 14 days and monitoring with twice daily temperature checks.

A student that is **COVID-19 positive with symptoms** will remain out of school for 14 days after symptoms began, fever free for 3 days (with no fever reducing medication), and symptoms have improved.

A student that is **COVID-19 positive with no symptoms** may return to school 10 days after the date of the positive test if no symptoms develop. (test for fever twice a day)

Quarantine (per DHEC):

CDC says this quarantine is 14 days after last exposure if the student can stay away from family member. If can't separate, 14 days after the family member who is positive is released from quarantine.

- “If the student or staff lives in the same household as someone in quarantine, they will not necessarily need to quarantine themselves unless the household member in quarantine is then determined to be a COVID-19 case.”

Masks/Cloth Face Coverings:

Please send a mask or cloth face covering with your child daily. Children enrolled in 3K and older classes are required to wear an appropriate face mask. Exceptions for wearing a mask will be made only during special learning times, snacks, and lunch. (Infants and toddlers are excluded.)

Cloth coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected and has no symptoms. They will be required by students (infants and toddlers excluded) and staff upon entering the building, walking in the hallway, some classroom time, and dismissal.

CLOTHING AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS

- Please use the canvas bag that is provided for all children by The Learning Center, instead of standard book bags or backpacks.
- Include a full change of clothing, including underpants and socks to your child's teacher at the beginning of the school year to be kept in their cubby. Please include an adequate supply of diapers in your child's bag for their daily use.
- It is recommended that children be dressed in comfortable, washable play clothes and sturdy, well-fitting, rubber-soled shoes. **Shorts or pants with an elastic waistband are ideal to encourage independence when using the bathroom.**
- Toys and umbrellas should not be brought to school, unless they pertain to the unit of study and are to be used for show and tell.
- It is very important to **LABEL ALL** clothing, sippy cups, “lovies”, pacifiers, etc.

SNACKS

A mid-morning snack will be provided for the Infant class on Fridays, 12-17 months on T/TH, and 18-23 months on M/W. Snacks usually consist of crackers, cookies, cheese, or fruit. Children in all other classes will bring their individual snack daily. The LC will provide disposable cups of water. Special snacks or birthday treats are always welcome. Please let your child's teacher know if you would like to bring in a snack and be sure to check with the teacher to inquire about any food allergies in the class.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

We celebrate seasonal holidays throughout the year emphasizing the Christian educational environment at the Learning Center. Class parties and celebrations also reflect our Christian educational philosophy and curriculum.

SUBSTITUTES & VOLUNTEERS

We have many opportunities for parents to volunteer within our school. If you are interested in substituting at the Learning Center, please contact the Director.

All substitutes must fill out appropriate paperwork and complete a Child Protection Policy session at MPPC. The Director/teacher will contact you on an as needed basis once all paperwork and background checks are completed.

If you are interested in volunteering within your child's class or within the Learning Center, please notify the Director of your area of interest. Volunteers will also be required to complete a Child Protection Policy Class at MPPC at no charge and at convenient times.

CONCLUSION

The Learning Center would like to thank you for your understanding, support, and compliance with of all our policies and for realizing that these policies are for the safety of your child and other children in our care. We are blessed to have your child(ren) at the Learning Center and if you have any questions about any of the policies and procedures in the handbook please feel free to contact the office at 843-856-2020.